

were not easily restrained within the limits of service assigned them, but were ever intruding into the functions of the preacher; and our own observation of the procedure of one whom the presbytery of Toronto employed, makes us doubt the practicability of employing such labourers to any considerable extent in consistency with our practice of admitting to ministerial ordination only those who with higher gifts, possess those of literature and science.

The exhortation of the catechist may be a sermon or a lecture in his own account and that of his hearers; and it is very natural for him to expect when in his own opinion and that of others he exercises his gift well, that he should be eligible to the ministerial work. And he will fret against the regulations which exclude him from this, as do the inferior officers in our armies against those regulations which all but deny the rewards of rank to mere military virtues however eminent.

Catechists or *Lay* exhorters, if we may use the phrase—for we have our doubts as to the propriety of its use in our presbyterian nomenclature—should either not be employed at all, or they should be taken from the order of men who are under training for the ministry, and to whom it is accessible. But we are wandering from our subject. The following is the paper to which we have referred:

PLAN FOR CONDUCTING MISSIONARY LABOURS, ADOPTED BY THE PRESBYTERY OF EATHURST; AND PREACHING APPOINTMENTS FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

PLAN.

I. That a certain number of preaching stations be selected, which shall be divided into two parts, each part to be supplied once in three months, by a Minister of the Presbytery, the members of which shall officiate in rotation.

II. That at each station, the people attending be organized as a Congregation, Managers be appointed, and if practicable, a fit person to lead their devotions, when on the Sabbath they have no regular Minister to officiate.

III. That in each Congregation there be a Subscription list opened, under the direction of the Managers, who shall pay over, half yearly, in the months of January and July, what they have collected, to the Treasurer of the Missionary Fund, under the direction of the Presbytery. From this fund, the Preachers employed shall be allowed a reasonable allowance for their travelling expenses, by an order upon the Treasurer, at each meeting of Presbytery.

IV. That at each station, the subscribers, with their families, and such poor persons as are not able to contribute any thing, shall constitute the congregation.

V. Each Preacher employed shall, at the next meeting of Presbytery, report the result of his labours, when farther instructions shall be given, so that the work may be carried on in a uniform manner.

VI. That a lay person, if one qualified can be found, be as soon as possible engaged by the Presbytery, to act as a Missionary under their direction, in the destitute settlements within their bounds.

(Signed)

T. C. WILSON,
Presbytery Clerk.

NOTE.—The scheme of appointments which we do not quote, runs from June 26th, 1838, to January 9th 1839.

From a member of the presbytery of Toronto, we have obtained the following interesting intelligence. At their meeting in the month of May, in the City of Toronto, "On a reference from a member of the court for advice in regard to the course to be pursued by a session towards a person applying for church privileges who had taken part in the late insurrection, the presbytery declare it to be the duty of the session, to endeavour to bring him to a sense of the heinous wickedness of his conduct, and, in the event of their being satisfied with his contrition, and with his views and deportment in other respects to admit him to church privileges; and they further declare, that it is the duty of sessions in case of their knowing that any members of the church had had art or part in the late insurrection, to deal prudently and earnestly with them in order to impress them with a sense of their guilt, and to admonish and reprove them as they shall see good for edification. And in any case in which no contrition for guilt of this kind is expressed, the presbytery recommend sessions to suspend the offenders from the communion of the church, and to report any such proceedings to the presbytery.

At the meeting of the same presbytery in Toronto township, on the 10th and 11th inst., it was resolved to overture the Synod to take farther measures for directing and encouraging the young men who have already avowed their desire to study for the ministry, and to prosecute vigorously the foundation of a theological college. Also, to overture the Synod for the admission into the church, of ministers and probationers of the Synod of Ulster, who shall have subscribed the Confession of Faith.

On a reference for advice as to the course to be pursued towards members of the church who absent themselves from preaching and from sealing ordinances—"The presbytery declare it to be the duty of sessions to deal patiently and affectionately with such persons, and in the event of their giving no satisfactory reasons for their conduct, to admonish and ultimately suspend them from the communion of the church if it be thought necessary—that such cases be reported from time to time to the presbytery, and no