

## MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Presbytery of Toronto had an Ordinary Meeting in the City of Toronto, on the 5th and 6th of May. Passing by a considerable amount of ordinary Presbyterian business, which would be uninteresting to general readers, a few of the more interesting subjects which engaged the attention of the Presbytery may be noticed.

The meeting was well attended, and the proceedings characterised by much harmony and good feeling. It has often been the bane of Presbytery meetings that they have been made mere business meetings; and the enjoyment experienced at this meeting, and which it is believed every one felt, was owing in a great measure to the opportunities which were afforded both for religious exercises and social intercourse. The meeting was opened with an excellent sermon by Mr. Galloway, of Markham, from Job xxiii. 12: "I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food." On the morning of the second day of the meeting, the whole of the members of the Presbytery breakfasted with Mr. Leach, at his special invitation,—and an opportunity was afforded for much friendly intercourse, and social or family worship together. The condition and prospects of the church in the mother country engaged much of the conversation.

The Presbytery has lately commenced a practice something akin to the old Presbyterian Exercise. An hour or so is spent in an interchange of views on some topic agreed on at a former meeting,—and it has proved exceedingly interesting, instructive, and edifying. The conference at this meeting was concerning the course to be pursued in reference to baptised youth; and previously to commencing, the Presbytery engaged in prayer for divine light and direction. Many of the views expressed concerning the privileges and responsibilities attached to baptism were exceedingly striking, and will no doubt prove useful. The result of the conference, officially, was a deliverance enjoining ministers to deal more pointedly and faithfully with parents to show them their responsibility,—recommending sessions to meet specially for prayer on behalf of the young of their flocks—and appointing a draft of an address to baptised youth, to be prepared by next meeting of Presbytery.

The Rev. David Rintoul, Missionary Minister of the Glasgow Colonial Society, has been

laboring for some considerable time within the bounds,—and in order that his labors may have the greater effect in training and nurturing congregations, he has, at the recommendation of the Presbytery, confined them to a few points. At this meeting he read to the Presbytery a very interesting report of his labors at York Mills and Richmond Hill, on Yonge Street, and in the townships of Whitby, Pickering, and Darlington, since last meeting, besides preaching occasionally at other places. The Presbytery heard the report with much pleasure, and agreed to record their high satisfaction with the great diligence he had displayed.

In view of the extensive destitution of the public ordinances within the bounds, the members of the Presbytery have long been doing what they can themselves for the occasional supply of the more necessitous places,—and according to a standing rule of the Presbytery, each minister is expected to spend one Sabbath out of every three months, and as many week days as possible, in preaching in some destitute place, which is generally fixed by appointment of the Presbytery.

At this meeting, Mr. Tawse reported that he had preached on several occasions at two different stations in West Gwillimbury; and that he and Mr. McNaughton had dispensed the Sacrament of the Supper there in April.

Mr. Ferguson reported having preached at Norval, the upper part of Esqueness, Erin, and two places in Caledon.

Mr. Rintoul reported having preached at Norval.

A report was received from Mr. Ritchie, that he had spent a Sabbath in the township of Uxbridge.

Mr. Murray reported that he had been preaching once a month at the Sixteen Mile Creek, on Dundas Street, and that the congregation was rapidly increasing.

At a former meeting Mr. McNaughton gave in an interesting report of several weeks missionary labor in the townships around Lake Simcoe.

To show, that destitute congregations are not neglected in the way of having the Sacrament of the Supper dispensed among them, where they are in any way prepared for it, it may just be noticed, that at a former meeting Mr. Murray reported that he had dispensed this ordinance at the Sixteen Mile Creek, on