

Mr. McColl, Mr. McKee of Zorra, and Mr. Lindsay of Ayr, to dispense the sacrament atagersol.

Mr. McColl to succeed Mr. McLean in Howard, Oxford, and Thornbury, and labour there during the month of March.

Mr. Bayne to dispense the sacrament at Guelph.

Mr. Mackintosh to preach at Port Dover and Simcoe, and to give such supply at Dunnville and Wellandport as he may be able to accomplish.

Mr. Stark, along with the moderator Mr. Bayne and Mr. Veldron, to examine and ordain, if they shall see proper, those nominated as Elders by the congregation in the 8th concession of Flamboro' West, and also to dispense the Sacrament of the Supper before the end of March, if possible. An application from this congregation to have the Rev. Mr. Wardrope, preacher of the Gospel, who has for several years preached to them, ordained as their pastor, was referred to the Synod.

I am,
Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
M. Y. STARK.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT Of the Ladies' Association, Knox's Church, Hamilton.

The Ladies' Association, of Knox's Church, Hamilton, having completed the second year of its operations, a short statement of the results of its labour is now submitted.

The strenuous efforts made for its existence and efficiency in the first year, have been followed up to a considerable extent in the second. The great aim of the Association being to forward the interests of pure and undiluted religion in the congregation, and as far as possible, throughout the Presbytery,—not limiting itself to providing one Missionary, but in any 69, making each of its members a missionary, at least, in so far as making her light so to shine, that others seeing her good works may glorify God.

The first object of the Association is sought to be attained by the general attendance of all the female portion of the congregation at the Monthly Meetings of the Association; and by the Bible classes for young women. The second, by raising funds for the support of a Missionary to the destitute settlers in the neighbouring Districts, the extent and destitution of which were detailed in the last Annual Report.

The Ladies would be sorry to complain of want of support in these efforts, in doing so, they would be manifestly unjust. On the contrary, they have not been refused, on making application to any individual, (it may be said with scarcely an exception,) in the whole congregation. But their desire is that all the females attending the Church would take an active part in the Monthly Meetings as well as in making for, and contributing to the objects specially presented to them.

During the past year, the Association, it is believed, has made considerable progress in the estimation of the people, and many, who, from domestic circumstances are unable to take an active part in the work, show their good will, by contributing a small sum as a yearly donation.—The amount received during the past year from this source is £1 5s., which may be accomplished by little. The proceeds of sales and other collections, as will be seen by the Treasurer's account for the year amount in all to £72 15s. 1d., with a stock on hand of about £10 value. This

sum is independent of a Bursary of £10 in process of collection for the Presbyterian College, Toronto.

The junior Bible class is very large and very regularly attended, but the more advanced class is small, though faithfully and, it is hoped, profitably attended from the first by a few;—an earnest appeal is again made to parents, and heads of families on behalf of their elder children, and the young women in their employment. A little, a very little attention in family arrangements on their part may be the means of promoting the eternal happiness of immortal souls.

It having been found difficult for the Association to proceed with the visitation and relief of the poor, a union was proposed and agreed to by the different religious communities in town, to form a separate Society for this purpose; but the visiting of the sick and bereaved in the congregation, is still considered a chief end of the Association, though not yet carried into effect to any extent.

The Association has to deplore the loss of its active and efficient President—the Rev. Mr. Gale—and of its equally active and unwearied Treasurer in Mrs. Gale. The former office is not yet filled, in the hope that a settled Pastor will soon occupy the place of Mr. Gale in the Church, as well as in the Association; the latter has been very efficiently supplied by Mrs. James Walker, and activity is the watchword of the Association.

The application to the Colonial Committee in Scotland for a missionary has not been responded to this year, their wants being so great at home. Three young men volunteered their services to this country, but their destination has been to other spheres of labour, though the Association as well as the congregation have had the advantage of the service of one of them (Mr. King), in this their time of need. Next Spring it is expected that a number of students will be ready to offer their services to the Colonies, one of whom, it is hoped, will be sent "over to help us." In the meantime, it is needful to urge all to energetic efforts to provide sustenance, not for one but for many labourers, seeing the harvest is yearly increasing, and the destitution, since last Report, very little relieved,—and to pray the Lord of the harvest to honour his very feeble servants in their endeavour to come to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Melbourne, C. E.

We intimated in our November No., that a Communication from Melbourne had reached us, finding fault with certain statements in the Report of the Home Missionary Committee, of the Presbytery of Montreal, in regard to that locality.

To illustrate the spirit of our correspondent's letter, we give, as a specimen, the first paragraph of his communication, as it is too long to be published entire:—

"In a communication entitled, 'Statement of the Missionary Committee of the Presbytery of Montreal, in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada,' published by you in *The Ecclesiastical Missionary Record*, for August, 1845, a representation is given of the state of the congregation in this Township which in almost every part is incorrect, and appears to be framed with the design of misleading the minds of those at a distance with respect to the state of religious parties,—but which can do little harm here, where the facts of the case are generally

well-known: reflecting by *base insinuation*, not by a manly statement of facts,—as that document does on the members of St. Andrew's Church, Melbourne,—for inconsistency and a want of steady attachment to the Church of their Fathers."

We next insert the paragraph of the Report referred to, which has so excited the indignation of our Melbourne Correspondent.

"Melbourne is an important central station, about equi-distant (90 miles) from Montreal and Quebec. It was formerly the sphere of labor of the Rev. J. Macmorine, who, at the disruption, in 1811, adhered to the Scottish Establishment, subsequently left his flock in Melbourne, and has been lately inducted to a charge in connection with that body in Canada West.

"The adherents of our Synod in Melbourne occupy the place of worship in which Mr. Macmorine previously officiated, and during the greater part of last winter enjoyed the services of the Rev. John Fraser, the Gaelic missionary sent out last autumn by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland. Our information respecting the present state of the Melbourne congregation is not sufficiently accurate to enable us to state distinctly the number of adherents connected with it. It is a station, from its central position, no less than from the number of resident adherents, peculiarly important. This is acknowledged very distinctly by the friends of the Scottish Establishment, and they show a corresponding anxiety to possess themselves of the field. During part of the months of February and March, when the Rev. Mr. Fraser was absent in Glenary, a deputation of two clerical members of the Montreal Presbytery, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and a lay member of the Montreal Association in support of the institution, visited Melbourne. Notwithstanding liberal offers of pecuniary assistance from the lay Association and other inducements, the deputation returned home without producing much effect, other than that of exciting a salutary desire in the minds of all to become more intimately acquainted with the points of difference between the Free and Established Churches."

In this statement our Correspondent conceives there is an "insinuation," either that the Established Church of Scotland had no congregation at Melbourne, or that the congregation of "Free Seeders" had "absorbed all others and taken quiet possession" of the Church property.

We leave it to the candour and judgment of every impartial reader, whether or not he can deduce such conclusions from the simple statement of the Report. It merely mentions, as a fact—a fact too which our correspondent does not deny,—that "The adherents of our Synod in Melbourne occupy the place of worship" there, whether temporarily, or by permission of others, is not stated. Surely no person in his right senses and possessed of sound discrimination, could draw from the paragraph in question, the conclusions arrived at by our correspondent.

We sincerely advise him to re-consider his opinions, and to treat the statements of the Report with more candour than he seems disposed to do. We recommend him to lay aside all prejudice, and to use a little of that "charity," which "is not easily provoked, rejoiceth in the truth, and thinketh no evil,"—that charity which appears to be so greatly praised, and so earnestly inculcated by that Church to which he belongs.

The Report is next charged with insinuating, that the deputation of the Established Presbytery, which visited Melbourne, "stole a march on the Rev. Mr. Fraser, while he was absent in Glenary."

The Report merely states the fact of the deputations' visiting Melbourne, during Mr. Fraser's