MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

The following Presbyteries will meet at the places and times severally mentioned, viz:—

BROCKVILLE.—At Brockville, on 1st, Monday of May, at 3 p. m.

OTTAWA.—At Carleton Place, on 1st Tuesday of May, at 2 p. m.

COBOURG.—At Milbrook, on 1st Tuesday of July, at 11 a. m.

ONTARIO.—At Prince Albert, on Tuesday, 9th July, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

TORONTO.—At Toronto, in Knox Church, on 1st Tuesday of May, at 11 a. m.

LONDON.—At London, in St. Andrew's church, on 2nd Thursday of July, at 11 a. m.

OWEN SOUND.—At Owen Sound, on 2nd Tuesday of July, at 2 o'clock p. m.

DURHAM.—At Durham, on 2nd April at 1 o'clock p. m.

FREE CHURCH, COTE ST. MONTREAL.

At the annual meeting, which was largely attended, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Burns in the Chair, Reports were submitted from the Session, the Deacon's court, the Sabbath School, Young Men's Association, the Dorcas Society, the Grimshton Mission, &c, all showing most encouraging progress. The following items are culled from the printed report of 32 pages, just received.

"*The Ordinary income increased from Pew Rents and Sabbath Collections* to $2[illegible], in advance of last year, and $716 62 over that of 1869. The amount realized for the support of the poor also shows an increase of $[illegible] as compared with the year 1870." The poor fund amounted to $474 37, which with $120 60, for the Dorcas Society, makes $594 97, for the poor.

"The Missionary collections have been doing their duty faithfully and well, an increase of $749 97 has been made in the last year 1870."

"The usual collections authorized by the General Assembly, as well as for special objects have been taken up during the year and show an increase over former years."

"The Sabbath School is under the able Superintendence of Mr. Morrice, and is in a flourishing condition. The teachers have met every Sabbath morning for the prepacation of the lesson. This meeting is ably presided over by Judge Torrance. A well attended meeting is held by the Teachers immediately after the dismissal of the School, when the subject for next Sabbath's lesson is read and prayer offered for the Divine blessing. The amount collected this year for missions is $715 45, being $58 45 in excess of last year. Meetings have been held for the practice of singing under the efficient leadership of Mr. Becket. The concerts which have been given at intervals by the School, have been eminently successful.

The Young Men's Society since its organization in December 1870, has gradually increased in numbers and interest. Its object is the religious, intellectual and social culture of the members. The number on the roll is 60.

"The Bible class is under the Pastor's Care, and the attendance is at present very encouraging. The class appropriated $30 out of the Plate collections taken up at each meeting for a French Student's Scholarship."

"The sum total of contributions for the year, is $9,601 48; but we understand that there are some omissions inadvertantly made in the Missionary departments which would make it round the noble figure of $10,000. Of this $5,121 36 comes under the head of the Sustentation Fund. The remainder has been devoted to Missionary and Benevolent purposes. The Deacon's court, in conjunction with the Session, agreed to recommend to the congregation the formation of a "Missionary and Benevolent Society," which was organized at the annual meeting with the Pastor *Ex-officio* as President. The Session and Deacons court with 12 others from the congregation as the Board of Management. The Society, we learn is going on favorably, and promises to accomplish much good in the way of systematizing the contributions of the Society and developing *latent* energy.

The Pastoral statistics are briefly as follows: Baptisms, 33; Funerals, 24; Marriages, 11; Communion Roll, 507; Meetings attended, 291; Visits and calls, 777.

ANNUAL REPORT OF KNOX CHURCH, ELMIRA, ILLINOIS, U. S., FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1872.

Families connected with congregation 45. Communicant 58. Single persons who attend Church, but are not connected with families of congregation 14. Addition by examination and certificate 5. Children baptized 4. Children in Sabbath School 42. Bible class 22. Weekly prayer meetings 3. Pastoral visitation 2. Elders 6. Office bearers or managers 5. Sabbath School teachers 5. Volumes in Sabbath School Library 2[illegible]. Sittings in Church 250.

Salary paid to pastor $700. Amount expended on Church or Manse during the year $385.70. All other congregational and incidental contributions not otherwise reported $57.25. College 15.10. Home Missions 18.50. Foreign Missions 1[illegible]. Widows fund $7.36. Assembly fund 1.48. French evangelization $4.00. Kankakee Mission $9.05. Sabbath School for Foreign missions 9.00. In all $1 28 for missions, being $24.88 more than in the preceding year. Total contributions for congregational purposes and schemes of the Church $1227 24.

In connexion with this Church there is a commodious Manse and Glebe of six or seven acres of good prairie land. This congregation is 120 miles from Windsor, being the nearest point of Canada. It is situated in the finest part of the State of Illinois. Perhaps no township in the Union can excel this in advantages. There are exhaustless stores of coal embedded under it. Hedges are used for fencing, which can easily be raised here. Timber is convenient for building purposes. Abundance of water may be obtained by digging from 20 to 50 feet, beside 3 streams of water which are accessible to most of the farmers. The soil is of the richest kind, from 50 to 90 bushels of corn to the acre were raised here last year. The winters here are very mild and hardly any snow on the ground. Elmira is conveniently situated to three different lines of Railway. The people are well off here for Schools and Churches. There are 3 Presbyterian Churches in Elmira, each of them keeps a pastor all the year, and pay their salaries in advance. Knox Church congregation is nearly all composed of Scotch and their descendants. The Rev. Alexander M'Kay, their pastor, who is a Canadian by birth, is settled here for nearly four years, and preaches every Lord's day in English and Gaelic. This is the only Church in the United States so far as known to the writer, where the Gospel is preached in the Gaelic. But in British territory in both hemispheres, there are many large congregations where the Word of God is preached in this ancient language. It is now over thirty years since the first Scotch settlers came into this locality, and they who came then when land was cheap, and others who came at a later period are in very comfortable circumstances. Many of them are liberal in supporting the various Churches here, and their ministers. The Sabbath is well kept here, at least outwardly, and the people generally attend Church. The children attend the Sabbath Schools in the different Churches, and many of them are very familiar with the Shorter Catechism.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1871.

As the different seasons of the year come and go, we are not only brought [illegible] peculiar to each, or impressed with a deep sense of gratitude to God for the particular bounties of His Providence, with which each is loaded, but further we are reminded, that each season suggests duties appropriately its own. Some of these duties are grave and weighty, others pleasant and light, and gladsome, that the one now devolving upon me belongs to the latter class. As the servant of the Association of Sabbath School Teachers in connection with this congregation, I have to express the great satisfaction which they always have in meeting with the parents of their scholars on any occasion but especially on gatherings like the present. And further, I have to present you with my annual report for the past year. In my last one, I said the prosperity of the school during 1870, had been such that we had great reason to thank God and take courage, and the close of 1871 leaves us in the same hopeful condition. Napoleon the 1st once said that there was nothing like success to be successful, and with our past success to encourage us, I feel certain that our school will continue to be successful, not merely in keeping, and even adding to its present number of pupils, but what is infinitely better, proving instrumental in God's hand in leading some of them to decide for Christ in early life. This is what we should labour and pray for especially if we desire our Sabbath school to be a success in the estimation of our Divine Master. Our material advancement, at least, has been very marked during the past three years. In 1869 there were 15 Sabbaths when the attendance was below 100, in 1870 they were reduced to five, and I have only one recorded for 1871. Again in 1869 the average attendance was 104 during 1870 it rose to 126, an increase of 22 over the previous year, and in 1871 it reached 141 an increase of 15 above 1870 and 37 over 1869. During the 3 years referred to we have lost 17 teachers, through marriages, removals from town and other legitimate causes. To find suitable successors has not always been an easy task, but the difficulty has been surmounted in a very satisfactory manner. Out of the 16 Teachers we had at the close of 1870, 6 of the number laid down their commission during 1871. The vacancies have been filled up, however, besides adding two additional ones to our ranks giving us at present a staff of 18 efficient, energetic Teachers. Our association has also 1 Superintendent, 1 Librarian and 2 assistants. The 3 last named officers have shown so much tact, patience, and self-denial in the discharge of their arduous duties in the Sabbath School during the past year, that I embrace this opportunity of acknowledging my obligations to them. With the exception of having formed two new classes during the past year, no changes have been made in the school worthy of notice in this report. Our Missionary boxes have done good work, during 1871, having collected the handsome amount of $64 50, an advance of $6 88 over the previous year, and $11 88 over 1869. These contributions from our Sabbath School Scholars, no doubt help to increase the limited means, which the church has to contend against, in carrying on her benevolent enterprises and missionary schemes but that, I believe, is the least good they accomplish. The children themselves are the greatest gainers. By the very process of giving their mites for the good of others instead of spending them on their own self-gratification, they are early taught the duty of self-denial, and if spared to see maturer years, they will be in a measure prepared for adopting the apostolic injunction "Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth" not only as practical, but as the key to a successful, christian life. There are my convictions at least, and therefore while I remain at the head of your School I will continue to foster the cultivation of giving as much as possible, and principally for your childrens future weal.

Besides the proceeds from the Missionary Boxes just referred to we have collected from the excursions in July—our annual *Pic Nic* in August and lastly *from our very fruitful Bible classes* in December, the sum of $13 06, giving a total *from all sources* of $96 [illegible]. Financially the past year has been the most prosperous one, in our whole history, and therefore, both as a Sabbath school and a congregation, we have just reason to thank God for it. A portion of the $13 06 already spent in defraying and meeting the growing expenses of the School, and ultimately the whole will be faithfully used for similar purposes. In a short time we will lay out $50 in the purchase of new books for our Library, already numbering several hundred volumes, and if the selection be a judicious one the money could not be laid out to better advantage for all concerned. If read with care they will not only arrest the *attention of our children while perusing them but* we hope they may help to form taste for useful literature, a thing much needed in this *trash reading age*. The sickly pious sentimental novel is an abomination, that should never be tolerated either in a Christian family or a Sabbath School Library, and should be placed on the "*Index expurgatorius*" by every one who has the weal of the rising generation at heart. During the past year, we have distributed once a month 100 copies of the "Childrens Paper" to the younger portion of our scholars, and we hope, that they may have been carefully read. For the current year the Teachers have determined to introduce a new paper into the school and I believe that the change will have have a good effect on the children. The new paper is called "Glad Tidings" perfectly *Orthorodox and Presbyterian* in its character and published in the United States. We have ordered 48 copies of this reducing the children's paper to 60 copies, giving us in all 108 copies for monthly distribution during the year. A number of the Teachers and elder scholars continue to subscribe for the "British Workman" This useful Publication is a monthly costing only $1 25 per annum and should be in every family represented in the Sunday School. 1871 left the teachers more firmly united to either than at any previous period of the schools history. This great aim seems to be the good of those who wait on their instruction and as far as possible to make the school a nursery for the Church *Militant and Triumphant*. They have voluntarily assumed responsible duties they have not a few times arrangements to continue against their discharge. And therefore I bespeak for them the countenance and support of all christian parents, who have children under them. Another pleasing feature of the past year is the general good conduct of our scholars old and young, while under the eye of their teachers, and we have never heard anything to the contrary, we hope it has been equally commendable on the streets on the Sabbath afternoons. The desire of all who take any *part in the school management* is that orderly conduct, respectful demeanour to parents and superiors, and above all the Fear of God may always be the distinguishing traits in the character of the schoolers. I have just one thing more to request, I wish to refer and thank the Sabbath School and Congregation for their kindness and gratitude to Mr F. for his services during the past year. Not only has he taught a large and growing class but he has also spent considerable amount of time in teaching the children to sing. In the first place he offered to give an hour on Monday evening for that purpose if the scholars would take advantage of the privilege, but strange to say, so few attended that he was reluctantly compelled *to discontinue the class*. Latterly he has taken the half hour, preceeding the opening of the school, with the scholars teaching them to sing their maker's praise and to night you will have an opportunity of judging the pleasing results arising from this particular labour of love on the part of the Pastor. If the singing in the school has improved during 1871, and I think it has, let us be honest about it, and thank Mr. F. You have now a rough outline of your school history during 1871 before you, and I think, there is much in it to cheer and call forth the gratitude of parents and teachers. Pastor and people. It is not an organization outside this church, on the contrary it is an important auxiliary in which, *many of its future members* are undergoing a preparatory training as a congregation, then, let us continue to cherish, labor, and pray for its continued prosperity and usefulness as heads of families let us faithfully discharge our Heaven appointed duties at home, duties which cannot be performed by proxy either by Sunday School Teachers or the Minister, and then, after the "Great Day" when Parents and Children, Sunday School Teachers and Scholars, Ministers and Congregations shall have rendered in their last accounts to the "Judge of all the Earth" not as families, schools, and congregations but as individuals, may we not hope, that many who have been in our Sunday School will be found in the countless throngs of the redeemed "clothed with white robes and palms in their hands" singing salvation to their God, which sitteth upon the throne and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

JOHN BLACK, *Superintendent*.

Barrie January 30th 1872.

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Henceforth the mission of our Republic is one of Peaceful Progress. To protect the weak and the humble from violence and oppression—to extend the boundaries and diffuse the blessings of Civilization to stimulate Ingenuity to the production of new inventions for economizing Labour, and thus enlarging Production—to draw nearer to each other the producers of Food and of Fabrics, of Grain and of Metals, and thus enhance the gains of Industry by reducing the cost of transportation and exchanges between farmers and artizans—such is the inspiring task to which this Nation now addresses itself, and by which it would fain tribute to the progress, enlightenment, and happiness of our race. To *this great and good work THE TRIBUNE contributes* its zealous, persistent efforts.

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