

THE PRESBYTERIAN

Toronto, Friday, June 13th, 1879.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Rev. Mr. Bell of St. Andrew's Church, Peterboro', has declined the call from Lancaster.

THE Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund of the Presbyterian Church of England has received a legacy of \$50,000.

THE American Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions closes its financial year with a debt of \$62,538, an increase for the year of \$15,538.

REV. J. MUNRO GIBSON, D.D., pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, Chicago, and author of "The Ages Before Moses," sailed for England on the 21st ult. He will be abroad three months.

CHALMERS' CHURCH, Quebec, which has been vacant for a considerable time, has decided unanimously to call the Rev. Dr. Mathews, of New York. There is every reason to hope the call will be accepted.—COM.

The new Church, Ridgetown, is to cost \$1,500 instead of \$20,000 as mentioned in last issue of THE PRESBYTERIAN. It will seat about 560, is expected to be finished in December, and will be an ornament to the town.

THE Rev. John Eadie has accepted the call from Pinkerton and West Brant. It was signed by 189 members and thirty-three adherents. The salary promised is \$850, payable quarterly in advance, with a manse.

THE Presbyterian congregation in Picton, who were entitled this year to the sum of \$150 from the Home Mission Fund of the Church, have declined to accept the amount, leaving the sum allotted to them to be applied in assisting other and poorer congregations.

CONGREGATIONALIST, Methodist, Episcopal—all the Churches have pointed to the Brooklyn Presbytery to show how inferior its methods are to those of their own. But not many Church courts are so unexceptionable as to prove the inferiority of their neighbours by that kind of comparison. In all of them decorum and piety are both occasionally forgotten.

THE semi-annual communion services were held in Duff's Church, East Puslinch, last Sabbath. The attendance was good upon the sacramental days, especially on Thursday and Sabbath. The pastor was assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Meldrum of Morriston, D. B. Cameron of Acton, D. Strachan of Rockwood,

and George Haigh of Hespeler. Thirteen names were added to the communion roll at this time, one of whom was a Roman Catholic till recently.—COM.

EDWARD MIALI, that veteran of Anti-State-Churchism, was the recipient of an address of gratitude and congratulation the other day, on the occasion of the completion of his seventieth year. Among the members of the deputation that waited upon him was John Bright. For thirty-eight years has Mr. Miall been engaged in the battle of freedom, and it must have been a source of immense satisfaction to him to review the labours, the trials, the successes of the past, and to see what bright prospects the future presents.

THE good people of the Northern Congregational Church, in this city, appear to be going in for friendly reprisals on Presbyterians. Within the past two or three years several Congregational ministers have come over to our side of the house. And now the Rev. John Burton, of Belleville, as been cordially invited to become the pastor of the above named church. We are not in a position to say what may be Mr. Burton's reply; but it will afford pleasure to his many friends in the Presbyterian Church if he can see his way to decline.

THE following additional contributions to L'Amable Church have been sent in by the Rev. Norman Macphee: Mrs. Lusk, Montreal, \$1; Dan. McBean, Lancaster, \$1; D. McMillan, Laggan, \$1; John McNaughton, Laggan, \$1; Angus McMillan, Laggan, \$1; Miss McNaughton, Laggan, \$1; Donald Ferguson, Indian Lands, 50 cents; Angus McMillan, Kirkhill, \$1; Malcolm McGillivray, Kirkhill, \$1; Donald McGillivray, Kirkhill, \$1; John McDougall, Dalkeith, \$1; Kenneth McLennan, Dalkeith, 50 cents; Duncan McGillivray, Dalkeith, 75 cents; William Fraser, Glensunfield, 50 cents; Donald McDonald, Glensunfield, 50 cents; Hugh McPherson, Lochiel, \$1: total, \$13.75.

A VERY curious fact has recently come to light. The Birmingham School Board has for six years been carrying out the idea of secular education, forbidding religious teaching of any kind and leaving all instruction in morals to teachers outside the school. Now we learn from the "Spectator" that they have found the system a failure, and have resolved that morality shall be systematically taught. The "Spectator" makes merry over the idea of teaching morals systematically without any religious sanctions. It asks what system is to be taught? Is it Buddhist, or Stoic, or Utilitarian, or the law of the land? We shall watch with some interest the result. When the pupils ask, as they surely will ask, why they are to do this or refrain from that, the teacher will be at a rather nonplus to answer.

ON Sabbath last the new Presbyterian church erected on Burlington Beach was opened by the Rev. S. Lyle preaching in the morning at eleven o'clock, and the Rev. D. H. Fletcher at three o'clock. This beautiful little church is the outcome of Christian effort to meet the growing spiritual wants of the most popular watering place near the city of Hamilton. The parties chiefly instrumental in erecting it are the city ministers of the Presbyterian Church, aided in the praiseworthy desire to minister to the highest interests of those residing and visiting at the Beech by such

gentlemen as Mr. James Walker, Mr. Alexander Turner, and Mr. R. M. Wanzer, the trustees of the new building. Both the morning and evening services were well attended, and the earnest words of the preacher listened to with marked attention. The collection, which was large in amount, was taken up by Messrs. Turner and Wanzer. The amount for building the church was subscribed in great proportion by the Trustees, who gave fully one-half.

WE were recently shown a letter written by our historical contributor, Mr. H. S. McCollum, of St. Catharines, to a commissioner to the General Assembly now in session. It contains an important suggestion for Assembly action, which we quote:—

"I beg, therefore, to suggest the propriety of asking that body [the General Assembly] to appoint a Presbyterian Historical Committee, or Board, which shall have authority to call for aid upon Presbyteries and their officers, and upon pastors and church sessions, as well as authority to demand and receive, in the name of the General Assembly, the records of Presbyteries and Synods, with other documents which are the property of the Church, but are now scattered in private hands over the Dominion."

Mr. McCollum proposes to continue his own laborious investigations, but proposes to co-operate, to such extent as may be desired, with such Committee or Board if appointed, and gratuitously to render such assistance as he may be able. The suggestion is certainly worthy the serious consideration of the Assembly.

IT gives us sincere pleasure to learn that the Rev. John McLeod, minister of Govan parish, and James A. Campbell, Esq., an elder from the Presbytery of Glasgow, are appointed a deputation by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to visit the Assembly at Ottawa. Mr. McLeod is a son of the Rev. Dr. McLeod, minister of Morven, the Highland parish that has been so long in the McLeod family and whose reminiscences were so well told in the pages of "Good Words" by its late lamented editor, Norman McLeod. Mr. McLeod is a cousin of Dr. McLeod late minister of the Barony, Glasgow, and editor of "Good Words," and also of the present editor of that popular periodical, Rev. Dr. Donald McLeod, who has given to the world such an admirable memoir of his brother. The parish of Govan, of which Mr. McLeod is minister, is one of the richest livings in Scotland. It is also important from the density of its population and its requirements in Home Mission work. Mr. McLeod, previous to his settlement in Govan, was minister of Dunse, where he obtained some notoriety in connection with what was called ritualistic practices. Before that he was minister of Newton-on-Ayr. He is a very able and powerful preacher, and having his share of the family gift of platform speaking, he may be expected to address our Assembly in a very telling manner. His companion is the eldest son of the late Sir James Campbell of Stracathro, who was a member of the well-known firm of J. & W. Campbell & Co., Glasgow, and one of its founders. Mr. Campbell received every advantage in education and travel, and is a gifted speaker both in the lecture room and in Church courts. No two better men could be sent as a deputation to our Church, and while we esteem it as a great honour that they are sent it shows that the old Church of Scotland is fully alive to the importance of the union which has taken place amongst her children in this Dominion.