

Editorial and Contributed.

COMMITTEE OF CONSULTATION AND FINANCE.

A MEETING of the Committee of Consultation and Finance was held at the Mission Rooms, Toronto, on the 21st ultimo. There was a full attendance of members, and a good deal of important business was transacted. The General Secretary reported that satisfactory progress was being made in connection with the proposed Indian Industrial Institutes in the North-West. He also reported the completion and dedication of the new Chinese mission church in Victoria, B.C. A letter from the Rev. T. Crosby was read, regarding the establishment of a hospital at Port Simpson. It was finally decided to obtain further information to be laid before the next meeting. The most interesting business of the Committee was in connection with the proposed mission to China. The volunteers for this new movement were all present. Correspondence received by the Secretary respecting openings in some of the southern provinces was read; after which the Rev. V. C. Hart, D.D., at the request of the Committee, gave information touching a large and populous province in the west, *i.e.*, Tz Cheun. The population of this province is variously estimated at from fifty to seventy millions. The language is the same as is spoken in a large part of the empire; the cities are large, the people enterprising and the commerce extensive; while the climate is more salubrious than in provinces farther south. In this populous territory there are very few missionaries of any society. Dr. Kilborn, whom it is proposed to send as a medical missionary, gave an interesting statement of his religious experience, convictions of duty and preparation for medical mission work. He was followed by Geo. E. Hartwell, B.A., B.D., another of the volunteers, who gave a short address respecting his life-long convictions in regard to missionary work, and of the way in which Divine Providence had opened his path. Dr. Stevenson, another medical volunteer, also addressed the Committee in a similar strain. It was then moved by the Rev. Dr. Sanderson, seconded by Dr. Lavell, and *Resolved*,—That after much thought and prayer, and after having received and carefully considered all information touching the several possible mission fields in China, this Committee re-affirms the decision reached at its last meeting, February 17th, 1891, *viz.*, that the Province of Tz-Chuen, West China, be selected, with the city of Chen-too as the centre of operations. The resolution was supported in brief and appropriate addresses by the mover and seconder, who

expressed themselves as fully satisfied both in regard to the location selected and the men to be sent into the field.

It was also *Resolved*,—That it is the judgment of the Committee that the brethren appointed as missionaries to China should visit the several annual Conferences, as far as practicable, at the approaching sessions, and address the Conferences in regard to the proposed new mission.

It was further *Resolved*,—That a Committee, consisting of the General Superintendent, General Secretary and the members of the Missionary Board and Committee of Consultation and Finance, residing in Toronto, should be appointed for the purpose of making preparations for a farewell meeting on the departure of the brethren for China.

It was also *Resolved*,—That it be recommended to the General Board that the basis of salary for married men be \$800 per annum, and for single men \$500 per annum, and that a sum, not exceeding \$300 in the case of married men, and \$100 in that of single men, be allowed in aid of house furnishing.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHINESE CHURCH IN VICTORIA, B.C.

THE new church erected by the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, for the use of the Chinese in this city was formally dedicated to the worship of God on Friday evening the 13th of March. The building, which occupies an eligible site on Fisguard Street, in the very heart of the heathenism of Victoria, is a creditable structure. Its exterior dimensions are 40 x 50 feet, exclusive of janitor's rooms and store room in the rear. The ground floor constitutes the church proper. It has a seating capacity of 350, and is seated with chairs. On the second floor are the school-room and two smaller rooms, the latter for Bible-class and social meetings. With the exception of a few friends from the city churches who are specially interested in mission work, the audience was made up of Chinese, Christian and heathen, who filled the church to its utmost capacity, and evinced the liveliest interest in every part of the exercises, which were of a most interesting character. The matrons and inmates of the Rescue Home were also present. On the platform were Rev. J. E. Gardner, our diligent and pains-taking missionary, in the chair. Revs. C. Bryant and J. H. White, President and Secretary of Conference; Rev. J. Hall, Chairman of District; Rev. C. Watson; Rev. Ch'an Sin Kai, and others. Mrs. Burgess, *nee* Miss Pollard, first teacher of the Chinese School, presided at the organ.

The opening hymn, sung in both languages by English and Chinese (representatives of the two most