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TORONTO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1879.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

ON Thursday of last week a meeting of the Church Extension Association in connection with the Presbytery of Toronto was held in the Bible room. The object of calling such was to consider the matter of the annual meeting and to examine the condition of the Society's funds. From what passed it was manifest that a long pull, and a strong pull, and a pull together, must be made, if anything like a satisfactory report is to be given at the annual meeting. The amount contributed to date was just sufficient to clear a balance in the Treasurer's book against the Society. There remained a sum of twenty-six hundred and fifty dollars, which was in the shape of a note held by one of the banks, and that would require to be paid in April. Besides this, there was five hundred dollars, the annual income that was needed to carry on the various enterprises undertaken by the Association in the interests of church extension in this city and neighbourhood. To meet these engagements it was reported that a number of congregations were collecting the annual subscriptions for membership and endeavouring to obtain contributions of larger amounts than the annual fee. In this way, it might reasonably be expected that a considerable sum would be raised before a meeting to be held on 6th March, which is to be preliminary to the anniversary.

It is very evident that sufficient interest is not taken in this movement, or surely there would not be such a constant outcry for funds. The membership fee of the association is only one dollar per annum. Were there a thousand members, there would be a thousand dollars of income, and that would amply suffice to meet all engagements and lessen the present indebtedness. But with our dozen Presbyterian churches in this city, each and all prosperous and vigorous, there should be at least two thousand members of such a society. There are not a few who could give more largely than one dollar per annum, while it is quite to be expected that occasion-

al legacies will be left to aid the Association's funds. In this way, there could be easily raised every year a sufficient sum to carry on the work of church extension.

The funds thus raised will be expended on church extension proper. Two beautiful buildings have been erected in Brockton and Leslieville, and an important mission Sabbath school is being carried on in the north-east section of the city. The Parkdale Presbyterians are going ahead, and, notwithstanding the promise they are giving of doing much for themselves, may require some little aid to build their church. The work of the Association can hardly be over-estimated. Its chief benefits will be seen and felt in the future, that is, if the present members of the churches are up and doing, and lending a helping hand to its office-bearers.

CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF MISSION STATIONS.

BEYOND all question there is a serious defect in the working of our Home Mission fields under the system heretofore practised by the Church. Regular supply is given during the summer half-year, generally by student missionaries, but during the winter six months most of the fields are unprovided for. The result is seen in the weak and discouraged condition of not a few stations which under a different system might long ere this have become strong, self-supporting charges. To-day there are hundreds of Presbyterians in other churches who would have been identified with the Church of their fathers still, had it not been that there was no Presbyterian service within reach of them for full one-half of the year, and they felt constrained in their own and their children's best interests to attend the service of another denomination, to which they gradually became attached, and were thus lost to our Church. At last General Assembly a scheme was submitted with a view to remedy this defect in our Home Mission work. The Assembly expressed approval generally of the scheme, and sanctioned action in accordance with its provisions as far as practicable, under the approval of the Home Mission Committee. By this scheme the Home Mission Committee are empowered, with the consent of Presbyteries, to call missionaries to labour for a term of at least two years in "new or necessitous localities where there is a reasonable prospect of the formation of pastoral charges at an early date." The missionaries may be ordained ministers, licentiates, students of Theology, or laymen of approved gifts—the minimum salary fixed being, for ordained missionaries, married, \$700; unmarried, \$600; for licentiates, \$550; and for students \$450; per annum. It is believed that many of our Licentiates and especially of our graduating students would prefer to accept such appointments rather than place their names on the probationers list and go through the vacancies of the Church in search of a call. By this means not only would continuous supply be given to a large number of our mission fields, but many of our licentiates would in the course of a few years work up strong, self-

sustaining charges for themselves or others. In the course of a few weeks another session of our Theological Colleges terminates, and the Home Mission Committee meets to appoint the students to their summer fields. Now therefore is the time to practically carry out this new scheme. The matter should be prominently brought before the Presbyteries of the Church and before the graduating class of each college without delay. The Home Mission Committee of each Presbytery should carefully consider what fields within their respective bounds can be best worked under this new system, and what the people in these fields will be prepared to contribute for a permanent missionary.

All applications from Presbyteries should be on the table of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee at its meeting in Toronto on the 25th of March, accompanied with full detailed information as to the extent, population, resources and religious condition of the several fields.

It might be well also for the graduating students of our several colleges, who are prepared to accept the call of the Church to labour in connection with this new scheme, to correspond with the Assembly's Committee before its meeting on the 25th proximo.

We are sanguine that this scheme, if judiciously worked, will be productive of great good, and that in more directions than one. To render it successful however the utmost care will be necessary in the selection of missionaries. This selection lies in the hands of the Home Mission Committee, who alone are empowered to call the labourers, with the consent of Presbyteries, and we have every confidence that they will see to it that the men called are adapted to the fields in which they are respectively to labour.

REV. ANSON GREEN, D.D.

IT is hardly a painful duty, believing as we do in the rest that remains for the people of God, to refer to the death of a well known and highly honoured citizen. Dr. Green had, by reason of strength, almost reached four-score years. His life had been extended beyond the general limits. It had by several decades exceeded the average of human lives. It was his good fortune to enjoy a few years of rest from the active labours of the ministry, and at the same time a quiet and tranquil preparation for the rest that remaineth. How different indeed are the lots of ministers of the Gospel in this regard, and we may say of men of all ranks and professions. Some are called away just when putting on the armour. Others are struck down in the thick of the battle. Others just on the point of retiring from the conflict and anticipating a period of rest before going hence, are summoned to their account. But here we have an aged servant of the Lord going quietly to his grave after lengthened retirement from the pressing engagements and active duties of a long and unbroken term of service. Such a death calls for gratitude rather than tears.

But we cannot help feeling sad at the removal of such a useful and prominent citizen.