

To the *Presbytery of Montreal*—The Rev. John Ross, until the meeting of Synod; Rev. Angus Mackintosh, Rev. J. C. Quinn, Rev. R. Swinton, Mr. John Scott, till Synod, Mr. Wm. McLaren, Mr. Arch. Currie, Mr. Arch. Crawford, the Rev. W. Rintoul or Prof. Lyall, to labour within the bounds of the Presbytery until the meeting of Synod.

Presbytery of Perth—Mr. Gourlay and Mr. Kennedy, and the Rev. W. Rintoul or Professor Lyall till Synod.

Presbytery of Kingston—Rev. And. Hudson, Mr. McIlwrick, and Mr. Ralph Smith.

Presbytery of Cobourg—Rev. Thos. Dickson, Mr. William Mackenzie, and Mr. D. McUlar.

Presbytery of Toronto—Mr. Robt. Ure, Mr. Alex. Cameron, till Synod; Mr. John Alexander, Mr. James Chesnut, Mr. D. McDiarmid, Mr. S. Kedeby, Mr. Andrew Tolmie, Mr. L. McMillan, Mr. Wm. Johnson, Mr. Wm. McKay, and Mr. G. Jamieson.

Presbytery of Hamilton—Mr. John Gray, Mr. Wm. Troup, Mr. N. Nicolson, Mr. And. Wilson, Mr. Alex. McLachlan, and Mr. George Muir.

Presbytery of London—Rev. Thos. McPherson, Rev. J. Ross, one month after Synod; and Mr. D. Fraser, until Synod.

The Committee adjourned to meet at the call of the Moderator, at the Synod in June.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The Presbytery of Montreal, in connection with the Synod of Canada, met in the vestry of the Cove Street Church, on the last Wednesday of March, and was constituted. *Inter alia*, the Presbytery proceeded with the trials of Mr. J. C. Quinn, preacher of the Gospel, with a view to his ordination over the united congregations of Osnabrock and Cornwall. Upon a conjunct view of the whole, the Presbytery agreed to sustain them; and further agreed to appoint a day for his ordination, so soon as the season and the prospect of convenient travelling would warrant. A call from the congregation of St. Gabriel Street church, Montreal, in favour of the Rev. Thomas Henry, minister at Lachine, was laid upon the table. The Presbytery considering the importance of the subject, and in conformity with the rules of the church ordered said call to lie on the table till the next ordinary meeting; and directed that the two congregations be requested to appear at said meeting for their respective interests. The great destitution within the bounds of the Presbytery was taken into consideration, and the Missionary Committee was instructed to make application to the Home Mission Committee, for a supply of missionaries and catechists for the summer months.

THOMAS HENRY, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Presbytery of Toronto met in the Library of Knox's College on the 16th ult.

There was a good attendance of members, seven ministers and a like number of elders being present.

The Rev. Thomas Wightman was appointed Presbytery Clerk.

The principal business before the Presbytery was the consideration of applications from vacant congregations and mission stations, for supply for the next six months.

The Presbytery agreed to apply to the Home Mission Committee for supply to the following stations, within their bounds, viz: St. Vincent and Euphrasia; Oro, Oshana, and Medontic; Mara

and Oro; Thora and Eulon; W. Gwillimbury and Bradford; Vaughan, King, Union and Norval, (if vacant,) Whitby, Streetsville, Reach, Brock and Scott, Acton and Nassagaweya; Newmarket, Holland Landing, Queensville and Davidtown.

The Presbytery met according to adjournment, on Wednesday the 17th, when some of the students allotted to the Presbytery had their spheres of labour assigned to them.

After transacting some routine of business adjourned to meet in the Divinity Hall of Knox's College, on Wednesday the first day of May, at noon.

ON THE WANTS OF THE MONTREAL PRESBYTERY.

The Rev. R. Robb, *Convenor of the Synod's Home Mission Committee.*

MY DEAR SIR,—

I address you thus through the *Record*, to offer a very few remarks on the subject of the distribution of the Catechists, as recently made by the Committee—partly to explain to our friends at a distance some parts of the arrangements that may appear to be defective; and partly to suggest a remedy for defects that are unavoidable, while our supply of labourers is inadequate for actually existing wants.

First, as to the supply of Catechists for Toronto Presbytery, which may appear to be unduly great, it should be known, that some are placed on the list because they have their residence within the bounds of that Presbytery, and the Committee was not sure of their accepting of appointments to stations.

Secondly, as to the supply for Montreal, for which you yourself and other brethren were commendably zealous, I am much afraid, that after all that was said and done, the supply will be deemed very inadequate. And I think the Committee have been somewhat mistaken in the matter, in this way—that while they voided the not inconsiderable number of ten Missionaries or Catechists for that Presbytery, it was at the time forgotten that several of them were engaged to particular stations or congregations—such as those for St. John's, Quebec; St. Gabriel Street, Montreal; Vankleek Hill, Cornwall and Leeds. Now, it will be found, that after these places are supplied, very few labourers will remain for the mission field proper of Canada East, which is confessedly very extensive and very necessitous. And it is in reference to this that I am desirous of offering a suggestion. I would say then, that at the Synod, the Committee should endeavor to find additional labourers for this field; and, in the event of its being found impracticable to remove any from other stations, that they should obtain the authority of the Synod for sending not less than three or four ministers to labour each for the space of two months throughout the bounds of the Presbytery of Montreal, as that Presbytery or its Mission Committee may direct. This would be a great boon to many neglected portions of the Mission field, and all the greater, if some of the ministers to be sent, have Gaelic: and it is one which I am very confident the Synod will be ready to grant. Commending this to your consideration, and that of the brethren who may assemble at the Synod,

I am, yours respectfully,

A MEMBER OF THE SYNOD'S H. M. COMMITTEE.
April 20, 1850.

The following letter should have appeared in our last. Although dated 14th February, it did not come in time for the March number:—

DEAR SIR,—

In common with many members of our Presbyterian Church in this quarter, I rejoice to notice, what I regard as a healthier tone, in your editorial articles of late, especially in the "plain maxims" inserted in the number for the present month.

And as the following extract from a very able sermon, lately preached before the Presbytery of Montreal, by the Rev. James C. Burns, Deputy from the Free Church of Scotland, appears to me to contain a clear and satisfactory view of the relation between Church and State, I send it for insertion in the *Record*.

I am, &c., &c.,

THOMAS HENRY.

After having stated and illustrated the peculiar excellencies of the Presbyterian form of Church Government, as contrasted with the various forms adopted by other denominations, the Rev. gentleman proceeds:—

"Then, again, in regard to the vexed and difficult questions of the Church's relation to the State, Presbytery occupies a middle position, which, though to many it seems inconsistent and unintelligible, we incline to think, is both safer and more scriptural than either of the extremes. It neither holds on the one hand that an establishment is necessary to the existence, or even efficiency of a Church, nor on the other, that entire separation from the State is necessary to the Church's freedom, or does of itself secure it; neither that the State is bound to endow; nor that the Church is bound to refuse endowments when offered, (if offered on reasonable terms); neither on the one hand that the subjection of the Church to the State is lawful for the sake of establishment; nor on the other that an alliance of the Church with the State is unlawful, if that alliance involve no subjection. The doctrine of our confession is, that the Church may lawfully be established—may also be endowed; but whether established, and endowed or not, she must be free—free to exercise her own internal, independent government, distinct from that of the civil magistrate, and therefore not subject to his control, that there is no inconsistency between the State's duty to the Church, and the Church's duty to herself and her Divine Head; but on the contrary, if earthly rulers were wise enough to discern it, a beautiful and blessed harmony between the two. That since the Lord Jesus is King of Kings, and of nations, as well as King of Saints, and Head of His body the Church, there are duties which nations owe to Christ, as well as Churches; and that it is only because the nations of the earth are unchristian, that any discrepancy or difficulty of adjustment has arisen between them. This was the testimony which the Free Church of Scotland bore, when, for the sake of freedom, she renounced the States favor, when she chose rather to be impoverished than enslaved; and this is the testimony she bears still—which she almost stands alone in bearing—which has been handed down to her from the olden time, as her hereditary badge of distinction, and which, I trust and believe, she never will abandon, till the day comes when the great controversy shall adjust and settle itself—by the kingdoms of this world having become 'the kingdom of Our Lord and of his Christ.' On these grounds and such as these it is, that we think ourselves warranted in affirming, that though Presbyterianism, as we now see it, may never be the one form of government established throughout the world—the very Church of the Millennium; yet, that all which is essential to it, is stamped with the impress of durability, and that in proportion as other Churches become more scriptural and pure, they will, in this respect, as well as others, more fully realize the Saviour's prayer, 'That they all may be one.'"

In addition to his varied duties and indefatigable labors as pastor of Coté Street Church, Montreal, Mr. Burns avails himself of every opportunity of visiting the congregations in the rural districts. We have to record, with lively gratitude, a very refreshing visit from him on the first Sabbath of the present month, when he preached, forenoon and afternoon, to the congregations at Lachine. Though the day was cold and stormy, the audiences were large and attentive. The Rev. gentleman preached again on the Monday