

# THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD.



FOR THE  
Presbyterian Church of Canada.

"Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and the strength of salvation."

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## Poetry.

### THE VOICES AT THE THRONE.

BY T. WESTWOOD.

A little meek-faced, quiet village child  
Sat singing by her cottage door at eve,  
A low sweet Sabbath song. No human ear  
Caught the faint melody. No human eye  
Beheld the upturned aspect, or the smile  
That wreathed her innocent lips the while they  
breathed

"The oft-repeated burden of the hymn—  
"Praise God! praise God!"

A Seraph by the Throne  
In full glory stood. With eager hand  
He emote the golden, harp-strings, till a flood  
Of harmony on the celestial air  
Welled forth unceasing. Then with a great  
voice

He sang the "Holy, holy, evermore  
Lord God Almighty!" and the eternal court  
Thrilled with the rapture, and the hierarchies,  
Angel, and rapt Archangel, throbbled and burned  
With vehement adoration. Higher yet  
Rose the majestic anthem, without pause—  
Higher—with rich magnificence of sound—  
To its full strength; and still the infinite heavens  
Rang with the "Holy, holy, evermore."  
Till trembling from excess of awe and love  
Each sceptered spirit sank before the throne,  
With a mute hallelujah. But even then,  
While the extatic song was at its height,  
Stole in an alien voice—a voice that seemed  
To float, float upward from some world afar;  
A meek and child-like voice—faint, but how  
sweet,

That blended with the seraph's rushing strain,  
Even as a fountain's music with the roll  
Of the reverberate thunder. Loving smiles  
Lit up the beauty of each angel's face.  
At that new utterance. Smiles of joy, that grew  
More joyous yet, as ever and anon  
Was heard the simple burden of the hymn,  
"Praise God! praise God!" And when the se-  
raph's song

Had reached its close, and o'er the golden lyre  
Silence hung brooding—when the eternal court  
Rung but with echoes of his chant sublime—  
Still through the abyssal space that wandering  
voice  
Came floating upwards from its world afar—  
Still murmured sweet on the celestial air,  
"Praise God! praise God!"

## Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

### PROCEEDINGS OF HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of the Record.

Saltfleet, Oct. 21, 1848.

DEAR SIR,—The following is an account of the  
proceedings of the Synod's Home Mission Com-  
mittee, at its meeting in Hamilton, on the 11th  
inst.

The members present were, Mr. Stark, Mr.  
Bayne, and Mr. Cheyne, Secretary. The Con-  
vener, Mr. Robb, being absent, Mr. Stark was  
chosen Convener, *pro tem.* Mr. Smellie, Mr.  
Meldrum, Mr. McLean, Mr. Lindsey, Mr. M'In-  
tosh, Mr. McGregor, and Mr. Wilson, Elder, be-  
ing present, took part in the deliberations of the  
committee.

A letter from Dr. Burns was read, giving rea-  
sons for not being present, and bringing to the  
notice of the committee some matters for their  
consideration, especially that of Ministers whose  
salaries do not come up to the minimum of the  
Sustentation Fund scheme, be supplemented from  
the Home Mission Fund, and employed propor-  
tionately in missionary labour. A letter from  
Mr. Rintoul was also read, giving reasons for not  
being present, and containing various suggestions.

Mr. Meldrum made application in behalf of a  
person in his congregation desirous to be employed  
as a catechist who understood the Gaelic language,  
and whom he recommended very highly. The  
committee directed Mr. Meldrum to inform him  
that he should attend the next ordinary meeting of  
the Presbytery for examination.

Applications were received for missionaries from  
the Presbyteries of Montreal, Perth, Cobourg,  
Kingston, Hamilton, Toronto and London. That  
from Perth urged that Mr. Cameron be allowed to  
continue in that Presbytery. A letter from Beck-  
with was read, also urging the continuance of  
Mr. Cameron.

The committee made the following distribution  
of missionaries. To the Presbytery of—  
Montreal—Mr. Fettes and Mr. J. Fraser.  
Perth—Mr. Cameron.  
Kingston—Mr. Quin.  
Cobourg—Mr. S. C. Fraser, for six weeks; after  
which, that he be transferred to the Presbytery  
of London, which would be by that time with-  
out a missionary.

Toronto—Mr. Wallace,  
Hamilton—Mr. Wm. Ball,  
London—Mr. McPherson.

A letter from the congregation of Woolwich  
was read, urging that Mr. Dickson, Catechist, be  
continued there. The committee, after consid-  
eration, granted their request.

The committee then took up the proposal of the  
payment of an agent for the schemes of the  
Church, out of the Synod's Home Mission  
Fund. After lengthened discussion, it was moved  
and seconded, that this committee has no means  
of ascertaining what amount of money will be  
found at their disposal, until after the collection  
appointed by the Synod be made, and therefore  
delay coming to any determination on the subject  
until next meeting of committee.

The committee then took under consideration  
the supplementing of ministers' salary below the  
minimum from the Home Missionary Fund of the  
Synod, in consideration that they be employed in  
missionary labour in proportion to the supplement  
received. It was also agreed to defer the farther  
consideration of the subject till next meeting.

The committee then adjourned to meet at  
Hamilton on the second Wednesday of January,  
in the evening, in Knox's Church.

Closed with prayer. G. O. CHEYNE, Sec.

## PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

This Presbytery met in Toronto on the 4th  
October. We give a short summary of their pro-  
ceedings. A letter was read from Mr. Lochlan  
McPherson, declining the call to Acton and Nes-  
saweya. Mr. Donald Elder, a member of the  
session of Knox's Church, Toronto, was appointed  
to the office of Catechist, within the bounds of  
the Presbytery. He was authorised to make col-  
lections at the mission stations within the bounds  
of the Presbytery. The Clerk of Presbytery to  
prepare a circular on this subject, to be issued to  
the different stations. We give this circular be-  
low. It may be read with profit at the stations  
within our own bounds, and those in other Pres-  
byteries.

Mr. Rintoul reported a visit to Barrie, Sunn-  
dale, Nottawasaga, and St. Vincent, and the en-  
couragement he had received in the varied offices  
of preaching, and dispensing the Sacramental  
ordinances. He mentioned that at one meeting  
in St. Vincent, after a due examination of parents,  
aided by assessors from among the people them-  
selves, he had baptized 22 children. He also laid  
on the table of the Presbytery, a communication  
from the elders and managers of the Congregations  
of Nottawasaga and Sunnisdale, requesting that a  
minister having the Gaelic language, might be