

Church as may be furnished by the Superintendents and others interested. We trust that the space set apart for such information may be filled up each month, and that Sabbath School teachers may regard it as a duty to assist in doing so. The importance of the Sabbath School as a nursery for the Church cannot be too highly estimated, and now that the *Juvenile Presbyterian* has been discontinued there is no means of communication between the various schools, unless our offer be accepted. The Juvenile Indian Mission is one of great importance and has done much good. The latest news regarding its operations will be furnished to us,

and teachers should, therefore, deem it a duty to see that the *Presbyterian* is circulated. Its position we have explained in another article. We would simply remind them, however, that if there should be a surplus after all expenses are paid, it is appropriated to the schemes of the Church, so that every additional subscriber is adding indirectly to the efficiency of the Church's operations, while he is obtaining at least full value for his money.

"Short-hand," and other contributions, besides a large amount of Church news, are unavoidably left over till next month.

News of our Church.

COMMISSION OF SYNOD.

At Montreal, and within St. Paul's Church there, Wednesday the tenth day of Nov., 1869.

The Commission of the Synod met according to appointment, and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

Sederunt the Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., Moderator; Messrs. Alexander Mathieson, D. D., Hugh Urquhart, D. D., Kenneth MacLennan; James Patterson; Robert Campbell; James C. Smith, Joshua Fraser, Andrew Paton and Wm. Simpson, Ministers; Alexander Morris and James Croil, Elders.

Mr. MacLennan was requested to act as Clerk.

The Rev. Dr. Sellar, minister of the parish of Aberlour, Scotland, being present, was invited to sit and deliberate with the Court. Dr. Sellar acknowledged the courtesy in suitable terms, and took his seat as an invited member of the commission.

The Rev. H. Niven and the Rev. W. M. Black, ordained Missionaries, were also invited to sit and deliberate.

The Moderator explained to the Commission that he had been led to convene the meeting in St. Paul's Church, owing to the destruction by fire of St. Andrew's Church; the place named by the Synod for the present meeting. The Commission approved of the action of the Moderator under the circumstances; and, with reference to the cause of such changes in the place of meeting, the following minute was adopted, viz:—

The Commission of Synod having learned of the destruction by fire of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, resolve to put upon record an expression of their sympathy with the congregation who have been deprived of their stated place of worship, with their ministers, and especially with their senior pastor the venerable father of our Church. And the Commission feel assured that in this action they do but express the sentiments of the Church at large, which unites in deploring the loss of an edifice which as a

specimen of ecclesiastical architecture was unsurpassed within the bounds of the Synod, and they cherish the hope that ere long it will be restored to all its former beauty and comfort.

An application was read from the Rev. Alex. Forbes, of Inverness, for leave to retire, and for an increase in the allowance granted to him from the funds of the Temporalities Board. After consideration it was agreed to grant Mr. Forbes leave to retire from the active duties of the ministry, the Moderator being empowered to announce this decision to the Temporalities Board, on receipt of the usual certificate from the Presbytery of Quebec.

An application from the Reverend Hugh Niven, ordained missionary, for leave to retire from active service, and for some increase (if practicable) to the allowance (\$200), now received from the Temporalities Fund was read.

Said application having been recommended by the Presbytery of Montreal, it was agreed to grant Mr. Niven leave to retire from the active duties of the ministry, in the terms of his application, on the usual conditions, and that the clerk be instructed to communicate this deliverance to the Temporalities Board.

The Commission having had their attention called to the state of the Temporalities Fund, by the Church agent, and especially to the fact that there will be a probable deficit of \$2,000 on the 31st December next, it was agreed to appoint a committee consisting of the Moderator and Messrs. Campbell and Croil, with power to add to their number, to devise means for meeting the probable deficiency.

And further it was agreed to suggest to the Temporalities Board the desirableness of corresponding with the various Presbyteries, with a view to securing their aid in procuring funds to meet the payments falling due on the 1st of July next.

The Commission then adjourned to meet again in St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, on the Wednesday after the third Tuesday of January next, at noon; and was closed with prayer.