

In the year 1857, the churches of the Middle District raised the magnificent sum of \$1,400; but in the year 1863, only \$655 31! A trifling additional effort on the part of *each* contributor, would swell the amount even beyond the maximum in 1857.

E. BARKER, *Secretary Middle District.*

P. S.—The Missionary Reports for last year will be forwarded to the several localities so soon as they come to hand.

THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above named Association of Congregational Ministers will be held on Tuesday the 9th and Wednesday the 10th of February, in Scotland, C. W.

The following appointments were made at last meeting, viz.,

Rev. Solomon Snider, primary preacher.

Rev. Thomas Lightbody, alternate.

Essay, by Rev. C. P. Watson, on "The obstacles to the progress of Congregationalism, and the best means of surmounting them."

Review, by Rev. A. McGill, "The life of Rev. Greville Ewing."

Plans of Sermons, by Rev. J. Durrant, and Rev. D. McCallum.

Sermon, by Rev. Thomas Pullar.

Exposition, by Rev. Robert Robinson.

Brethren will bear in mind that their services are depended upon for the series of missionary meetings in that region during the same week.

EDWARD EBBS, *Secretary.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.—FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

With a view to accommodate all the friends of this Association, to prevent mistakes, and secure a hearty co-operation, the General Agent wishes those who have not been visited by him, but to whom he can render service, to communicate with him as early as possible. Every application will receive due attention. Address—

REV. JAMES T. BYRNE,

BRADFORD, C. W., Dec. 18, 1863.

WHITBY, C.W.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM A CONSTANT READER.

Mr. Editor.—When you are doing so much gratuitous work for the churches of our denomination, the least your readers should do is to cheer you occasionally with the plaudit you so richly deserve—"well done." The last mail to this place brought me both the *Canadian Independent* and the *Scottish Congregational Magazine*. Not having seen the latter since the Rev. Mr. Spence became its editor, I was curious to see how our own magazine would stand comparison with its older and more favoured friend across the Atlantic. Permit me to say that in my humble opinion the *Independent* suffered nothing by the comparison. Certainly, it has a more respectable coat on, the same number of pages of equal size, and for exactly the same price; and for style, matter, variety, and adaptation, it is not a whit behind. Your last number's