

# THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD.



## Presbyterian Church of Canada.

*"Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation."*

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### CONTENTS.

	Page
Statistical Return, Widows' Fund, Mon. Pres.	65
Opening Church at Woodstock.....	66
Anniversary Season in Kingston.....	66
Poverty in London and in Toronto.....	67
Presbytery of Toronto—Dr. Ferrier's Case...	68
Home Mis. of the Presbyterian Ch. in Ireland	70
Thoughts against shortening Theol. Course..	70
Our Home Mission once more.....	72
Anniversary Meetings.....	73
Practical Suggestions—Ordination of Rev A. Wilson.....	74
Port Dover Church .....	75
Banner of the Covenant—Quo. for B. Classes,	75
Missionary Record of the Fr. Ch. of N. S.	76
Dr. King on Geography.....	76
Short. Comments on the Psalms.....	76
Historical Notice of Printing.....	77
God's Love in selecting His People.....	78
Tenets of Poverty.....	78
Amusements of Christians—Mother's Prayer	79

### PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Presbytery of Toronto will meet on Wednesday, March 5th, at 12 o'clock, in the Library of Knox's College; and as the subject of the Charter of Knox's College, will be specially considered, a full attendance of members is requested.

ROBT. BURNS. Mod. of Pres.

### STATISTICAL RETURNS

In their Report to last Synod, the Committee on Statistics "recommend that all the returns be in the hands of Presbytery Clerks in due time, to be transmitted to Mr. Burns, Agent, a month before the meeting of Synod; and in order that full time may be allowed for doing so, the financial year close on the 31st March, instead of the 30th April." This report was adopted by the Synod.

Blank Schedules will be forwarded to all the congregations, and, as far as known, to the Mission Stations of the Church, which Schedules are to be filled up and returned to the Presbytery Clerks, who will send a Presbyterian return to the Agency Office. Lest some congregations or preaching stations should not receive the blanks, the following is the information required, and which it is hoped all will furnish, viz.—*In the Statistical Report:* The designation of the Congregation? The name of Minister? Number of members? Number added, within the year,

upon examination? Number added by certificates? Number of heads of families connected with the congregation? Average attendance on public worship? Elders? Deacons? Managers? Diets of Worship on Sabbath? Week-day lectures? Attendance? Pastoral Visitations? Prayer Meetings? Attendance? Sabbath Schools? Attendance? Bible Classes? Attendance? Congregational Libraries? Sabbath School Libraries? *In the Financial Statement:* Minister's stipend paid for the year ending 31st March? Sources of stipend? Amount contributed for Knox's College? Synod Fund? Synod's Home Mission Fund? Presbytery's Home Mission Fund? Foreign Missions? French Canadian Missionary Society? Miscellaneous, including Church Building? Total?

It is desirable that the Congregational returns be made up and transmitted to Presbytery Clerks soon after the 31st March, in order that they may have theirs forwarded in time for making up the General Report, according to the injunction of Synod.

### MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND SCHEME. NOTICE.

In consequence of a considerable number of the Ministers of the Church having failed to intimate their concurrence in the Widow's Fund Scheme, the Committee are reluctantly obliged to extend the time for giving such intimation, collecting subscriptions, &c., to the 1st day of April, the latest period consistent with their bringing this important matter in a regular and hopeful manner before the ensuing Synod. They therefore earnestly entreat all Ministers who have not already done so—as they would not wish to discourage the efforts of the Committee or defeat their just and benevolent object—to intimate to the Secretary without delay their concurrence or non-concurrence in the Scheme. Should there be any who are not disposed to concur in it, they are respectfully requested to state their reasons.

By order of the Committee,

GEO. ELSLIZ, Secretary.

### MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.

In the last number of the *Record*, I see a letter from Mr. W. Murray, of Montreal, to the Rev. Mr. Rintoul, on the subject of the Widows' Fund Scheme. As a member of the Synod's Committee, I will trouble you with a few remarks which

I think his letter calls for. First, I would respectfully, but firmly suggest to the framers of the scheme, the propriety of adhering to the resolutions come to at Hamilton, one of which was to get the Widows' Fund fairly under weigh, before any further enlargement be attempted. I would also adhere firmly to the £40 as the minimum for each widow or orphan family. As to the £1000 basis, try and get it by all means, and as much more as possible, but go on courageously, trusting to providence for farther assistance, even if we have no more than £250. If Mr. Murray can get a few £50 subscribers, we will be delighted. Above all, let our respected Pastors, as those most interested, and having a proper regard "specially for those of their own house," pay up punctually and regularly, and bring the subject honestly and plainly before their people, who, I am sure, only require to be invited, to obtain their assistance. Lastly, although rather a delicate subject, still I think it would be advantageous if both Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Robb were put on the fund as soon as it is fairly in operation. It would relieve the two congregations considerably, and if they chose to give anything additional to the £40 annually, of course they could do so. I hope you are getting in the congregational collections, which I look to as the surest support for the next five years at least. I sincerely trust to hear of a unanimous and favourable development of the scheme, at the meeting of Synod.

Yours respectfully,

A. D. F

### PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

At the ordinary quarterly meeting, held on the 5th February, it was resolved to commence a course of Visitations of the Congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery. The Presbytery to meet for this purpose at St. Therese on the 3d of March, and at St. Eustache on the 4th. The Rev. Mr. Couper to preach on the former occasion, and the Rev. Mr. Rintoul on the latter.

The Circular from the Agency Committee was considered, and the Clerk instructed to send answers to its various queries in the terms agreed on.

Petitions from Metis and Inverness, for Missionaries or Catechists were received. It was agreed that earnest applications in their behalf be made to the General Home Mission Committee, as well as for other necessitous districts. The Rev. Mr. Henry having been prevented from attending the meeting, by severe indisposition, Mr. Couper preached for him before the Presbytery, in the evening, in the Church in Côte Street. Thanks were recorded to Mr C for his able and edifying discourse. After other business the meeting closed.