

of the Lord. The Presbytery will further express their deep sympathy with their Clerk and his household in the removal by death, on the morning of meeting, of an aged relative, long a member of his family and an humble and earnest disciple and servant of the Lord Jesus. It was agreed that a missionary meeting be held in all our congregations during the winter, each Session to make its own arrangements; this Presbytery recommends that the subject of missions be brought before the congregation on the Sabbath Day, when the congregation would be fully out. On motion, \$125 were appropriated to the travelling expenses of the commissioners who attended the General Assembly at Winnipeg, to be divided equally amongst them; and on the recommendation of the Finance Committee the rate of 10 cents per member was struck to meet the expenditure of the Synod and Presbytery fund for next year. Mr. Cameron was appointed to address the annual meeting of the Presbyterian Woman's Foreign Missionary Association to meet in Whitby on January 7. Mr. Carmichael reported that he had presented the application for Augmentation in behalf of Enniskellen and Cartwright to the executive of the Home Mission Committee, and that they had granted the amount asked if the funds admit. The Presbytery instructed the Clerk to make out a new roll of Presbytery, according to the date of induction of each minister into his charge within the Presbytery. The Presbytery appointed the following committees to examine the remits of the General Assembly and report at next quarterly meeting, viz. 1. Travelling Expenses, etc., Messrs. Craig, Abraham, Carmichael and Holmes. 2. The Marriage Question, Messrs. Cameron, Kippen, McClelland and R. McLaughlin. 3. Book of Forms, Messrs. Drummond, R. D. Fraser, A. Fraser, Fairbairn and Renwick. A very interesting conference on the State of Religion was held, in accordance with the recommendations of the Assembly (Minutes, page 73), in which several members took part, and the following resolution was cordially adopted: "The Presbytery, while expressing gratitude for the present condition of the congregations within the bounds, as exhibited by the full and regular attendance on public worship, the active prosecution of Sabbath school and Bible class work, and the increasingly large contributions to the Schemes of the Church, regard with deep solicitude the small ratio of ingathering into full communion with the Church. The Presbytery would earnestly impress upon ministers, Sessions and congregations the necessity of fervent and united prayer, and of specific effort for a revived condition of spiritual life among the Christian people and a consequent arousing of the undecided and indifferent to the acceptance of Christ as their Lord and Master. And further, would recommend all the Sessions to consider the desirability of holding a series of evangelistic services as soon as the way may seem clear. The Committee on the State of Religion is instructed to take into their consideration the practicability of carrying into effect the recommendation of the Assembly's committee to prepare a Scheme of special services adapted to reach all the congregations of the Presbytery and report to next meeting." Mr. Craig informed the Presbytery that their new church at Highland Creek had been opened for public worship since last meeting, free of debt. The Presbytery embraced the opportunity to congratulate the Session and congregation on the beautiful, substantial and commodious edifice which has been erected for the worship of God, and which the Presbytery understands is entirely free of debt. The Presbytery rejoices in this token of the prosperity of the congregation and of their laudable enterprise in providing suitable church accommodation, and earnestly pray that the rich blessing of the Lord may continue to attend the labours of pastor and people for the advancement of the cause of Christ. The Presbytery will hold its next quarterly meeting in St. Andrew's Church, Whitby, on the third Tuesday of January, 1887, at ten o'clock a.m. A. A. DRUMMOND, *Pres. Clerk*.

MONTREAL NOTES.

On Monday last the Rev. J. Crombie, of Smith's Falls, moderated in a call in St. Andrew's Church, Perth. The call was unanimously in favour of the Rev. W. R. Cruikshank, of St. Matthew's Church, Point St. Charles. St. Andrew's Church, Perth, has only been vacant for a few weeks, its former pastor, Mr. McGillivray, having been translated to Chalmers Church, Kingston. The congregation is one of the oldest in Eastern Ontario, and is large and wealthy. The call to Mr. Cruikshank is most hearty, and the people are resolved to leave no stone unturned to secure him as their minister. His own congregation is alarmed at the prospect of losing him. For nearly nine years he has laboured in Point St. Charles, building up a large congregation, and one of the largest Sabbath schools in the city; and his departure, should he accept the Perth call, will be a severe blow to his people.

St. Matthew's congregation, Point St. Charles, continues to publish a monthly supplement to the *Record*. The November issue is as usual bright and interesting. At the communion last month 270 were at the table, eighteen of whom were new members. The prayer meeting attendance is on the increase, and the average Sabbath school attendance is a little in excess of 400.

The Rev. L. H. Jordan, of Erskine Church, on Sabbath morning preached the regularly quarterly sermon to the children of the congregation on "Glimpses into the Life of a Diamond." Mr. Jordan is delivering a series of sermons on Sabbath evenings on "Tabernacle Types and Symbols," the first of which was given last Sabbath, the subject being the "Curtains of the Tabernacle."

To give accommodation to the number attending Mr. Jordan's Bible class a larger room has been set apart and the ladies of the congregation have just laid down a handsome Brussels carpet on it at a cost of about \$200. There is now accommodation for 100, and that is a pleasant church parlour.

In a city such as Montreal the number of young men who go astray or who drift away from church connection is very great, and perhaps no part of a minister's work is more im-

portant, or is fraught with greater issues than work among the young men. It is encouraging to know that in many of our Churches the minister's Bible class for young men is this year more largely attended than usual, and that in other Churches efforts are being made to reach this class by sermons specially addressed to them. The Young People's Associations connected with our congregations also accomplish good in this direction.

The Rev. G. H. Wells, of the American Presbyterian Church here, purposes spending a considerable portion of the winter in Europe. He intends leaving in January, visiting Spain, Italy, etc., and will be absent for three or four months.

The Rev. W. M. Roger, of London East, is now in Britain, where he has been fairly successful in raising money to reduce the debt on his church. He purposes returning next month, sailing from Liverpool on the 24th inst., spending a few days in Halifax and Montreal on his way home.

The Rev. C. Chiniquy is announced to deliver lectures here on the 16th and 18th inst. on his way to Lowell to visit his daughter, and where he is to conduct several French meetings.

The Presbytery of Montreal has apportioned among its congregations the amounts asked from it by the General Assembly's Committee for Home Missions and Augmentation of Stipends.

To save the Home Mission Fund of the Church the Mills Isles congregation are making a vigorous effort to meet the entire expense of this winter's supply, and that with fair prospects of success, thanks to Mr. S. McCusker, the student missionary labouring there for the past six months.

Farnham Centre having recently become vacant, the Presbytery, in view of the present state of the Augmentation Fund, has arranged for its being supplied without expense to the Fund for the next few months.

A circular has been issued to the ministers of the Church calling for a special Thanksgiving collection on the 17th inst. (Thanksgiving Day), on behalf of the fund for the extension of the Pointe aux Trembles Mission Schools Buildings. If anything is to be done to secure increased accommodation for next session, the contract should be let soon, and the work begun early in the spring. The policy of the Board of French Evangelization is to keep free from debt, and till sufficient funds are forthcoming to justify the giving out of the contract, nothing will be done to enlarge the buildings. Between \$600 and \$700 have already been received, but about \$10,000 are required, according to the architect's estimate. The schools are now filled to their utmost capacity, and some very clamant applications have recently been received, which have had to be declined.

The following are the officers just elected for the year of St. Mark's Church Young People's Association: Rev. J. Nichols, honorary president; Mr. G. C. Barry, president; Mr. John Taylor, vice-president; Mr. A. J. Bowles, secretary; Miss M. White, treasurer. Arrangements are being made for a series of lectures, etc., during the season. The course will be inaugurated by a lecture from the Rev. J. Barclay, of St. Paul's Church, on "Savonarola," on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst.

The November number of the *Presbyterian College Journal* has just been published. It is fully up to the mark as compared with the preceding number. Its articles are varied, well written, of general interest, and should ensure for the *Journal* an increase over its present large subscription list. The price is only \$1 per Session, and the *Journal* is deserving of a place in every Presbyterian home throughout the Church.

The Rev. R. H. Warden left on Saturday morning for Lowell and Boston on Church business. He is expected to return by Thursday or Friday.

EXTENSION OF THE POINTE AUX TREMBLES SCHOOLS.

THANKSGIVING DAY COLLECTIONS.

The mission schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles are now in session, with 120 pupils in attendance. Three hundred desired admission, but we were obliged, through want of room, to refuse more than one-half the number. Surely this state of things will not be allowed to continue. When the youth of this benighted Province are knocking at our doors, and asking to be taught the way of life, our duty is plain. Shall we decline to give them the truth? The General Assembly last year directed the Board of French Evangelization to appeal to the Church for funds to enlarge our buildings. We venture, therefore, to ask ministers and sessions to bring the matter before their congregations and to solicit from them a liberal Thanksgiving collection for this purpose, on Thursday, the seventeenth inst. This collection being for a special work should not be allowed to interfere with the regular contribution for French Evangelization. The Lord has greatly blessed the work of the French Evangelization. The Lord has greatly blessed the work of the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools in the past, and is now manifestly calling us to largely extend it.

Will His servants give the money so urgently needed and continue to pray earnestly for teachers and pupils, that many may be brought out from darkness into light.

Yours faithfully,

D. H. MACVICAR, D.D., *Chairman*.
ROBERT H. WARDEN, *Sec. Treasurer*.

THE Cambridge professors have agreed to give up the absurd method of pronouncing Latin hitherto in vogue in England and to adopt the Continental, which is also the Scottish and correct.

GRIFF Parish Church was decorated at the harvest thanksgiving services on a recent Sabbath with wreaths of autumn leaves, bright coloured flowers, corn, pot flowers, vegetables and fruit.

Sabbath School Teacher.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

Nov. 2nd,
1887.

JUDGMENT AND MERCY.

Matt. 11.
20-30.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.—Matt. xi. 28.

SHORTER CATECHISM.

Question 49.—The first Commandment clearly sets forth the only object of worship, the living God; the second teaches us the manner in which God is to be worshipped. It teaches that God's worship must be direct and immediately spiritual. Nothing must come between the soul of the worshipper and God. All images, pictures and elaborate ceremonials are strictly and absolutely forbidden. The worship of God is essentially spiritual. Whenever and wherever this truth has been departed from only evil consequences have followed. All heathenism is a sad commentary of the effects of image worship.

1. Solemn Warnings Against Rejecting Christ.—"He began to upbraid." The spirit of Christ's Gospel is a spirit of love. He never blames without reason. Hitherto in His recorded ministry we find only the statements of Gospel truth and gracious invitations. Now He speaks in tones of earnest reproof. He speaks these solemn truths in love still. The dwellers in the Galilean cities had precious opportunities. They had heard Christ's own words and beheld His mighty works, but they continued in unbelief and repented not. Woe is pronounced on Chorazin and Bethsaida because of their rejection of the Messiah. The first-named town was near Capernaum, but its site is now a matter of conjecture. It has long since ceased to exist. Bethsaida was situated near the head of the lake of Galilee, on both banks of the Jordan. Tyre and Sidon were, during our Saviour's sojourn on earth, flourishing commercial cities. Extravagance and luxury were common, and the usual consequences of selfish indulgence followed. Great evils prevailed. But the inhabitants of these sea-coast cities had not had the moral and spiritual advantages the people of Galilee had enjoyed. Our Saviour, who knows all hearts, says that had the same mighty works been done there the Tyrians and the Sidonians would have repented in sackcloth and ashes. Then comes the solemn statement that in the judgment day it will be more tolerable for them than for the soul-hardened Galileans. When the people of Nazareth drove Jesus from their town He took up His temporary abode in Capernaum, a flourishing town on the north-western shore of the lake of Galilee, and on the highway between Damascus and the Mediterranean. The inhabitants had the opportunity of witnessing the pure and holy life of Jesus, listening to His teaching and beholding His miracles, and yet they rejected Him. The Revised Version reads, "Shalt thou be exalted unto heaven?" Great privileges always bring great responsibilities. The greater the privilege the greater the danger of misusing it. The people of Capernaum might imagine that their spiritual opportunities exalted them to heaven, but failing to understand or profit by them, Christ told them that they should be brought down to hell. Then comes the startling contrast of their condition with that of the inhabitants of Sodom, a city whose very name has become the synonym for the most awful moral and spiritual degradation, and yet in the judgment it would be more tolerable for Sodom than for Capernaum. The Saviour's "I say unto you" in this, as in all other particulars, is full of solemn meaning for ever reader of the New Testament.

II. The Mystery of the Divine Dealings.—The truth contained in the warnings Christ had just spoken in the hearing of the disciples could not fail to awaken anxious thoughts as to God's purposes. To prevent wrong conclusions the Saviour thinks of the grandeur and vastness of the divine procedure. He who is infinitely merciful and just, who knows the Father, says in the language of prayer, "I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth." We with our finite natures and imperfect conditions may not comprehend the divine mysteries, but Jesus does, and thanks His Father for them. So we can trust Him. Earthly wisdom and prudence cannot fathom the boundless wisdom and love of the Infinite God, but these things in their saving power come even to little children, and it is only in the childlike spirit that the greatest and most learned can enter the kingdom of heaven. The intimate relation between the Father and the Son, into whose hands all things are committed, and through whom is the only way to the Father, teaches us that we can repose in Him with unlimited trust.

III. The Gospel Invitation.—It is free and full. "All ye that labour, and are heavy laden." The import of these words is that all who are consciously labouring under the burden of sin are earnestly invited to come to Christ. They can never get rid of their burdens otherwise. It is not by labour but by faith in Jesus that the burdened soul finds rest. There is the promise that Jesus makes, that never fails of fulfilment, "I will give you rest," soul rest, peace with God. Coming to Christ also means entering into His service. In place of the galling yoke which sin imposes, He places the obligation of discipleship. "Learn of Me," the best, the wisest and most loving of all teachers. The burden that He asks us to bear is light. Sin's burden becomes intolerable and crushes those who bear it; Christ Himself helps His people to bear theirs, and they know that a time is coming when He shall wipe away all their tears.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

Let us give earnest heed to Christ's solemn warnings. He speaks in love.

The wickedness of Sodom was unspeakably great, but greater still is the wickedness of wilfully rejecting a loving Saviour.

Let not the mysteries of the ways of God perplex us. "What ye know not now ye shall know hereafter."