

had actually raised \$10 50 per family for all purposes during the past year, and \$8 per family for the direct support of the Gospel. Other important grounds for continuing the grant were also urged.

A representation and petition from 39 members of our Church and from 10 adherents in the east end of the city of Hamilton, praying the Presbytery to erect them into a congregation, was favorably received. The Presbytery ordered the citation of Sessions that might be affected by the formation of a new congregation, to appear for their interests at the meeting to be held in Dundas on the 5th November.

The Rev. Mr. Cheyne, the father of the Presbytery, laid the resignation of his charge upon the table. Age, infirmity, and ill-health are the causes that have led to this result. For some months past the reverend gentleman has been unable to attend to his official duties, with little prospect of resuming them. The Presbytery took the usual steps in such cases.

JOHN PORTEOUS, *Pres. Clerk.*

Selections.

THE DUTY OF THE CHURCH.

The great question for the Church at this time is:—What must be done to save the Church? He who saves is Christ. "Neither is there salvation in any other." (Acts iv. 12.) But, as says the apostle:—"We are labourers together with God." (I. Corinthians iii. 9.) Gentlemen, there is now an important work to be done. A crisis has arrived, perilous, decisive, which reminds me of those words of one of our French poets, the great Corneille:

"Et je puis dire enfin, que jamais potentat,
N'eut a deliberer d'un si grand coup d'etat."

You have to deliberate upon the triumph of the gospel in Christendom. If you seek your wisdom from "Him who giveth to all men liberally" (James i. 5,) there will, without doubt, result from your meeting unexpected light—effective, powerful means for remedying the ills which afflict us. It is not I, gentlemen, it is not a man of times already past, who can find here a guiding clue. A philosopher has said:—"In periods of great difficulty the young are generally more discerning than the aged." However, as those who have convoked your assembly have asked me to speak, I shall address you—not some advice, but a few questions.

LIVING QUESTIONS.

I. Ought we not, in order to triumph over infidelity, employ science itself, humble and healthy science, in opposition to a partial, proud and sickly science, which seeks the knowledge of creation, but rejects the knowledge of the Creator, from whence result moral and intellectual enfeeblement and continual change? A system lasts a few years and then it is succeeded by another. A scholar will affirm that we derive our origin from one of the lower animals, which gradually became a man; and he may succeed in leading many superficial minds to adopt his theory, and then he will retract, but without being able, most likely, to bring back those whom he has led into error. Men of genius, who have been the great lights of humanity, Bacon, Kepler, Newton, Pascal, Leibnitz, Euler, Haller, and many others, studied the creation, but they also acknowledged the Creator; and their