

whom an application of this kind has been made, shall send circular letters to the Clerks of the other Presbyteries, intimating the nature of the application and the deliverance come to or the same, that it may be reported to the Presbyteries at their next meeting, and in the event of there being no meeting of Presbytery, after such a circular has been received by the Clerk, and before the next meeting of the Commission, then in this case that he shall write to the members of the Presbytery who are members of the Commission, acquainting them of the tenour of the Circular. That the Commission shall pronounce a judgment on every application thus brought before them, which judgment shall be final; and that it shall be the duty of the Synod Clerk to send an extract of the same to the Clerk of the Presbytery, to whom the application has been first made; or the commission may refer the whole case to the Synod for their judgment.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF COMMISSION.

The Commission met, pursuant to adjournment, at Hamilton on the 13th, and continued in Session throughout the following day, the moderator of the Synod being in the chair.

The only business of consequence that engaged the attention of the Commission was the details of the sustentation fund scheme, which were completed and will be given in full in our next number. The Commission also agreed, in connexion with this scheme, and for the more effectual working of it, to issue certain interim recommendations respecting the appointment of deacons in each congregation. The Sustentation Board, as enlarged by the Commission according to the direction of the Synod, is made up of the following members, viz. Isaac Buchanan, Esq., President, and Messrs. McMurrich, Shaw, Westland, McLellan, McIntosh, McGlashan and Thompson of Toronto, Mr. Jeffrey of Cobourg, and Mr. McIntyre of Hamilton, with the Rev. Messrs. Stark, Rintoul, Harris and Gale, the ministers of the board being excluded from all share in the distribution of the fund.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

This committee also met at Hamilton on the 14th inst., Mr. Gale convener, and adopted the scheme previously drafted, for conducting the Home Missionary operations within the bounds of the Synod, which will be given in our next No.

The Committee admitted the Rev. Mr. Leishman, a probationer of the Free Church of Scotland, as a missionary within the bounds of the Synod. Mr. Leishman produced a Presbyterial certificate from the Free Presbytery of Edinburgh, and other testimonials of a highly satisfactory nature, and he was directed to place himself under the Presbytery of Kingston. The committee assigned the Rev. Mr. Kingan to the Presbytery of Cobourg, and the Rev. Mr. Steel to the Presbytery of Hamilton. Mr. Thomas Wardrop, student of divinity, was appointed a catechist, and authorised to discharge the duties of that office at Bytown and its vicinity. The committee hold their next meeting at Hamilton on the second Wednesday in January.

Home Missions.

CORRESPONDENCE OF MISSIONARIES.

Our next extract is from a letter of the Rev. Robert Kingan, and refers to another extensive and most necessitous field. The statements respecting it given in the Home Mission Report of the Presbytery of Hamilton, two years ago, still stand good, and may be here repeated with the addition that a considerable increase of population has taken place during the interval.

"The third missionary for this District could have assigned to his care the townships of Ekfrid,

Mosa, and the adjoining township of Zone, in the Western District. These three townships contain a Presbyterian population almost exclusively connected with the Church of Scotland, of from 1200 to 1500, the great majority speaking the Gaelic language. It is a distressing fact, that this large and interesting body of people have been left for ten or twelve years without the pastoral care of a minister of that Church to which they are so ardently attached. They have long been both able and willing to make a respectable provision for a minister. The report already quoted gives the following particulars respecting them:—

"These townships lie on the stage road between London and Chatham, and from twenty to forty miles from the former. I have no means of ascertaining the whole amount of the population. Ekfrid and Mosa would form a very convenient charge for one minister at least at first. They have of late built or are about building three places of worship between these two townships, they keep up prayer meetings and sabbath schools among themselves, they greatly lament their destitution of gospel ordinances, and though it is to be feared that many of them will be growing more careless and remiss in the event of their continuing much longer in their present destitution, there are not a few among them who under all disadvantages are seeking their way to Zion with their faces thitherward. I cannot say what they might be able to contribute for the support of a minister. But I have no doubt from their number and what I know of their strong desire to enjoy gospel ordinances, that they would be able and willing to make up for this purpose as much as the average amount of support enjoyed by the other ministers settled in country places from their congregations."

Extract from the letter of the Rev. Robert Kingan.

"Having completed my brief term of labour at Ekfrid and Mosa, I hasten to communicate its result. I was kindly received by all the elders in the former township, except Mr. Brodie, whom I did not see. My intercourse with them was most delightful; they exhibited so much of the grace of the gospel in their conversation, and in their treatment of me. Both they and many of the people expressed the strongest desire to have a pastor ordained amongst them. They pressed upon me in the most earnest manner to communicate their anxious desire to you, and also to the Church in the old country. To preach and converse in Gaelic appears to them at present as a necessary qualification in the minister who should be settled in their quarter.

"You know their numbers, their character, and other circumstances connected with them: can anything be done to procure for them one who shall be able to minister to them in their favourite tongue? Their case is much more urgent than any Highland congregation in Scotland; and will no Gaelic preacher be prevailed upon to leave home for their sake? If you can put forth any effort on their behalf, do not delay to do so, I respectfully and earnestly beseech you. Allow me further to add, that you will gratify them much by giving them a share of your missionaries' attention. They would desire to hear from you soon what prospect they may entertain concerning the object they have so near their heart. I preached one sabbath in Ekfrid Church, where the attendance was very numerous, (two hundred or so) and held several prayer meetings in different parts of the township, all of them being well attended. On the second sabbath I preached at Bear creek, Mosa, and was listened to by sixty or seventy people, whom, at the conclusion of the service, I recommended to finish their church as soon as possible, as it is yet without door or windows. I preached at Captain Sutherland's house, in Zone, on the Tuesday following. He and his Presbyterian neighbours long very much for a minister. They desire to express an earnest wish that the missionary should be instructed to visit them as well as Ekfrid and Mosa. They need and deserve such a favour, and I hope

they will not be overlooked. Yesterday I preached at Wardhille, Mosa, to the smallest audience I have had during the last fortnight. Some families here also unite in the general cry for a minister of the gospel. There is good reason to hope that they will soon have their church ready for public worship. I have been particularly pleased with the elders and people of Ekfrid, and Mosa and Zone, because I thought there appeared no small measure of Christian spirit amongst them."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HOME MISSION FUND OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON, RECENTLY PAID IN TO THE REV'D A. GALE:—

From Nassaganweya, £2 10s.; Zorra, £4, per Rev. Donald McKenzie; Woodstock, £2; Williams, £1; Thorold, at different times, £2 8s. 9d., per Rev. Angus Mackintosh; Streetsville, £2 10s.; Caledonia, £7 10s., per R. McKinnon, Esq.; Oakville, £3 2s. 6d.; Niagara, £3 1s. 6d., per Rev. Mr. McNaughton; Hamilton, £6 8s. 9d.,—Collection at public meeting in St. Andrew's Church: Saltfleet and Dundree, £1 19s. 10d.; Port Burlington, 11s. 1d., per Rev. Mr. Kingan; Mr. James Walker, Hamilton, 10s.,—Donation per Rev. Mr. Kingan.

THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST.

We would recommend the following extract from an article in the *Free Church Magazine* to the careful perusal and study of our readers, especially of that class of them who may not have been able to understand clearly why the Presbyterian Church of Canada will not remain in connexion with the Established Church of Scotland. And we would simply remind them that it is because she has despised and set at naught the great truths and principles herein set forth:—

"Two things are implied in this supremacy of Christ in his Church, and are necessary to the display and exercise of his Headship of it, viz., that he prescribes its laws and institutions—that he appoints those by whom these laws and institutions are to be administered. Laws flow from the supreme authority in any body or State. To give laws is the most striking proof of possessing the supreme authority—the authority to which all in that particular State or body must bow. Were there any one who could give laws to the Church beside Christ—were there any one entitled to alter or annul Christ's laws, or to demand the Church's submission to laws of his own—then he, and not Christ, would be the Church's head. But, inasmuch as Christ is the Head, he alone must reign within Zion's walls; and all things in the Church—its order, institutions, and government—must be regulated by his will, and by his will alone. Human authority may not interfere. The Church must listen to her Lord alone, receive the law at his lips, and be free to obey it. Human power may not meddle with the homage which the Church owes to her exalted King. No human law can release her from her obligation to consider only her Lord's commands, and obey them. And if any power whatever cross her path, obstruct her faithfulness to Christ, command her to break his law, or to regulate her proceedings by anything else than a regard to his mind, she must not obey—she must refuse compliance, at whatever hazard. It was thus that Daniel was tried; and he disobeyed. It was thus that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were tried; and they disobeyed. It was by the highest court in Judaea that Peter and John were interdicted from preaching Christ's gospel, just as the ministers of the Church of Scotland were interdicted by the Court of Session from preaching the same gospel in various parishes of this land. Peter and John broke the former interdict with the declared approbation of their Lord. Those who broke the latter inter-