

about mission work, and her little daughter made one of my class on Sabbath morning. A merry wee lassie she is, and reads better than most little folks of seven years. M. MCGREGOR.

Indore, February 4th, 1879.

NOTES FROM LITTLE SASKATCHEWAN.

[The following extracts from a letter to Rev. Dr. Black, Kildonan, will give some idea of the work carried on by the Rev. Geo. Flett among the Indians of the Little Saskatchewan and Swan River country.]

MY DEAR SIR,—When I came to this place I found among the Indians thirty who had been baptized by the Roman Catholics. The priest is now working as hard as he can to get himself in among us. There is a French half-breed who attended our church some four years, whom, however, you would not call a converted man. He had a son baptized by me, but the first chance he got he had his child baptized over again by the priest, and yet he attends our church when the priest is gone as regularly as before. If it were not for his master he would be one of ours. There is a family of five persons who have left us, who were Roman Catholics before I came amongst them. It was not, however, love of the Roman faith that made them leave us. In that family there is a young man of some eighteen years of age, who was put in prison for stealing some money and a clasp knife. He was proved guilty, and the men who put him in prison said they were willing to set him free but that Mr. Flett said that he ought to go to prison. I was indeed not sorry that he was made an example of, but certainly I had nothing to do with it. I would rather want him than have a thief. He had a great weakness for stealing from the first time I knew him, and I told him and also his father and mother time and again, but it appears that it was a family weakness.

When first the priest came to this place there were two young men of his own faith who went to him and confessed. After some time they said that it was the last time that they would bow the knee to a priest. One of the two has been coming to me almost every night for a lesson and is getting on very well. Next time the priest came neither of the young men went nigh him.

The priest is not doing much. Out of thirty that were baptized by the Roman Catholics we have twenty-five that will not go near him and I think never will. . . . You wish to know how we are getting on with the Indians. We have our ups and downs. Since the priest came among us, the Indians wish to know who is going to give them the most; they think we are like traders and they will go to the one that pays best, but I will not buy any one or pay for converts.

I have baptized twenty-seven since last June. I am preparing four Indians for next Sacrament season. Our communion roll at this place is twelve. I have visited Fort Pelly, once; Fort Ellice, three times; Bird-tail Creek once; Shoal Lake three times in summer and three times this winter. Every Sabbath that I am at home I have to go to a lake four miles north to preach and keep Sabbath school, and in the afternoon a mile from my place to do the same. Shoal Lake is a great place for Indians. I was there part of four days, and we had good meetings. We had Indians from Ellice, some from Pelly, some from Bird-tail Creek and some from Okanase. We had a good time but very bad weather—a fearful storm three days. I took ten hours to go thirty miles. I had a taste of snow shoes once more.

At Okanase I preach twice and sometimes three times every Sabbath, and have Sabbath school once or twice according to circumstances. Wednesday is the day for prayer-meeting, but sometimes it is Thursday and other times Friday—that depends on whether or not the Indians are at home. The last summer we had many visits to the sick; an aged woman died, also a girl of fifteen years and a boy of some twelve. I had very good hopes of the two women and the boy was young. I hope they are saved by grace.

Almost every day we are doing some work for the poor heathen. They are coming to the house every day, and if we give them something to eat they get some of the gospel also—that is the best time to talk to the old heathen.

Do not fret about the priest. I am not afraid that he will gain much. Opposition will put life in me. I have two young Indians baptized by the priest of old as staunch as any Scotch. Also three others baptized

by myself that are firm and will keep a good watch over the flock. But thanks be to God I have a truer and more powerful watch in Jesus Christ.

Okanase, Feb. 26th, 1879.

GEO. FLETT.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

MR. EDITOR,—Your correspondent "Equity" asks for information. In reply, there is a very general impression that some are drawing out of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund who are in independent circumstances. The impression however may not be well founded. Mistakes are made in judging of the circumstances of others.

There is also an impression abroad that there are several retired ministers getting nothing out of the fund, who are as fully entitled to get out of it as some of the present annuitants. Possibly they have means of their own, sufficient to keep them without throwing themselves on the generosity of the Church.

If, as your correspondent says, one-half of the ministers do not pay any rate into the fund, it only follows, that one-half of the ministers will have no claim on the Fund and probably those who do pay in will see to it that even-handed justice is meted out irrespective of persons. JUSTICE.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Ladies' French Evangelization Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada desire with sincere thanks to acknowledge receipt of the following sums:—Mrs. James McLaren, Buckingham \$20; Mrs. A. Clark, Smith's Falls, \$10; Arch. McNabb, Rockwood, \$5; Wm. Webster, Florence, \$1; Wm. Cumming, Hamilton, \$5; Mrs. McGregor, Kintyre, \$5; R. Sellar, Huntingdon, \$2; A Friend, Raglan, \$2; Mrs. Alex. Farlinger, Morrisburg, \$4; Miss McD. Muir, N. Georgetown, Que. \$1; Calvin Church, Pembroke, per Mrs. W. D. Ballantyne, \$6; Professor Campbell's Bible Class, Knox Church, Montreal, \$18. Additional contributions will be gratefully received. These should be addressed to the Treasurer, Miss H. M. Gordon, care of Joseph McKay, Esq., 1059 Sherbrooke Street, Montreal.

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—This Presbytery held its last regular meeting in Knox Church, Ottawa, on the 6th and 7th May. There was a good attendance of both ministers and elders, and a large amount of business was transacted of which the following is an epitome. Deputations were received from the congregations of Metcalfe and Russell, and were heard in reference to the union of these congregations, and the amount subscribed by each for the support of a minister. Mr. Muir handed in his resignation of the pastoral charge of Metcalfe so as to allow the congregation of Russell to have a voice in the selection of a pastor, and an adjourned meeting was appointed to be held in Knox Church, Ottawa, on the 11th June at 3 p.m., at which both congregations are to be cited to appear. A call was sustained from the congregation of New Edinburgh in favour of the Rev. Isaac Campbell of Richmond Hill and Thornhill, which was ordered to be forwarded to the Presbytery of Toronto, and the Rev. Professor McLaren appointed to prosecute it before said Presbytery. Circular letters were read from several Presbyteries intimating their intention to apply to the next General Assembly for leave to receive certain ministers from other churches. The committees on the State of Religion and Sabbath schools gave in reports, which were received and ordered to be forwarded to the Synod's committee on these subjects. Mr. Gordon reported that the sum of \$110 had been contributed by ministers within the Presbytery towards making up the deficiency in the Home Mission Fund. The following sums were also received towards making up the deficiency in the grants given to supplemented congregations within the bounds, viz.: St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, \$82; Knox Church, \$33.10; and Daly street Church, \$15. The Convener was appointed to receive these and all other sums contributed for this purpose and to divide the amount *pro rata* among the ministers receiving supplement for the past six months. Mr. Whillans, minister, and Mr. Hugh Allen, elder, resigned their appointment as commissioners to the Assembly and Mr. Moore was appointed in place of the former and Mr. W. Hamilton in place of the latter. Dr. Reid was unanimously nominated as Moderator of the next General Assembly.

In reference to the remittance the sustentation fund, the Presbytery resolved to approve of the principle of a Sustentation Fund but think the time has not yet arrived for it. In the meantime it is not desirable to separate the Supplementing and Home Mission Fund. The remittance on a hymn book was taken up and a large number of omissions, emendations and additions made to it. It was also recommended that a large addition be made to the hymns for children and that these be scattered throughout the book. Mr. Whillans gave notice of his intention to move at next meeting that in the future regular meetings be held bi-monthly instead of quarterly. The following resolution was adopted on the recommendation of the Committee on French work: "That whereas the work of French Evangelization in this city has now reached a point at which a building suitable for public worship has become a necessity if further progress is to be made; and whereas, if funds can be raised the present is a suitable time either to buy or build, owing to the great reduction in prices of property and material. Therefore the Presbytery of Ottawa respectfully requests the French Evangelization Board to ask the General Assembly to release Rev. Mr. Ami for two months for the purpose of making collections throughout the Church in aid of this work, and that the Assembly recommend the cause to the liberality of our people throughout the country." The following overture to the General Assembly was adopted: "Whereas the satisfaction of the members, the ordering of the business, and the dignity of the proceedings of the General Assembly largely depend on the character of the Moderator; and whereas the present mode of nomination by Presbyteries is unsatisfactory; it is therefore humbly overtured to the venerable the General Assembly, through the reverend the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa, for the better ordering of the election of this officer to adopt the following as one of its standing rules: That the retiring Moderator of the Assembly shall after consultation and agreement with the past moderators, nominate the Moderator from among the members present. It being nevertheless provided that any two members may by motion nominate any other member for the office. The nomination being made, the Moderator shall then be elected, if more than one is nominated, by the ballot of the members present, a majority of whom will be necessary for election. If only one is nominated the election will be by a show of hands." Messrs. Moor and Fairlie were appointed to support this overture before the Synod and Assembly. A Presbyterial visitation was appointed to be held at Richmond on Monday, the 26th inst., at two p.m. The following minute was adopted in reference to the death of the Rev. C. I. Cameron: "The Presbytery record their deep regret at the death, on the 3rd March ultimo, of the Rev. C. Innes Cameron, A.M., late minister of New Edinburgh." During the brief period of three years in which he was a member of this Presbytery Mr. Cameron greatly endeared himself to his co-Presbyters. Having spent several years in mission work in India, and having subsequently laboured in the Church in Australia, he brought to the discharge of his duties in the Church in Canada a wide experience of Christian work. Faithful and conscientious in the fulfilment of his duty, and devoted to Christ and the welfare of His Church, Mr. Cameron was ever zealous in the labours of his office, and ever anxious to promote the interests of the congregation entrusted to his care. With vigorous intellect, fervent spirit, and broad culture, Mr. Cameron possessed also a high poetic faculty which it was his special desire to employ for the benefit of the Church. The Presbytery express sympathy with the congregation of New Edinburgh in their present vacancy, and their hope that they may soon secure the pastoral services of one who will be a worthy successor to Mr. Cameron. They also record their sympathy with Mrs. Cameron and her family in their bereavement, and fervently commend them to the compassion and care of the Father of all mercy and author of all consolation. A committee was also appointed to prepare a minute anent the death of the Rev. A. C. Morton of North Gower. —J. CARSWELL, Clerk.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND is likely to make the Canada Temperance Act a provincial matter. King's County is to vote on its adoption on the 29th of May, and then, if adopted, the entire island will be under its provisions. We hope that the friends of temperance will be successful at the polls.