

SIR GEORGE GREY has, in compliance with the wish of the congregation, recommended her Majesty to present the Rev. John Robertson, A. M., presently minister of the parish of Mains and Strathmartin, in the Presbytery of Dundee, to the church and parish of St. Mungo, Glasgow, vacant by the death of Principal Macfarlan.

CHURCH PRESENTATION.—The Earl of Stair has presented the Rev. William Kerr, minister of New Luce, to the church and parish of Stoney kirk, vacant by the death of the late Rev. J. J. Campbell.

CHURCH PRESENTATION.—The Duke of Argyll has presented the Rev. Duncan Mackellar, missionary of the royal bounty at Tarbet, to the church and Parish of Craignish, vacant by the death of the Rev. Alexander Macintosh, late minister thereof.

INVERTIEL CHURCH.—At the meeting of the congregation, held in Invertiel Church on the evening of Monday the 21st inst., the Rev. George G. Gillan, son of Dr. Gillan, St. John's, Glasgow, was unanimously chosen to be their Pastor in room of the late Rev. John Fleming. This appointment has since been accepted by Mr. Gillan.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharajah Dhulepp Singh has sent per Rev. Alexander Campbell, Weem, the liberal donation of £25 to the Indian Mission of the Established Church of Scotland.

LORD PALMERSTON has given a pension of £40 a-year, on the literary Civil List, to Dr. John Armstrong, the learned author of the "Dictionary of the Gaelic Language and Gaelic Grammar."

CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

Lay Association, Montreal.

(From the Presbyterian.)

The annual meeting of the Lay Association of Montreal was held in St Paul's Church on the evening of Thursday the 14th day of January last. The chair was occupied by the President, the Hon. P. McGill.

In opening the meeting, the Chairman stated that it was now thirteen years since the founders of the Association held their first meeting to form the Society. They then hoped that it might have been like the small cloud which would yet overshadow the land; but in this its projectors had been disappointed. Yet the Association had done good. Among its objects, that of helping to educate young men for

the ministry he considered a most important one. Though the Colonial Committee was doing much in sending out missionaries, for which we should be duly grateful, yet it was most desirable to raise up in the country a body of clergymen who should understand its wants. The aiding of weak congregations was also a duty, and he trusted that liberal contributions would enable the Association to accomplish still more good.

The Report was then read, and was as follows:

In submitting their twelfth annual Report, the office-bearers would remark that it presents a simple record of the quiet, unostentatious working of the Association in the sphere to which its operations have been confined.

Forced to the conviction, by painful experience, of the futility of their attempt to accomplish that end, that the views of the founders of the Association as to the establishment of a General or Provincial Association are at present impracticable, the office-bearers are content to labor on in the humble field that they have so long occupied, and in which they are already privileged to see fruit of their labors, and from which, they are assured, abundant returns will yet be gathered.

It is true that the annual Report of a year's operations contains but a scanty record of actual events in that period of the Association's history; but notwithstanding the Society is not to be despaired. It has accomplished good. It has been a boon to the Church. During its existence it has aided many a struggling congregation to erect its church or manse, it has extended a helping hand to many a deserving Divinity Student; and, besides all that, single-handed it originated, and at a heavy annual loss it has maintained during ten years, the only record of events in the history of our Synod—the only medium of communication which the congregations possessed. It is not too much to say that, had the Association done nothing else than the establishment and maintenance of the *Presbyterian*, it thereby established a claim to the gratitude of the Church. It is not too much to assert that but for the Association none of the Schemes of the Church would have been in so prosperous a state, and that the steady advocacy of the various efforts by that periodical contributed much to this. It is indisputable that neither private speculation nor Synodical action would have so long maintained, with a heavy annual deficit, a publication which is at last self-supporting, and which has contributed materially to the advancement of the best interests of the Synod.

But, to proceed to a narrative of the events of the year, the Board would report—

BURSARY SCHEME.

1st. As to the Bursary Scheme, last year there were, as usual, three Bursars, viz.: James Carmichael, Joshua Fraser and Prosper L. Legar, and that £30 was appropriated to this purpose. Deeming this effort as one of real importance, the Association has wisely determined on increasing the amount of the Bursaries to £15 each, and the Society will consequently be called upon to provide £15 for this purpose during the present year. The aid thus rendered will help many a Student to complete his studies for the Ministry, and the effort is especially deserving of countenance and support.

RELIEF SCHEME.

2nd. As to the Relief Scheme the Managers have little to report. The grant of £12 10s. towards the Manse of the Congregation of St. Louis de Gonzague, made by the Society in a previous year, is now due, as the title to the property has been perfected under the instruc-

tions of one of the officers of the Society, and will be paid when called for. The Board, learning that the long-vacant and struggling congregation of Laprairie had made a praise-worthy effort to raise a stipend for a Minister, agreed to give £15 for three years in their aid; but, as the people adhering to our Church there are few, and they are situated amid a large French Canadian population, and have displayed a real longing for the ordinances of the Gospel, the Board would recommend the Society to give £50 or even £100 per annum towards the support of a Pastor there, who should minister to that people and the adherents of our Church in that vicinity, as opportunity may arise, should the funds of the Association justify such a step, and the members of the City Congregations evince, by a liberal increase of their subscriptions, their approval of this step.

PUBLICATION SCHEME.

3rd. As to the Publication Scheme, the officers have the pleasure of reporting that the *Journal Presbyterian*, edited by one of their number, is now in its second volume, and has elicited as parent as to circulation, having now a list of 2,500 subscribers in Canada and the Lower Provinces. It has received the commendation and approval of the Synods of Canada, New Scotland and New Brunswick, and will doubtless attain a yet larger circulation. The reception that it has met shows that it supplied a felt want; and the Committee believe that it will be productive of great good by enlisting the young generation in the active service of the Church.

The *Presbyterian* maintains a steady circulation of 2,100, and the Committee rejoice to state that intelligence is much more freely communicated to it than was previously the case. If subscribers remit the amounts of the accounts recently transmitted to them, both publications would meet expenses; but many persons seem to think lightly of the practical dishonesty of receiving the papers without paying for them.

FUNDS.

The balance due on the City Bank Stock has been paid, during the year, so that the Society has now £100 of paid up Bank Stock; but the Treasury is nearly empty, as will be seen by the Treasurer's Statement. The expenditure of the Association during the past year in its various efforts, including the Publication Scheme, had been about £100, and its receipts, inclusively of subscriptions to the Periodicals and to the Society, £375 cy.

On the whole, then, and in review of the past history of the Association, the officers are encouraged to persevere in their labours. They are satisfied that good has been accomplished, and they believe that steady, persevering labor in the same path of duty will yet result in mere good, and that the bread, so patiently and perseveringly sown on the waters, will be found after many days.

The whole respectfully submitted.
Montreal, January, 1858.

Opening of a Church at Osnabruck, C.W.

On Sunday, the 10th of January, an interesting event took place in the Township of Osnabruck, C. W., viz.: the opening of the new church of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland. This edifice is a very handsome one, and reflects much credit on the enterprise and liberality of the congregation, and those friends who aided them in its erection. It is situated in a central position, as