

British American Presbyterian.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT TORONTO, CANADA.

TERMS: \$2 a year, in advance. Foreign by mail, 50 cent per year, payable at the office of delivery.

Cheques and Post Office Orders should be drawn in favor of the Publisher.

Old Rates and List of Premiums furnished on application. All who are desirous to aid in extending the circulation of the PRESBYTERIAN should send for the List of Premiums at once, as now is the time to secure low names.

Address: G. BLACKETT ROBINSON, P.O. Drawer 2184, Toronto, Ont.

THE "Sabbath School Presbyterian," PUBLISHED MONTHLY, AT 109 BAY STREET, TORONTO.

TERMS: 20 cents per annum, in quantities.

Subscriptions may commence at any time, and are payable strictly in advance.

The numbers for March and April are now before us, and wear a neat and attractive appearance, especially the April issue.

The paper is good, and supplies a great desideratum among the young. It should certainly meet with a wide circulation.

Specimen copies will be sent to any address.

G. BLACKETT ROBINSON, P.O. Drawer 2184, Toronto, Ont.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1875.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We must remind many of our subscribers of the fact, which they may have overlooked, that their payments to the PRESBYTERIAN are considerably in arrears.

COMMENCEMENT OF A STORY.

Our readers will notice that we commenced in our last issue, a serial story which will be found exceedingly interesting and instructive.

WORKING THE SHIP.

It is a matter of time, trouble, skill, to build a ship from keel to top-mast, and stem to stern. Such was the work of the Committee on the Union of the four Presbyterian Churches of the Dominion.

It is a holiday business to launch a ship. Everything is ready, the crowd of spectators line the shore, the word is spoken, and the ship glides into its native element.

But it is a serious business to work a ship. There are dangers in the sea and on the sea; there are perils from storms and from calms.

has been made in these three distinct departments of church work.

1. On the sphere of Congregational activity, we see congregations that were wont to be cold, becoming fraternal, and we find several instances of two weak congregations occupying the same field, merging into one, or cautiously feeling their way towards that consummation.

2. In the sphere of Presbyterian activity, the harmony of the United Church is very marked. All the presbyteries, thirty-three in number, have held their meetings, and as far as our observation goes, there has not arisen as yet any collision of opinion or action arising from difference of origin.

3. In the higher work of the General Assembly, we can say as yet little about the spirit of the united body. The assembly of last June undertook hardly any work save that of setting up Synods, and through them Presbyteries throughout its wide bounds.

The subjects which engaged the attention of the Committee were varied and important, viz., Ecclesiastical Procedure, Parliamentary Legislation, Synodical Functions and Business, Missionary and other schemes, Colleges, Education for the Ministry, Examination of Students, Admission of Ministers from other Churches, Amalgamation of Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Funds, Agency, Periodicals, Clerkship of the General Assembly, and mode of electing the Moderator of the Assembly.

The spirit in which the discussion of these difficult matters was conducted was good, and such as augurs well of the discussion on the wider platform of the General Assembly, when it meets next June.

In all departments, and on the various platforms of Christian work, a good beginning has been in our United Church. If any temptation arises to descend to the arena of strife and party-spirit, the reply is ready in the words of a great man and a patriot:—"I am doing a great work so that I cannot come down; why should the work cease while I leave it and come down to you?"

Before the Presbyterian Church of Canada there is a great work, which leaves no time for petty issues and party strife.

THE GUIBORD CASE.

The Guibord case has not yet been terminated. For some reason or another the interment has not yet taken place, but a great advance has been made in the controversy going on over this poor man's remains.

Poor Bishop Bourgat, at his wits end, threatens to curse Guilford's burial lot as soon as the body has been deposited there. How he will manage in that case with the bodies that have already been buried in that spot with all the rights of the Church, and as good and holy "Catholics," it is not for us to say.

ATTEMPT AT RIOTING IN TORONTO.

The Roman Catholic Episcopal Synod for Ontario held its meeting on Sabbath last, and was opened by the usual formalities. Among other things thought to be necessary was a procession from one Church to another.

The rival processions of Irish factions is a curse to every country where they prevail. But so long as they are permitted (and we don't see why people should not be permitted to tramp through the streets in a somewhat ridiculous fashion if they are so inclined), the whole power of the state must be employed if necessary to secure that they be made in peace and quietness.

Ministers and Churches.

A SOCIAL meeting was held on the 17th inst., in the Presbyterian Church, Caledon East, by the ladies of the congregation. Several addresses and readings were given. The entertainment was much enjoyed by the excellent music supplied on the occasion.

The Presbyterian congregation of Claremont assembled on the 9th ult., to witness the interesting ceremony of laying the corner stone of their new church. The service was commenced by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Peattie, giving out a Psalm and reading a portion of the Old and New Testament, and calling on Rev. W. D. Ballantyne to engage in prayer.

It has been computed that the total number of mercantile failures in the United States during the first six months of 1875, were 8977, with liabilities aggregating \$74,940,860.

The Rev. Mr. Kennedy, Moderator of Presbytery, then engaged in prayer, after which the large and respectable assembly were addressed with much appropriateness and ability by the Rev. Messrs. Kennedy and Ballantyne, and the Rev. Mr. Becker joined his congratulations with others on this auspicious occasion.

Book Reviews.

WIDE AWAKE is a new monthly magazine for young people of all ages, and among the many competitors for the favor of the rising generation, promises to occupy no mean place.

Church Property.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

SIR,—My attention was directed to a letter signed "Hector C. Anderson," published in your issue of 24th Sept., regarding the title to the property of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Your correspondent writes that "with very few exceptions the church property is all in the hands of the clergy." This statement is wholly untrue.

Another statement is that "at the union between the U. P. and Free Churches, the clergy, without in the least consulting the people, did most disgracefully manage to get an Act of Parliament which vested the whole of the Church property in the hands of the clergy."

Your correspondent is also exercised over the deed of Knox College, and to prevent any misconception arising on this point from his insinuations, it may be well for your readers to know that the conveyance is to Knox College a corporation consisting of Hector C. Anderson, Box 17, Ayr P.O., Ont., and the other more worthy members of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Presbytery of Quebec.

This Presbytery held its first meeting since the late union, in St. Andrew's Church, Quebec, on Wednesday, the 8th of September. Rev. Dr. Cook, Moderator, read the extract minute of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa, constituting the Presbytery, after which the roll was made up.

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Presbytery of Paris.

The Presbytery of Paris in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, met last Tuesday in Zion Church, Brantford. The Rev. J. Aul of Ratho, presided as Moderator. There was a large attendance of ministers and elders.

Presbyterian Union.

It is a matter of congratulation among Protestant bodies to witness the spirit of harmony and the desire for closer organic union among the churches. The Presbyterian communions of this Dominion in view of their consolidation present an appearance of strength and stability, and an increased power for useful ends that must tell largely on the present and future civilization of the land.

The Rev. Mr. Murray has been a considerably longer time in our midst, and has been more or less connected with the rise and growth of Lindsay, and the development of its institutions. He was the first President of the Y.M.C.A., and during his term of office at least it had a considerable amount of success and a liberal share of public patronage.