

THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,

For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

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The Record.

NOTICES BY THE SYNOD CLERK.

1. The undersigned thinks it his duty to call the attention of the Presbyteries of the Church to the queries issued by the Sustentation Board, under the authority of the Synod and published in the Dec. No. of *The Missionary and Ecclesiastical Record*. The want of full and accurate information on the points embodied in these queries has been found a serious hinderance in the deliberations and decisions of the Synod, on some subjects of vital importance. It is hoped that this deficiency will be fully supplied at the next meeting of Synod, by the answers furnished by the several congregations to the queries referred to. The office-bearers in the several congregations should prepare and forward the requisite replies, without loss of time to the Clerks of Presbyteries—in order that they may prepare a synopsis of the returns to be transmitted as soon as possible to the Synod Clerk. It will rest mainly with Presbyteries to secure attention in all the congregations to this important matter,—and the undersigned earnestly begs that no time may be lost by them in taking effectual measures for procuring full returns.

2. The undersigned begs that all moneys received in payment for Minutes of Synod, be transmitted forthwith to Mr. J. F. Westland, Book-seller, Toronto.

3. The proceeds of the sales of the pamphlet issued by the authority of the Commission of Synod, explanatory of the causes and grounds of the Disruption, should be immediately forwarded to Mr. McLellan, Book-seller, Hamilton. Very few returns have as yet been made on this account, but it is hoped that the parties to whom supplies of the pamphlet were sent will communicate with Mr. McL., without delay.

4. The undersigned is requested by those who manage *The Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record*, for the Church, to call on ministers and office-bearers to turn their attention to this matter, both for promoting the circulation of *The Record*, and for securing regularity of payment for it. A large amount of arrears is due, and serious inconvenience is in consequence experienced by those who gratuitously conduct it. It is clearly the duty of the rulers and ministers of the Church, to remedy this evil.

WILLIAM KINTOUL,

Synod Clerk.

Toronto, Jan., 1847.

We had hoped that ere now the publication of the *Record* would have been restored to its ordinary course, but obstacles unforeseen by us, and over which we had no control, have hitherto prevented this. The printer, however, now assures us that the irregularity will terminate with the publication of the next number.

We have also to express our sincere regret that we have not as yet been able to publish the outline of the Model Trust Deed. The delay has been occasioned by the difficulty of procuring its satisfactory revision by legal counsel. We have reason to believe that it will be in readiness for our next number.

PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX—Rev. Mr. ROBB—At a special meeting of the Presbytery of Halifax, held on the 7th instant, the call from the congregation of Knox's Church, Hamilton, to the Rev. Mr. Robb, was taken into consideration, and the call and relative documents having been read, Mr. Robb was requested to state his views as to his accepting of it. Mr. R. accordingly, after entering at some length into the state and prospects of the Church in Nova Scotia, and expressing, in affecting terms, his attachment to his present congregation, declared it to be his conviction, after deliberate and prayerful consideration, that Hamilton and the state of the Church generally in Canada, presented a more extensive and promising field of usefulness, and on this ground intimated his disposition to accept of the call, if the Presbytery concurred in his doing so.

Delegates from Mr. Robb's congregation were next heard, and after reading a written statement of reasons against the translation, they severally addressed the Presbytery, earnestly deprecating the removal of Mr. Robb. The Presbytery having then discussed the matter at great length, at last came to a vote, on the question *Translate or not*, and several of the members declining to say yea or nay, it was found that the votes were equally divided, and the Moderator having refused to give his casting vote on the occasion, it was found necessary to adjourn, without coming to a decision, until the 27th instant. The result will soon reach us, and we trust it will be favourable to Hamilton and Canada.

Just as we were going to press, we were gladdened with the intelligence that the Presbytery of Halifax have agreed to Mr. Robb's translation to Hamilton. He purposes (D. V.) to reach Hamilton at the opening of the navigation.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

(To the Editor of the Record.)

Dundas, 4th Feby., 1847.

DEAR SIR,—There was not any business of much interest before the Presbytery of Hamilton at its meeting in January, unless that which was connected with the Missionary department. Some interesting statements were made by the members present in regard to the various fields of labour within the extensive bounds of the Presbytery, especially Mr. Sutherland and the Rev. A. McLean, and some highly satisfactory and encouraging reports were given in by Missionaries, showing the rapidly improving condition of preaching stations as well as of congregations in con-

nexion with our Church, already organized or desirous of being organized, which are rising up over the country, and the increasing zeal of the Presbyterian population adhering to our Synod in making exertions, to the sacrifice of worldly considerations, to support the migration of word and ordinance among them. The great subject of painful regret to the Presbytery was, that they had it in their power to do so little to answer the many and urgent demands made upon them, and it seems most acutely to impress it upon the minds of our people not only on those whom God in his providence hath favoured, should assist their more needy brethren in regard to spiritual things, but that even the most helpless should exert themselves to the utmost in pursuing the means at the disposal of the Presbytery to obtain as great a number of missionaries as possible, and to extend the sphere and increase the amount of the Missionary supplies. The field is most extensive and the calls upon us most pressing, and it is only by active co-operation on the part of our people that the former can be in any adequate measure occupied and cultivated, or the latter satisfactorily answered. It is, however, encouraging and delightful to think that there is an increasing desire after the migration of word and ordinance extending itself over the land: for, though it is painful not to be able to meet it, it gives ground to trust that He who hath created the appetite, will grant what is needful to satisfy it. They who are truly hungering and thirsting after righteousness shall assuredly be filled. I may mention, for the information of your readers within the bounds of our Presbytery, that the meetings of our Home Mission Committee are held in Knox's Church, Hamilton, on the first Monday of every month, at noon—that missionaries are engaged to forward monthly reports of their labours to the Convener, and likewise that all communications in regard to Missionary supplies are to be addressed to me, at Dundas.

The Home Mission Committee met last Monday, and the existing appointments which it may be well to notice are as follows:—

Mr. Sutherland to be at Owen's Sound settlements during the month of February, assisting Mr. Smellie, who is to dispense the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in the accompanying services and to labour during the month of March between London, Woodstock, and the intermediate stations.

Mr. Bethune to continue his labours at Walpole and the adjoining stations. He is relieved from the duty of preaching at Wellandport owing to the distance of the station.

Dr. Ferris to dispense the sacrament at Walpole as soon as possible.

Niagara has been supplied during January, and up to this time, by Mr. King and Mr. McLean. Mr. King and Mr. Bethune have been appointed to give farther supply during the months of February and March, and the Presbytery of Toronto have been authorized at their request to make appointments for dispensing the sacrament there shortly.

Mr. McLean to labour in Howard, Oxford and Tilbury, during February, and assist Mr. McKinnon in dispensing the sacrament at Tilbury—to preach at London or some intervening station the first Sabbath of March: at Port Dover and Simcoe the second Sabbath; and the other Sabbaths, between Wellington Square and Danville, assisting Dr. Ferris in dispensing the sacrament at the former place on such day as may be agreed upon.

London, Williams, and the intermediate places, to be supplied during the month of February by