

hand of God in this afflictive dispensation, remembering that, even when His dealings seem mysterious, He doth all things well.

"They would remember with gratitude to Him who is the Giver of every good and perfect gift the faithfulness and perseverance with which he was enabled to discharge the duties of his ministry, and entertain the hope that, besides the results of his labor which he was permitted to see, the good seed sown by him may yet spring up unto an abundant harvest to the praise and glory of God's grace.

"They would cherish the assurance that their departed brother having ceased from his labors sleeps in Jesus until the day of God shall dawn and the shadows flee away.

"They would place on record an expression of their sympathy with his flock thus deprived of a pastor, and of their hope that a faithful Minister may soon be sent by the Great Head of the Church to fill the place of him who has been taken away.

"And they would sympathize, also, with his bereaved widow and children deprived now of his presence and protection, commending them, as well as the congregation to God and to the word of His grace which is able to build them up and give them an inheritance among all them that are sanctified."

Proceedings of Presbyteries.

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—This Presbytery held its last regular meeting at White Lake, on the 5th and 6th of August, *inter alia*. The Committee appointed to prepare a suitable minute anent Mr. McLaren's removal from the bounds gave in the following which was adopted. In dissolving the pastoral tie between the congregation of Knox Church Ottawa and their pastor Rev. William McLaren, according to the instructions of the General Assembly, the Presbytery desire to express their deep sympathy with the congregation. The removal of one whose ministry, though short, has been characterized by power and usefulness, would, under any circumstances, be regarded as a serious loss. How much more keenly must that removal be felt by his people when striving, with some difficulty, to build a large and beautiful church in which they expected their pastor to labor among them and to be over them in the Lord. We would, therefore, while sympathizing with them affectionately, commend them to the Lord of the Harvest that he may send them speedily one whose labors he will largely own and bless.

In releasing Mr. McLaren from his charge and transferring him to the care of the Presbytery of Toronto, the Presbytery of Ottawa would heartily congratulate their brother, that he has been called by our Church to occupy such an honorable position as that of Professor of Systematic Theology in Knox College, and desire to express their conviction that he is eminently fitted for the duties thus devolving on him, and their hope that all the expectations of the Church with regard to him may be more than realized. The Presbytery, however, cannot part with Mr. McLaren without recording their sense of the loss sustained by them, and expressing the high estimation in which he has been held by all his co-presbyters as one whose experience, good judgment, and other sterling qualities, have rendered him a most highly valued member of Presbytery both in counsel and labors. With a fervent prayer to God that he may be abundantly blessed in the discharge of his important and onerous duties, the Presbytery would bid their beloved brother an affectionate good-by.

The evening sederunt of the first day was occupied with a conference upon the subject "The relation of the children of believers to the Church, and the practical questions arising therefrom."

The list of supplemented congregations and mission stations was revised and the amount of aid to be asked for each for the current year fixed.