

The Presbyterians

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD



OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

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THE PRESBYTERIAN.

We take pleasure in subjoining a notice of our Periodical by a cotemporary on either side of the Atlantic, and, in doing so, avail ourselves of the opportunity of anew calling upon our supporters in the Parent and Adopted Countries to co-operate with us in enlarging our List of Subscribers.

THE PRESBYTERIAN. MONTREAL.—We are gratified by receiving another Number of this truly valuable periodical. It is ably conducted, and contains matter most interesting to the friends of the Church of Scotland, and indeed to all Scotsmen at Home. It is really a National and truly a Religious periodical. We have noticed papers of very high merit and excellence in its columns. Greatly appreciating the *Presbyterian*, we wish it much success, and, if any advice of ours had weight among our countrymen across the Atlantic, we would say, Support the *Presbyterian*, and be thankful you have such an exponent of your faith, and advocate of your Church, as well as faithful chronicler of passing events in the Religious world.—*Edinburgh Evening Post*.

DUTIES OF CHURCH MEMBERS.—The last number of the *Montreal Presbyterian* contains a large amount of Ecclesiastical intelligence from the Sister Colony. We have full and interesting notices of the Meetings of the Commission of the Synod of Canada and of the Presbyteries of Bathurst and Montreal, a Biographical notice of the late Rev. John Smith, Beckwith, with an extract from the Sermon preached at his funeral by the Rev. John McMorine, of Ramsay. We have then a satisfactory Report of the Ladies' Association of St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, not less creditable to the Ladies of Kingston than to the Missionary employed by them. This is followed by an account of the Examination and Distribution of Prizes in the University of Queen's College, Kingston, accompanied with the Rev. Principal Macbar's concluding Address, the Prize List, and the Course of Study for the Session 1850-51. Very favourable mention is afterwards made of the Church in the Lower Provinces in introducing the accounts of the formation of the Lay Associations in St. Andrew's Church, Newfoundland, and of Pugwash, N. S. A considerable portion of this monthly periodical

is occupied with the proceedings of the Missionary Societies in connection with the Parent Church, and with an extract from the *Edinburgh Christian Magazine* on Prayer in behalf of the Church of Scotland.

To our humble apprehension one of the most delightful and edifying contributions in this number of the *Presbyterian* is an original Discourse, entitled, "The Spiritual Edification of all, an Object to be sought by each in a Christian Congregation," by the Rev. John Cook, D. D., Quebec, from 1 Cor. xiv. 31, "For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be comforted." Every article that comes from the pen of this able and accomplished writer, more especially on subjects of a religious character, is deserving of serious consideration, and this discourse will amply repay an attentive perusal. After a lengthened introduction on the state of the Primitive Church, as differing in some respects from modern Christian Societies in regard to the preaching of the Word, and the dispensation of the Ordinances of Religion, Dr. Cook proceeds to illustrate with earnestness and eloquence the spirit of the rule in the text, as separated from the peculiarities involved in it, that every member of a Christian Church is not only to seek his own spiritual good, but that of others also, and actively to promote it, as God enables him. As this is a duty too little understood and too seldom practised among all denominations in this country, and as the *Presbyterians*, to whom this discourse is more immediately addressed, ought to take the subject into their serious and prayerful consideration, and, if deficient in duty, suffer the word of exhortation, we apprehend no apology is necessary in calling attention to the following excellent remarks from this Discourse.—*Halifax Guardian*.

CHURCH IN CANADA.

MEETING OF SYNOD.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met in St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, on Wednesday, the 2nd July, 1851, and was opened by an excellent and very appropriate sermon by the Rev.

James C. Muir, a former Moderator, from 1st Cor. xiv. 40—"Let all things be done decently and in order."

The Rev. Robert Neill, Minister of Seymour, was unanimously elected Moderator for the ensuing year.

The attendance was very respectable, considering that Montreal is very much towards one extremity of the Province, there being present about forty Ministers, and a considerable proportion of Elders.

No less than three Ministers have died during the past year, namely, the Rev. John Smith, of Beckwith, the Rev. John Robb, of Dalhousie, and the Rev. John Dickey, of Williamsburgh. This circumstance was felt by many, if not all, to be a very solemn warning:—"Be ye also ready."

On the first evening of the Synod little was done beyond appointing Committees and making arrangements for business. The Rev. Dr. Mathieson, the Rev. Dr. Cook, and the Rev. Robert Neill, were re-elected as Members of the Board of Trustees of Queen's College; and William Edmonstone and Hew Ramsay, Esqs., were elected as Clergy Reserve Commissioners in room of the two retiring Commissioners.

On the second day a considerable portion of time was spent in the discussion of a Protest, given in by the Presbytery of Bathurst, against the name of the Rev. Thomas Haig standing on the Synod Roll, in consequence of certain alleged informalities in regard to his settlement at Beauharnois by the Presbytery of Montreal. The Synod agreed, "notwithstanding some irregularity on the part of both Presbyteries, to sustain the proceedings of the Presbytery of Montreal in this case, as advised by the Commission