

He has labored at the above places for eight weeks; has preached at Eardly each Sabbath forenoon—attendance, eighty; and at Aylmer each Sabbath afternoon—attendance one hundred and twenty. Total attendance, about two hundred. A Bible Class has been conducted on Sabbath mornings, at Lardley—attendance, sixteen. At Aylmer a Bible Class has been conducted on Thursday evenings—attendance, twenty-four. Total attendance at Bible Classes, forty.

Your Missionary has visited thirty-three families. He has sold thirty Bibles, eleven New Testaments, four Psalm Books; and distributed amongst the members of the Bible Classes thirty-six copies of the shorter Catechism. He has obtained sixteen subscribers to the *Record*. A few others will subscribe at the commencement of the next volume. He has established a Sabbath School at Eardley. A Library has been purchased, and twenty-five scholars attend. At Aylmer there has been, for a length of time, a Union Sabbath School, generally well attended.

Your Missionary visited, on Tuesday the 21st August, the upper end of the Township of Eardley, seventeen miles from Aylmer. Although it was a wet afternoon, and in the middle of harvest, about fifty people met in MacLaine's School House, to hear the Word preached, many of them for the first time since they left their native Ireland, and nearly a third for the first time in their lives. All listened with great attention, while some were bathed in tears. They seemed very thankful for the visit and expressed earnest wishes to be visited again.

In regard to the stations at Aylmer and Eardley, your Missionary would further remark, that the great majority of the settlers in those places were originally Presbyterians, chiefly from the United States and from the North of Ireland; but, in consequence of there being no Presbyterian minister, a great many had united themselves with the Church of England or the Methodists, while others joined no denomination. Of this latter class a great many of our adherents consist; and, as may be supposed, many of them have forgotten much of what they heard and practised in former days, when they enjoyed Gospel privileges. Your Missionary found great ignorance amongst many, fearful neglect of duties, and the worship of God kept up only in one or two of all the thirty-three families. It is pleasing, however, to add, that there is a great willingness to be taught, and a great interest manifested in the establishment of Gospel privileges. This is manifest from the large number of copies of the Word of God that have been sought after, and also from the number who have subscribed for the *Record*. These stations are in an interesting condition, and it is very important that Gospel privileges be continued amongst the people who have been gathered together.

JOHN RENNE.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

Last meeting of this Presbytery, was held on the 12th and 13th of October, and was attended by fourteen ministers and four Elders. Of the business before the court the following items may be briefly noticed:—

A letter was read from the Free Church Presbytery of Aberdeen, Scotland, being a reply to the communication sent from this Presbytery in Mr. Robertson's case, and a Committee was appointed to draw up an answer to it.

Petitions were received from Scarborough, from the Gaelic speaking people in Vaughan, and from Thorah and Eldon, respectively, requesting the Presbytery to appoint brethren to moderate in calls in these congregations. The request of the petitioners in each case was granted, and Mr. Reid was appointed to moderate in a call at Scarborough, Mr. Boyd at Vaughan, and Mr. Mitchell at Thorah and Eldon accordingly.

Mr. Nisbet, in his report of having dispensed the communion at Mono since last meeting,

gave it as his opinion, as well as that of the people in Mono and Caledon East, that these two stations should be united to form one Mission field, while Caledon West and Erin would form another, now that these three named congregations are left without a pastor.

Committees of Presbytery were appointed for examining students attending or entering Knox's College, and for arranging the supplies of vacant congregations and Mission Stations till next meeting.

THOS WIGHTMAN, Presb. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg met in Peterboro', on the 20th September.

Mr. James Tait, Student of Divinity of Knox's College, appeared and delivered the trial discourses, which had been prescribed him at a previous meeting, and was examined in Hebrew. On the other subjects Mr. Tait had been examined at the previous meeting in Cobourg. Upon a conjunct view of Mr. Tait's discourses and examination, the Presbytery cordially sustained the same, and proceeded to license him to preach the Gospel.

Messrs. Roger and Smith were appointed to attend the meeting of the Home Mission Committee in October, and endeavour to procure a proper supply of missionaries for the winter.

The Presbytery agreed that in future the members who are absent shall be required to give, at the next meeting, a reason for their absence.

The Clerk was directed to write to the several Deacons' Courts, reminding them that the Half Yearly Financial Report becomes due on the last day of October, and to request that it be forwarded from each congregation by the above date.

The attention of Presbytery was called to the fact, that there are some congregations and ministers who have not as yet become contributors to the Widows' Fund of the Church. The Presbytery agreed at their next meeting to endeavor to ascertain the cause of this neglect and to persuade such parties of the necessity of connecting themselves at once with this useful institution.

Messrs. McLeod, McKenzie, and Smith, Grafton, members of the Sabbath School Committee were appointed to draw up a series of questions, to be submitted to the respective sessions, in order to obtain information on the state of Sabbath School instruction within their bounds; and, if possible, to stimulate the various congregations to engage with energy in the work of Sabbath School instruction.

The same ministers, with the addition of Mr. Rogers, Peterboro', and Mr. Morgan, elder, were appointed the Mission Committee of Presbytery for the current year.

The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held at Cobourg, on the second Tuesday of November, at 12 o'clock.

JOHN W. SMITH, Pres. Clerk.

COMMISSION OF SYNOD.

The meeting of the Commission took place in Knox's College, according to appointment of Synod, on Wednesday, 12th ult., at 12 o'clock, noon. A very considerable number of Ministers from various Presbyteries, were present.

Dr. Willis, on the part of the Committee appointed to prepare a Book of Discipline, reported progress to the effect, that considerable advancement had been made in the preparation of the work which, in all probability, would be ready for being submitted to Presbyteries in the course of a few months.

The Commission sustained the Report, and instructed the Committee to proceed with their

labours, and, if possible, to have the manuscript ready for being submitted to Presbyteries by the first of January.

The attention of the Commission having been drawn to the partial and inadequate manner in which the appointments of Synod, in matters of general interest, are frequently carried out by Presbyteries and individual Ministers, agreed earnestly to recommend to Presbyteries to attend to such matters within their respective bounds.

In the view of an apprehended visit of pestilence, the Synod appointed a Committee to take all competent steps for the appointment of a Day of Public Humiliation and Prayer, to Almighty God, if the events of Providence shall seem to call for or warrant such an appointment:—The Committee to consist of Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Irvine, Mr. Reid, Mr. Wightman, Mr. Ure, Mr. Murrill, and Mr. Shaw.

Thereafter, the Meeting of Commission was closed.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Home Mission Committee was held on the evening of Wednesday, the 12th ult.

The principal business before the Committee, was the apportionment of the Missionaries at present in the field, to the several Presbyteries of the Church.

Most of the Presbyteries sent in applications for Missionaries, specifying, at the same time, the number of congregations and stations for which they required supply. It appeared that twenty-six Missionaries were required, while only seven were at the disposal of the Committee.

The following distribution was made by the Committee:—

- To the Presbytery of London were assigned Messrs. Brown and Keley.
- To the Presbytery of Hamilton, Messrs. Nicolson and Tait.
- To the Presbytery of Toronto, Mr. McMeekin.
- To the Presbytery of Cobourg, Mr. Blain.
- To the Presbytery of Kingston, Mr. McAulay.

OUR CHURCH MUSIC.

To the Editor of the Record.
BROCKVILLE, Oct. 14, 1853.

DEAR SIR,—

May I be allowed a very limited space in the columns of the Record, for a few suggestions on the subject of Church Music? That the subject is worthy of serious attention on the part of the Church of Christ needs no argument to prove; and that our congregations should have their attention specially directed to it, I presume will not be considered unseemly, as it is humbly hoped it may not be altogether unprofitable. In all ages of the Church's history, in her purest and best days, the singing of God's praises in the sanctuary has occupied a prominent place; and at the present time, when music is much more studied, as a science, than perhaps it ever was—at a time when it may be said the great mass of the world's population is awakened to the importance and benefits of music—it cannot be supposed that the Church ought to be content with following in the wake. On the contrary, we hold that the Church should take the lead; means should be devised, and appliances put into operation, so that young and old, all who are