

byteries are instructed to report to next meeting of the Supreme Court. All the members of Presbytery present expressed themselves disappointed and dissatisfied with the draft above mentioned. Finally it was agreed to refer the revival of the partial draft which has appeared, and of the remaining chapters when published, to a Committee, who shall report thereon to a future meeting—the Committee to consist of Messrs. Kemp and Fraser, ministers, and Mr. Rodpath, elder.

At the urgent request of the Presbytery of London, it was agreed to waive the claim of this Presbytery to the missionary services of Mr. A. Crawford, probationer.

Mr. Grant, probationer, who has labored for several months as missionary at Lingwick, was appointed to supply Marton and Williamstown for three months.

Mr. Gordon, of Indian Lands, asked the advice of the Presbytery, respecting a request for the admission into his pulpit, of a minister connected with the Established Church of Scotland. The Presbytery being cognisant of the specialties of the case, unanimously advised, that the liberty craved on behalf of said minister be not granted, but that Mr. Gordon and his congregation be encouraged to maintain firmly the possession and use of their own church property.

Mr. Fraser gave notice, that, at next ordinary meeting, he will call the attention of the Presbytery to the deliverance of Synod, on the question of the Examination of Theological Students, and will submit a motion on that subject.

Next ordinary meeting to be held on the first Wednesday of May.

D. FRASER, Pres. Clerk.

To the Editor of the Record.

MY DEAR SIR,—

I beg leave to send you an abstract of the Report of the Colportage Committee of the Presbytery of Hamilton, presented at its late meeting, together with some extracts from the reports of the Colporteurs, which I trust may prove interesting to the readers of the Record.

I am, yours, &c.,

DAVID INGLIS, Contener.

During the past four months, there have been in all four Colporteurs actively engaged in different parts of our wide field, prosecuting the work of Colportage. Three of these are still engaged in the work, and are likely to continue, as they have fully devoted themselves to this important branch of Home Evangelization. In all, seven months missionary labour have been given by those four Colporteurs. They have visited upwards of two thousand families, with nearly all of whom they have had religious conversation, and with three hundred families they have read the Scriptures and prayed. Upwards of two thousand books have been sold, including three hundred and seventy-five copies of the Sacred Scriptures; of tracts, eight hundred have been sold, and about as many given away.—Grants have also been made of about seventy-five books, including a good many copies of the Word of God.

The total value of sales has been £172 17s. 2½d., of grants, £6 17s. 7d. Without stating the particulars, we may say that the estimated cost to the Presbytery for the labours of each Colporteur for one year is, £12 10s. We could easily make it self-sustaining, but only at the expense of its truly missionary character.—It has been the aim of the Committee to urge upon the Colporteurs to seek out the most destitute localities, where the sales are lessened, and the grants and expenses necessarily increased.

The following extract from a monthly report of one of the Colporteurs, presents a true picture of some of these destitute.—

“Most of the people in these localities are poor, and destitute to a great extent of religious books.

In some houses they had a New Testament, in others there were no portions of the Word of God. A great many told me they could not read a word. When speaking of the great necessity of becoming acquainted with the truths of the Scripture some would look solemn, others did not seem to know what I meant. In one family in which there were no books of any kind, they told me books were of no use to them, as none of them could read. I asked the man if he would not keep a New Testament, that some of his friends might read it to him. He then asked me what it was about, and soon after asked me to let him hear some of it. His wife and children then gathered around me while I read to them in the Gospel according to John. I came away with a heart lifted up to God that the glorious light of the gospel might shine upon their darkened minds.”

Another extract will further illustrate this destitution.

“This is a truly destitute place in point of ordinances. Last Sabbath I was in a small clearing south of—vile. It was late on Sunday night when I got there * * * I spoke of how the Sabbath was to be spent, and told them I would be glad if we could have a prayer-meeting—some of the family went around and gave notice to the neighbours. A good many came. It was very pleasant to me to speak to them. But I felt deeply for them. Many seem to think of nothing. In this settlement I gave away and sold a good many tracts and books.—May the Lord in love and mercy make them the means of awakening some to think of the things that belong to their everlasting peace.”

We add two brief extracts from the monthly reports of the other Colporteurs to shew the way in which their duties were discharged.

“Since I entered on the duties of my office, my labours have been confined to—and I trust have not been in vain. I have systematically visited the greater part of the Township, have visited one hundred and eighty families, prayed and read portions of the Scriptures in thirty families. In addition to this, I held meetings in some desolate localities, where the people are not near a place of public worship—in which I read a chapter in Gaelic, and gave a word of exhortation in the same language.”

Another writes:—

“I have no doubt the Lord is opening up a way for me. I meet, of course, a good deal of discouragement; if I did not, I might conclude that Satan had no emissaries in the world, or no aims in the human heart. I would like to have some small awakening tracts, to put into the hands of the self-deceived. I have visited during this month two hundred and six families, and had religious conversation wherever I had opportunity. And, indeed, the greater part of the people wish to enter into conversation, but many have very erroneous views. I endeavour to exhibit Christ to the sinner. I see now the difference of different systems of religious error, and I try to put a good book into the hands of those who do not know the truth.”

KNOX'S CHURCH, HAMILTON—ANNUAL REPORT.

We have received a copy of the Annual Report of the Deacons' court of this congregation presented at a late meeting of the congregation, from which it appears that, externally, the congregation is in a prosperous state, indicating also, we trust internal and spiritual progress. We subjoin the principal part of the Report and also summary of payments for the year:—

In presenting their Annual Report to the Members of Knox's Church, the Deacons desire to enumerate a few incidents of the year now past, which they gratefully acknowledge as a

year of undeserved mercies, extended by their Heavenly Father, to the Congregation.

They record, with pleasure, the settlement of the Rev. David Inghis, as a Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Congregation in this City, with very encouraging indications, whilst the Sabbath attendance upon public worship in Knox's Church, and applications for Pews therein, continue to indicate the necessity of Church enlargement.

They find £356 collected, during the past year, for Pew rents, being more than on any previous year, and the full rental of the present Church, yet, this sum falls sixty pounds below your present demand on the Stipend Fund, which are,—

Stipend.....	£350	0	0
Widows' Fund.....	50	0	0
Pulpit Supplies.....	13	0	0
	£413	0	0

The Local Fund, which is the proceeds of your Sabbath-day offerings, has risen to £262 17s 6d, for Congregational purposes, being £43 more than the collection of any former year, to which the Ladies' Association has considerably added £12, and from which fund the interest on debt, and sixth Installment have been paid, amounting to £94 2s. 6d; salaries of Precentor and Door-keeper £75; Insurance, Gas, Firewood, and sundry expenses, £75 13s 5d, and appropriation to Stipend Fund of £30 2s 1d—causing a balance of £2 11s. 11d overdrawn.

The Mission Fund comes next to be noticed, embracing the various sums collected for special religious or benevolent enterprises. For Knox's Church Sabbath School, two collections, £30; British Patriotic Fund, £12 10s.; Widows' Fund, £25; Poor's Fund, £32 2s. 10½; Tract and Missionary Society, £19 14s. 9d; Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, £15,—in all special collections, £144 7s. 7d.

Subscriptions to Knox's College for 1854-5, £76 19s 1d, for 1855-6 £120 9s 3d, for India Missions of the Free Church of Scotland, £75; for Jewish Missions, the proceeds of monthly prayer meetings, £12 8s. 2d, for French Canadian Missions, from Juvenile Mission Fund, £20,—together, £305 6s. 6d.

The Committee for the Knox's College Buildings, called upon this Congregation, in October, for Two hundred and Fifty Pounds, as its portion of the first payment to the purchase of College Buildings, and a general call was contemplated, when John Fisher, Esq, contributed to that scheme, £250, and Archibald Kerr, Esq., £100, which payments going beyond the call, made by the College Committee, a general subscription was deferred.

The Ladies' Association have favoured the Deacons with a condensed report for the past year of their proceedings, from which we are enabled to state they have appropriated to the Manso Fund of Knox's Church, the additional sum of £111 6s; the sum of £40 to the Presbytery's Home Mission; £10 to the Bursary Fund of Knox's College, and £10 to assist Students therein; £5 to the Eastern Sabbath School, and £12 to the Local Fund of this Congregation—together £198 6s.

JAMES WALKER, Secretary.

SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS FOR YEAR.

Stipend Fund collected	£355	13	8
Local Fund, for Congregational purposes	168	15	0
Do. Church Debt and Interest.....	94	2	6
Do. Sabbath School.....	30	0	0
Do. Widows' Fund.....	25	0	0
Do. Poor of the Congregation	52	0	0
Do. Buxton Mission and Synod Fund	15	0	0
Do. City Mission and Tract Society,	9	14	9
Do. Patriotic Fund	12	10	0
Do. Appropriated to Stipend Fund,	30	2	1
India Mission—Female collectors.....	75	0	0
Do. At Monthly Prayer Meeting.....	12	18	2