

It forms a worthy object of our church's care. The expenses of our supreme court, and other incidental charges, fall to be defrayed by what is called the "Synod Fund," which also claims a share of your support.

The Ministers' Widows' and Orphan's Fund—As was explained on former occasions, this fund derives its income from three sources.—1st. The interest accruing on a capital sum, subscribed by the members of the Church at large; this sum is fixed at £3000 currency. 2nd. A yearly subscription of £2 from each minister. And 3rd. Until these two first sources are adequate, an annual collection from every congregation. This congregation has subscribed over £60 to the capital sum, a portion of which is yet to be collected; but the fund claims in its present infant state an appropriation in favor of its current annual income, as already, in the providence of God, the widows of several of our esteemed clergymen, now taking their rest, are claimants on its bounty.

Recognising in the French Canadian Missionary Society an instrument honored of God, in paving the way for the moral enlightenment of our French Canadian fellow-subjects, our Church has deemed it right to grant her effective aid to that Society, and certainly never did the aspect of the times, never did our own social position or prospects, impel more urgently to the vigorous performance of this duty. This excellent Society has recently suffered a very severe loss, in the death, by drowning, off the coast of Parrt, of the Rev. Jean Verrier, long a teacher at Point aux Trembles, and recently ordained to the more public ministry of the word.

The last object to which our Church calls our Christian solicitude, is the field of Foreign Missions, and she has wisely chosen the distinguished Missions of the Free Church of Scotland, as the most fitting channels in which the benevolence of her adherents could flow.

Within the last few years, death has thinned the ranks both of European missionaries and distinguished converts. The palm and cypress of India wave alike o'er the graves of Macdonald and of Mahendra; Johnstone rests from his many labours in the land of his birth; whilst Anderson, Bradwood, Mitchell, and Mackay, toil on at the Missionary our in daily weakness, which the ardency of their love for souls alone enables them to overcome; their more robust brethren share their toils, but Drummond and Duff have been forced to leave the scene of former labour and success. Such is the shady side of the missionary life; but there is truly a great recompense of reward approaching. In the opinion of those best qualified to judge, the day of India's emancipation has dawned at length, not only are our schools and colleges thronged with pupils—not only are native churches in rapid progress of organization, but the system of thorough Biblical instruction, is telling, with prodigious effect, on the effete systems of oriental belief; and the labours of our missionaries, associated as they are in bonds of closest amity with those of other sections of the Christian Church, have contributed most powerfully to this desirable result.

[In consequence of limited space and a press of matter, we have been obliged to omit very considerable portions of this report.]—EDITOR.

REPORT OF FEMALE ASSOCIATION, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, COBOURG.

The Female Association in connexion with St. Andrew's Church, Cobourg, beg leave to submit to the meeting, the following statement of their last year's proceedings:—

On the 29th of March, they held their annual sale, when they realized 439 10s 8d. After paying all expenses, such as printing, materials, &c., they found they had £41 15s. to dispose of for missionary purposes. This sum was divided as follows:—

To the Bursary Fund	£7 10 0
French Canadian Mission	5 0 0
Home Mission of the Presbytery.....	15 5 0
Knox's College Fund	14 0 0
	£41 15 0

The juvenile members who had a table on this occasion, realized £8 4s 6d., which they disposed of in the following manner:—

For Sabbath School Libraries	£5 0 0
To the Metis Mission.....	2 0 0
	£7 0 0

The balance being kept on hand for materials.

The young ladies in connexion with this church, held a Soiree, in February last, when they realised £20. This sum was intended, as the beginning of a fund for repairing the church. It still is in the hands of the Treasurer, but will shortly be applied to the purpose for which it was originally intended.

JANE M. McLEOD, Secretary.

THE PSALMODY OF OUR CHURCH.

[We insert the following as the writer's concluding article on the subject of the Psalmody of our Church, but we do not wish to be held as committed to all its views and opinions. Neither do we implicitly accept all the statements which the writer makes with regard to the preparation of a new version of the Psalms. The subject may have been mooted, but we are not aware that it has engaged the serious consideration of the Free Church of Scotland. Neither did we know that the Presbyterian Church of England had a new version of the Psalms only waiting the final sanction of the Synod, although we are aware that they have had under consideration the preparation of a Book of Hymns or Paraphrases:—EDITOR.]

To the Editor of the Record.

DEAR SIR,— It now devolves on me to redeem the promise I made respecting a third and last article on the subject of congregational Psalmody. I have only a few words to say on the point alluded to in the closing sentence of my last communication in the January Number of the Record. It is there stated, that the improvement in our Psalmody—so much desiderated need not be expected, until a barrier, that stands in the way, is removed. This barrier, I venture to say, is our present version of the Psalms.

What our churches, I presume, very much want, is a new version of the Psalms—in which there would be a greater variety of metres, adapted to some of our finest congregational tunes. Besides, a new version is much required for other reasons. The present one contains many words that are obsolete—or out of use. It contains many antiquated expressions, that a plain English reader cannot understand without a glossary. Some of the metres are, to say the least, not very smooth; and a great improvement might and could be made in the versification of our Psalms, as they stand in the version used by our church, in common with other Presbyterian Churches on this and the other side of the Atlantic. The idea of having a new version is not a novel one. The Free Church of Scotland has had the subject under serious consideration, and the Free Presbyterian Church in England is about to have a new version issued at the next meeting of the Synod of that Church. It is in the hands of a committee of revision, and it only wants the final sanction of that Synod, when it holds its next meeting in the month of April.— Shall we, a church, not be the first to follow the good example set us by the brethren in Eng-

land, and be prepared either to adopt the version sanctioned by the English Synod, or take steps to have one prepared by a committee of our Church? I do not think it needful to enter upon any line of argument to demonstrate the importance and necessity of the thing suggested. I simply content myself, in the meantime, with making the suggestion, and may safely affirm, in doing so, that I express the decided opinion of a large majority of the people, adhering to "the Presbyterian Church of Canada."

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

Brockville, Feb. 13th 1854. J. Mc M.

LETTER FROM REV. W. McALISTER, METIS—OBITUARY NOTICES.

MY DEAR SIR,—

Since I came to Metis, the oldest and (I suppose) the youngest member of my late congregation, have been removed by death. The former, upwards of ninety; the latter, only nineteen. What a difference in the period of their probation. What a loud and solemn call to the congregation and to all. The Lord may not come till the third watch is expired; but he may come even when the first watch is but announced. Surely it is wisdom to have our lamps trimmed and burning, and we on the look out for the approach of the Glorious Bridegroom.

The young member was received into Church fellowship, only a very short time before I left Sarina, and, therefore, I cannot say much about her standing in the divine life; she had a most engaging appearance, and was exceedingly modest and retiring.

The old member was not only full of years, but full of grace. He had early chosen Christ, and walked very closely with him, and consequently, knew Christ and his gospel well, and valued both above all earthly treasures. The Spirit was in his heart as a well of living water, springing up unto eternal life. His heart was saturated, softened, and purified by the Word of life. His very appearance was instructive, and the soft and tender manner in which he spoke of the things of Christ's precious kingdom, was sweet to the sanctified heart. Because he greatly loved the truth, he hated error with a perfect hatred, and could not speak with patience of the manner in which popery was not only tolerated, but fostered and supported by the British government, and by too many who professed to know and value the truth as it is in Christ.

I might say much regarding this good old man, that might edify as well as instruct. I have taken my pen at present, not to write of him, but about another person—one of the members of my present congregation, who died on the 10th of December, 1853. His name was Donald Smith. Consumption was the disease of which he died. For many hours before he died he had a severe struggle, but, excepting a few hours, his descent to the grave was slow, and gentle. He both pleased and surprised his friends last spring, but, as he said himself, with rather a heavy, wearied step. He could walk about during the summer, and in the fall, though confined to the house, he was not to the bed. He was able to sit up till within a few weeks of his decease. After he ceased to come to church, I visited him regularly about once a week; and besides general conversations on suitable scriptural subjects, at these visits, I gave an exposition of any chapter he chose to fix upon. When I asked him what chapter he would like me to explain to-day, he hesitated not a moment; he was always prepared, and named the chapter he thought most suitable. I mention this to shew his perfect acquaintance with the word of God, for his selection was often made at the moment, and as often with reference to the cases of those who happened to be present, or to his own case; and he always fixed upon the chapter that I considered most appropriate. At one of my