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GENERAL AGENT FOR THE

BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

REV. A. MILNE, M.A.

P. O. Address. Drawer 553.

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. S.—Would scarcely suit our columns.

Another Presbyterian would see that he was
anticipated in his course of remark by Mr.
Middlemiss.

X. Y.—We believe that a member of a church can
demand a regular dismission if no charge has
been brought against him previously to his
asking such a certificate. Nay, we understand
that he can sue the persons that refuse such a
certificate, and recover damages if they persist
in their refusal. In a Presbyterian Church we
should suppose such a recourse to a lawyer for
a threatening letter would be sufficient reason
for subjecting to discipline, but we don't know
what the law and practice in other churches
may be. We know, however, that office-bear-
ers have received lawyer's letters on the sub-
ject, and have yielded to the intimidation.

British American Presbyterian.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1873.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

In spite of all the outcry of Home Rulers
and professional agitators, Ireland is be-
coming every year more prosperous and as
a consequence more peaceful. Do what
one may it is impossible to make prosper-
ous and comfortable people very deter-
mined agitators, or solely set on rebellion.
The renovator of Ireland goes on apace
and the comfort and prosperity of the
people will soon be such that the agitator,
like Othello, will find his occupation gone.

The ravages of yellow fever in the South
have been very severe and somewhat ex-
tended. With the cold weather, however,
the worst is past. Sufficient contributions
have been sent in to justify the Howard
managers in intimating that they need no
more. Help has however come in slowly
compared with what usually takes place in
reference to similar cases. Perhaps the
fact that the sufferers are Southern has
not been without its effect upon the aver-
age Northern mind and heart.

The "no confidence" debate at Ottawa
went on all last week and still continues
while we go to press. Both sides are pro-
fessedly confident of a majority, but
neither reckons upon that majority exceed-
ing 4 or 6. This is a virtual defeat of the
Ministry in any case. A majority brought
down from about 30 to 3 or 4 is not a
matter to rejoice over. If this is all the
matter for comfort it is of the coldest kind.
Speculation is of no use about what will be
known to all our readers before these
words meet their eye, but we incline to the
belief that even the comfort referred to
will be denied to Ministers and their sup-
porters.

The monetary crisis in the States is not
over yet. Its effects upon industrial in-
terests of the country are in the meantime
of the most disastrous character. Operators
are being dismissed in very large numbers
and in many cases mills are running on
half time. The great manufacturing firm
of Sprague & Co., has stopped payment,
and through this alone it is feared thou-
sands will be thrown out of work at the
beginning of a hard winter. As yet we in
Canada are mercifully spared, but business
feels the influence of the crash on the
other side, and is at present peculiarly dull
for a good many branches. The great

cause of this commercial overturn in the
States is trading on borrowed capital, or
no capital at all. The whole system of
Wall Street business has been utterly un-
healthy and dishonest. People have lost
sight of the lesson and experience of war-
times to deal only on cash principles.
When the war between the South and
North ended there was no monetary crisis,
because there were no debts. People paid
as they went. The days of credit have
come back and with it inflation, foolish ex-
penditure, everybody indebted to every-
body, with the natural result of commercial
crash and in many cases utter and abject
personal ruin. Those who make haste to
be rich still fall into a snare as in former
times.

It was feared that there was going to be
a monarchical coup d'état in France, but
thanks to the traditional wrongheadedness
of the descendant of Louis Capet, that
complication seems indefinitely postponed.
The non-possumus of the
Winkie is as absolute as that of his clerical
friend in the Vatican. Not a concession
could be wrung from the Duc de Cham-
bord, and consequently his most ardent
friends had to drop him in despair. The
infatuation of some people is beyond all
thought. Literally they learn nothing
from the calamities of 89 years, and as
little do they know how to forget any of
the wrongs that they or their fathers have
sustained during the same stirring time.

UNION.

We have been anxious to give all parties
a fair opportunity of stating within moder-
ate compass their objections to the contem-
plated Presbyterian Union, and on the other
hand the reasons of others for being desir-
ous of its speedy and complete accomplish-
ment. Some of the papers sent us have
been too long, but we have stretched a point
in order to let such have its full course. We
have never disguised our own earnest desire
for the consummation of this so-long-talked-
of Union. In many respects, as has often
been stated, it is exceedingly desirable, and
would, we hope, be attended by most ben-
eficial results. At the same time we should
most strongly deprecate the idea of pressing
forward these arrangements, even at the
risk of a secession from both the negotiat-
ing Churches in Quebec and Ontario. It
would be a thousand pities if there should
be anything like this. Better that the
Union should be delayed than that disrup-
tion or secession come. We don't think,
however, that such a calamity is to be
feared. Let there be the fairest and most
brotherly discussion. Let every possible
explanation be given and every possible
concession on both sides made and it will be
found that there is no such diversity as is
suspected.

A good deal of the difficulty arises, we
are persuaded, from ambiguity of language.
In the discussions which preceded the Union
of 1861, a great deal of the difficulty arose
from the diversity of meaning attached to
the phrase "The civil Magistrate." Some
thought that phrase meant the Executive.
Others took it as comprehending both the
executive and the legislature. While others
very preposterously made it take in the
whole nation, at least all the electors when
they exercised their rights in the discharge
of any political duty. The words *civil magis-
trate* were with all the same, but with
such diversity of meaning. No wonder that
there should have been a good deal of vague
declaration, loose unsatisfactory thinking,
and very strong and very unfounded ap-
prehensions. By and by, with clearer defini-
tions and greater accuracy of expression, it
was discovered that the diversity of opinion
was not so great as it was fancied, and that
the amount of that actual diversity (for
where men actually think for themselves
there will be more or less difference) could
easily be covered by "mutual forbearance,"
and certainly ought to be.

In the present case, the ambiguous
phrase is "The Headship of Christ." Let
the different parties settle definitely what
they mean by that. Let them put their
ideas into the shortest and easiest possible
sentences, avoiding declamation and italics,
and we feel persuaded that diversity of
opinion will not be found so great as unag-
nized, and certainly no greater than ought to
be covered by "mutual forbearance." Aye,
and no greater than is so covered at the
present moment within each of the churches
now negotiating for Union.

The new buildings of the Presbyterian
College of Montreal were lately taken
possession of by special inaugural services,
in which a large number of prominent
clergy and laity took part.

The 32nd Session of Queen's University
and College was begun on the first day
of last month, under peculiarly favorable
auspices. The number of students enrolled
is unusually large. The total number on
the roll is 50, of whom 40 are under-grad-
uates, and 21 are new students. The Divin-
ity students are not included in this num-
ber as their classes are only commencing
this week.

Ministers and Churches.

At a recent soiree given by the ladies of
the C. P. Church, Brighton, the sum of
\$80 was realized, which reduced the debt
of the church to about \$100.

The Rev. Mr. Cheyne, of Saltfleet, has
resigned his pastoral charge. Age, infirm-
ity and ill-health are the causes that have
led to this result.

The Rev. Mr. Walker's congregation,
Chatham, has resolved to introduce the use
of the organ in the "service of praises" in
public worship. St. Matthew's Congregation,
Halifax, has come to a similar resolution.

It seems that a very noticeable revival
has for some time past been in progress in
Indian Lands, very much it is said through
the ministrations of a youthful and earnest
Missionary Student from Queen's College,
Kingston.

We notice that Professor Campbell has
commenced a Sabbath-afternoon Bible-class
for young men in Knox Church, Montreal,
and that Dr. Dawson has another in con-
nection with the Young Men's Christian
Association. Perhaps some of our Toronto
Professors may take the hint to go and do
likewise.

We see it noticed by a contemporary
that the Rev. Mr. Chiniquy, having for
many years past doubted the validity of his
baptism by a priest of the Church of
Rome, has been re-baptized lately by a
Methodist minister. How is this? It may
be all right and proper, but we scarcely see
that it is, if the facts are as stated.

On Tuesday, Nov. 11th, the Rev. D.
Sutherland, M.A., will be ordained and in-
ducted into the pastoral charge of the
united congregations of Warkworth and
Campbellford, in connection with the Can-
ada Presbyterian Church. The first will
take place at 11 o'clock, immediately after-
wards, dinner in the manse, and a soiree in
the evening.

On the 9th of October, Mr. Alexander
Campbell, B.A., was ordained at Beach-
burgh, to the pastoral charge of West-
meath, by the Presbytery of Ottawa, in
connection with the 'Kirk.' The season
was one of great interest and the new
minister was received by his future charge
with great cordiality.

We are sorry to learn that the Rev. J.
Barrow, M.A., has at an early age finished
his course of service, and has entered upon
his rest. Mr. Barrow had a very distin-
guished career as a student at Toronto
University, and afterwards at Knox Col-
lege. Very sanguine hopes were cherished
of his success in the ministerial office.
These have been disappointed by what we,
in our ignorance, may be ready to call his
premature death.

A petition has been laid before the Ham-
ilton Presbytery of the Canada Presbyterian
Church, praying for the erection of a
new congregation in the east end of that
city. We should suppose that there
would be no difficulty in granting the
prayer of such a petition. Such a church
is greatly needed and would in all likeli-
hood in a very short time be both large
and influential. Unfortunately the Presby-
terian churches of Hamilton are far too
much crowded into one locality.

The payment of the subscriptions for the
building of Knox College is proceeding
with commendable rapidity. There is need
for this, as there have been already con-
siderably large preliminary expenses incur-
red, and as the contracts have been let of
course instalments for work done will very
speedily have to be paid and it is far more
desirable that money should be borrowed
when subscribers have not paid what they
promised. We have no doubt a hint is all
that is necessary to secure prompt remit-
tance.

PRESENTATION.—On Wednesday last,
Oct. 29, a committee representing the mem-
bers and adherents of Warrensville Pres-
byterian Church (Rev. Mr. Logie's) waited
on Mr. James Murray, the treasurer of the
congregation, at his residence, and present-
ed him with a handsome watch and chain.
Mr. Murray has occupied the position of
treasurer for over twenty years, and it was
in consideration of his faithful services in
this office, as well as a testimonial of the
esteem felt by the congregation for him as
a man and neighbor, that the presentation
was made. The watch is one of Russell's
best make, and, with the chain, is valued
at \$68. The committee who represented
the congregation in making the presenta-
tion were William Bell, Nicol Sherry and
Benjamin Smiley.

The Presbyterian Church, Harrington,
which for some time has been undergoing
repairs, is now almost completed. The un-
finished work consists of painting, and
seating the gallery, and putting a railing
around the pulpit platform, which will be
got through with this week. The entire
work has been executed in a thorough
workmanlike manner, and reflects credit
on the contractors. The carpenter work,
under the management of Mr. McKay, the
painting by Mr. H. Campbell, Embro, and
the brick and plastering, are neat, tasteful,

and attractive. The warmth, comfort and
pleasure that will be felt in the church in
its complete state will amply repay the
money expended in bringing it to comple-
tion. The full cost of the church, together
with the erection of a kitchen to the manse,
is now about met by subscription. The
balance unpaid will in no way burden the
congregation with debt, and no doubt will
ere long be totally removed, as immediate
steps are to be taken to provide for the
liquidity. The Harrington Presbyterian
congregation have never lagged behind in
measures to meet and provide for the ex-
penses in carrying out any schemes of the
church.—Beacon Com.

The Presbyterian Congregation in Winni-
peg has not yet, we observe, proceeded to call
any one as yet to be its pastor. It is wish-
ed to hear a large number of preachers be-
fore fixing on any. An election of elders
has been agreed on. The influx of settlers
next season into Manitoba in general, and
into Winnipeg in particular, will in all
likelihood be very large. The more reason
therefore why the pulpit at Winnipeg
should be speedily and efficiently filled.
It is a portion which the ablest minister in
Canada might be ambitious of occupying.
Even as things are at present it is a field
of usefulness peculiarly attractive and im-
portant, but taking into view what in a
very few years it will all but certainly be-
come, it is scarcely second to any in the
Presbyterian Church of the Dominion. We
trust that the right man will speedily be
found for this important and advanced post,
and that under his faithful and efficient
labors the congregation at Winnipeg will
achieve all and more than all of which at
present it gives such fair promise.

On Friday evening a surprise party of
the young people of West Presbyterian
Church called on their pastor and read the
following address:—To the Rev. Robert
Wallace, pastor of the West Presbyterian
Church, Toronto.—Dear Sir,—It is with
feelings of much pleasure that we, the young
ladies of your congregation meet with you
and your family this evening to spend a
few pleasant and profitable hours. While
thanking you for the many acts of kindness
which you have shown to us, and the valu-
able instruction which we have received
from you, in the past, we respectfully ask
you to receive from our hands the accom-
panying writing desk, as a slight memento
of the esteem and regard in which we hold
you, and as a token of our affection toward
you. And also kindly accept on behalf of
Miss Wallace the accompanying crust-stand,
as a slight souvenir from her young friends.
Our sincerest wish and desire is that both
you, Mrs. Wallace and family may by the
grace of God be long spared to enjoy your
present sphere of usefulness, and that the
present kindly feeling may long exist
between you and ourselves. Toronto, 31st
Oct., 1873.—Then, after partaking of re-
freshments brought by the young ladies,
a very pleasant evening was spent together.
Such tokens of affection are very cheering
to a pastor.

The pulpit of Knox Church, Parkhill, was
occupied on the evening of Tuesday the 28th
ult., by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of the Free
Church of Scotland. Although the evening
was cold and stormy, there was a large con-
gregation, some of the old Scotch settlers
having come from a distance of ten or
twelve miles, in spite of rain and muddy
roads, to see and hear the distinguished
biographer of the "Apostle of the North."
The audience was composed of people from
all denominations in the village, and includ-
ed some Roman Catholics. The subject of
discourse was Ephesians, v. 32, from the
words "Christ & the Church." The
high thoughts to which the preacher gave
utterance, his clearness of expression, pow-
erful appeals, intense earnestness and fear-
less sincerity, both delighted and rivetted the
attention of his audience and can not soon
be forgotten. A personal acquaintance with
the Rev. Mr. Lange induced him to visit
Parkhill, and he was accompanied by the
Rev. Mr. Scott, of London, in whose Church
he had preached on the previous Sabbath.
The Rev. Doctor was on route to preach
in Chicago. Thereafter he will proceed to
Toronto, Montreal, and other cities before
returning home. Such visits are doubtless
productive of much good. May the Lord
of the harvest often send us such labour-
ers!

We are pleased to learn that Dr. Fraser,
who is at present pursuing his studies at
Knox College, has been invited by the For-
eign Mission Committee to proceed as
soon as he has completed his Theological
course to Formosa, there to co-operate
with Mr. Mackay in his self-denying labors
among the inhabitants of that island. We
are given to understand also that Dr. F.
has virtually, though it may perhaps be
not formally, intimated his acceptance of
the call thus addressed to him. He will
accordingly (D.V.) proceed to his interest-
ing field of labor some time in the early
part of next summer. It is a token for
good when the spirit of personal consecra-
tion to the work of Foreign Missions is
spreading among our students. In the
case of the Canada Presbyterian Church as
in that of others, this will have a benefi-

cially stimulating influence on all the differ-
ent departments of church work, while as
it spreads among the students so will it
attract an ever increasing number of can-
didates for the ministry at home, as well as
for the work among outlying heathenism.
From one or two causes the number of
students at Knox College has, we under-
stand, not been quite so large as during
some previous years. A very fine spirit
however is universally prevalent, and
there is every indication that in the near
future Knox College will enjoy a degree of
prosperity, in the best sense of that word,
which in all its past history it has not
hitherto known.

According to the recommendation of the
Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian
Church, collections in behalf of the Fund
for the Widows and Orphans of pastors,
and for aged ministers as well, have to
be made about this time. The fund is a
very important one, and deserves to be sup-
ported with ever increasing liberality. It
is exceedingly desirable that a much larger
amount than at present available should be
provided for the support of aged and infirm
ministers. With many such it is impossi-
ble to save any thing during their years of
active service and it is not creditable to the
church that, after having worn themselves
out in the service of the sanctuary they
should have nothing before them but ab-
solute desolation. Forty pounds a year is
not much—is not, as things go, at present
nearly enough, but it is better than nothing,
and it is all the Fund can allow unless re-
plenished with greater liberality. Some of
the wealthy members of the church could
well afford to put this fund on a sounder
monetary basis. The best way of course
would be for ministers to be paid a fair ad-
equate stipend, from which they could pay
their way like other people and provide for
those dependent upon them as well as for
their own old age in such a way as they
judged best themselves, but in the absence
of such "adequate" salaries, the widows and
aged ministers fund is worthy of all com-
mendation and support.

Book Notices.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY FOR OCTOBER

Has a good many exceedingly readable
and timely articles. One on "Strikes" is
written in a very fair candid spirit, and
tries to hold the balances equal between
capital and labor. It is very evident that
a mighty social revolution is in progress in
England, and that great wisdom and fore-
bearance are necessary to guide that to a
peaceful and beneficial issue. It is not by
"strikes" that the condition of work-
men is to be improved, but by provident
and saving habits being cultivated, so that,
so far, the workers shall become also capi-
talists, and be thereby able, if necessary,
to cease working for a season, without be-
ing forthwith on the rocks either of charity
or enforced toil. "Plymouth Brethrenism"
is a lengthened historical notice of Ply-
mouthism. The whole tone of the article
is severe, but not too much so. One of the
closing remarks is:—"The success of
Plymouthism has always been in propor-
tion to the weakness of the churches, and,
just as epidemics usually tell most sorely
upon enfeebled constitutions, the power to
repel attacks of error will always be in
proportion to the strength and intensity of
the religious life in our churches." A very
vigorous article on the "Revolution in the
Anglican Church," is well worthy of a care-
ful perusal. Referring to the monstrous
and defiant latitudinarianism so fashion-
able in that Church at present, the article
concludes in the following terms:—"A
church which distinctly repudiates the
idea of a creed would occupy an intelligible
though an extremely questionable position;
but a church that professes a creed which
it requires its clergy to accept and pro-
claim, and yet suffers them to contradict
and undermine, is only exposing itself to
general contempt—contempt such as that
eloquently expressed by Ruskin in these
striking words:—

"There are states of moral death no less
amazing than physical resurrection; and
a church which permits its clergy to preach
what they have ceased to believe, and its
people to trust what they refuse to obey, is
perhaps more truly miraculous in impor-
tance, than it would be miraculous in
power if it could move the fatal rock of
California to the pole and plant the sym-
more and the vine between the ridges of
the sea."

THE PRESBYTERIAN QUARTERLY FOR OCTOBER

Is an exceedingly good number of an
able and instructive periodical. It has
thirteen papers, all good of their kind, and
very likely by this time generally read 'y
those of our subscribers who take the
"Presbyterian." We hope the number of
those who do so is increasing, though we
dare say the "British and Foreign Quarter-
ly," at \$2 a year, will be preferred to this
at \$3 50.

THE CANADIAN MONTHLY FOR NOVEMBER

Has, as usual, "Current Events" for the
noticeable article of the number. Perhaps
it is our fault, but we rather think there
is a falling off in the vigor and "go" of what
for months past has chiefly secured atten-
tion and sale for the "Monthly." It is