

# THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,

For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

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

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### SABBATH MORNING.

With silent awe I hail the sacred morn,  
That scarcely wakes while all the fields are still ;  
A soothing calm on every breeze is born,  
A graver murmur echoes from the hill,  
And softer sings the linnet from the thorn ;  
The sky-lark warbles in a tone less shrill.  
Hail, light serene ! hail, sacred Sabbath morn !  
The sky a placid yellow lustre throws ;  
The gales that lately sighed along the grove,  
Have hushed their drowsy wings in dead repose ;  
The hovering rack of clouds forget to move,  
So soft the day, when the first morn arose.

#### Synodical Collections for the Current Year.

1. For French Canadian Missionary Society, 3rd Sabbath in July.
2. Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, 3rd Sabbath in October.
3. Foreign Missions of the Free Church, 3rd Sabbath in January.
4. Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, 3rd Sabbath in April.

**KNOX'S COLLEGE.**—A meeting of the College Committee will be held in the Library of Knox's College, on Thursday, the 2nd Sept., at noon.

The attendance of members is earnestly requested, as business of importance will be brought before the meeting.

Aug. 28, 1852.      ALEX. GALE, Sec'y.

### PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The next ordinary meeting of Presbytery has been postponed from the first Wednesday of August till Wednesday the 1st of Sept., then to convene at 10 o'clock, a m., in the Vestry of Coté Street Church.

D. FRASER, Pres. Clerk.

### PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The next ordinary meeting of the Presbytery of Toronto will be held in the Divinity Hall of Knox's College, on the first Wednesday of September, at 11 o'clock, a m.      T. WIGHTMAN, Pres. Clerk.

#### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Synod's Committee on the above will meet at Belleville, on Wednesday, the 22d September.

R. F. BURNS, Convener.

*Members of Committee.*—Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Gale, Mr. McGregor, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Read, Mr. Lowry, and Mr. D. Fraser, ministers ; and Mr. Dickson, Mr. Redpath, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Webster, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Rankin, and Mr. McMurrich, elders.

#### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The following is an extract from the deliverance come to at last Synod, on the above important subject :—

"The Synod resolve to petition the Legislature on the subject of Sabbath Profanation, in connexion with the Post Office and Canals, which are under the control of Government.

"The Synod further recommend all congregations in connection with the Church, to forward similar petitions."

The Convener of the Synod's Committee would beg respectfully to direct attention to the matter of the Post Office, and to that part of the deliverance which respects congregational action thereupon. Conscientious objections may be entertained by some as to invoking Legislative interference to put a stop to other forms of Sabbath desecration. But in regard to this there can be only one opinion. Those who have to do with the Post Office are the servants of the people. The powers that be stand in the same relation. They are the accredited representatives of the general community, and are expected to give effect to its wishes. We may, then, surely we ought, firmly, though courteously, to request them not to compel our own servants to commit a sin calculated to peril their own souls, and to bring down the curse of Heaven on our rising Province.

Happily, for upwards of two years, an agitation has been carried on which has already been productive of salutary results. Through the delivery of lectures and the distribution of tracts, much important information has been communicated—the surface of society has been moved—an expression of the public mind, at least, partially elicited. The sixty-nine petitions presented to last Parliament, form an encouraging feature, and the Bill introduced, discussed, and lost only by a majority of one, was a great step in advance. To allow the agitation to subside at its present stage, would be to prove traitors to a cause to which every patriot and Christian should prove true—on which the smile of God rests—and with whose adjustment the best interests of our country are linked.

Hitherto the Memorials have been more of a general description. They have proceeded from Sabbath Associations (whose formation is

of itself a token for good) and from the general population in cities, towns, and villages throughout the Province. This is all very well. We would not for a moment be considered as depreciating the influence thereby exerted. On the contrary, we desire its indefinite extension. But other elements may be introduced, and forces employed, which, in unison with the others, may impart a fresh stimulus to the agitation, and more effectually ensure its final triumph.

*The Church should take the lead.* Every weapon she can supply, should be wielded—her latent energies called forth, and cheerfully enlisted in the service. The question is not, "Are we likely to succeed?" Duty is ours—results belong to God. Though there was a raging sea in front, and a fierce army in the rear, and towering rocks frowned on every side, the voice which came from the excellent glory was, "speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward." Even though compassed with the most formidable difficulties, we should still make this our watchword. But we are not so situated. We have many grounds of encouragement. Let us therefore be not weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

Ere this issues from the press, Parliament will have been a week in session. It is not, however, even yet, too late for action to be taken by those who hitherto have neglected it. Let every Presbytery, Kirk Session, and congregation, imitate our supreme court. Where a congregational meeting cannot be conveniently held, the petitions may be signed by the session or managers, or by both. A model memorial was inserted in the last No. of the *Record*, and some plain practical directions were appended.

Let every minister and member of the Church take up the cause, and make it a matter of prayer and pastoral effort ; then will our recent defeat form but the prelude to a glorious victory.

KINGSTON, August 21, 1852.

### PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg met in St. Andrew's Church on the 10th August, when business of considerable importance was transacted.

Two calls were laid on the table in favour of Rev. D. McAleese. The one from Cartwright and Manvers, the other from Norwood and Dummer. These congregations have both been organized during the past year by Mr. McAleese, and each therefore put in special claims for his services. Mr. McAleese left the decision of the matter to the Presbytery, when, after consultation and prayer, and considering the claims of both places, the Presbytery assigned him to Norwood and Dummer, and appointed his induction to take place on the 7th of September, at Norwood ; Mr. Smith of Darlington, to preach and preside on the occasion.

The congregations of Grafton and Colborne, Cobourg, Baltimore and Coldsprings, and Peterboro', reported that they had complied with the directions of Synod, and had made the collection for the French Canadian Mission.