

you responded to our call to take us under your pastoral care, we cannot be too thankful for, as also the regularity with which you have hitherto fulfilled your appointments amidst difficulties of no ordinary kind. We rejoice in the privileges we now enjoy under your faithful ministrations, and we earnestly pray that you may be long spared amongst us in health and strength to enjoy the blessings of Providence, to minister to the wants of your flock, and to continue your services here with the same faithfulness and regularity you have hitherto done.

I am, Rev. Sir,

Your most obed't servant

DONALD CAMERON, *Elder.*

To this Mr. MacKID returned the following answer:—

To Mr. D. Cameron.

DEAR SIR,—It is with feelings of gratitude and esteem I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your note, and the handsome Bible presented by the Ladies of Bayfield congregation.

The sentiments expressed, though most gratifying, I feel I do not deserve. It is my earnest desire and wish to do my duty to my God and to His people, but, alas! I feel I fall far short in the services I ought to render; and, therefore, no thanks are due to me for simply performing my duty as far as lies in my power. Being privileged in the good providence of God to gather and form this congregation, it is a matter of great rejoicing to see my flock increasing, while the tokens of love and respect shown by one and all have more than made up for any inconvenience I may have suffered from bad roads or such trivial difficulties. My earnest prayer to God, therefore, is, that we may be long spared to enjoy the privileges of worshipping Him here in His Sanctuary, and that His blessing, which maketh not ashamed, may rest on each one, and that, unworthily as I am, I may hope to deliver you all safely to Him in that day in which I give up my stewardship, and that you shall not be wanting in that day in which He maketh up His jewels.

I am,

Yours faithfully,
ALEX MACKID.

SABBATH SCHOOL SOIREE AT FERGUS.

The Sabbath School Soiree in connection with St. Andrew's Church at Fergus, took place lately in the Temperance Hall, which was neatly fitted up for the occasion, decked with evergreens and other devices, and bearing the inscription. "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." Over 300 guests, besides Sabbath School Scholars, were present. The Hall was crowded, and was found too small to contain the party comfortably.

Rev. Mr. Macdonnell took the chair. The meeting was opened by singing the

100th Psalm. A number of ministers were present, and several interesting addresses were delivered on appropriate subjects.

The audience were much indebted to Mr. McIntyre, the Precentor of St. Andrew's Church, and his youthful Choir of Sabbath Scholars, for the correct and pleasing manner in which they sung a variety of hymns.

The cordial thanks of the meeting were proposed by John Watt, Esq., and unanimously given to the speakers, for their kind, able, and christian addresses.

All felt that the season had been an interesting and profitable one. The warm, and brotherly kindness manifested by ministers of various denominations towards the minister, members, and especially the young people of St. Andrew's Church, was affecting, and was gratefully appreciated and acknowledged by the Chairman for himself and all whom he represented. The catholic and edifying spirit of the meeting was evident to all.

The Chairman took occasion to say that the meeting were altogether indebted to Mr. Todd, for having originated and carried through this Sabbath School gathering. That gentleman's persevering exertions had, together with the assistance of the female Teachers of the Sabbath School, led to the successful result of the evening. Such meetings have a beneficial effect. They bring the people together, excite an interest in the work of the Sabbath School and stimulate to exertions for their maintenance and extension.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON CHURCH PROPERTY.

The Central Committee on Church property request those who have not yet transmitted reports on the state of their Church property to do so, without delay in order that a complete report and a tabular statement of the whole may be laid before the Synod. Reports have been as yet only received from the following places; viz., Beauharnois, Bathurst, Chinguacousy, Chatham, C. E. Côte St. George, Cumberland, Camden, Darlington, Dalhousie Mills, Esquesing, Fergus, Finch, Hornby, Kingston, Kitley, Lancaster, Lanark, Litchfield, Mountain, Mono, Niagara, Nottawasaga, North Williamsburgh, North East-broke, Qsnabruk, Oxford, Orangeville, Perth, Pakenham, Perth, Simcoe, Stratford, South Gower, Vankleekhill, Woolwich, and Wawanosh, and the results of the answers have been condensed (in a Ledger prepared for the purpose) and arranged so as to present at a glance the position of the property. The questions to which answers are sought will be found underneath, and early attention is requested. Presbyteries are further requested to act under the instructions for the appointment of committees of their number to co-operate with the Central Committee. See Minutes of Synod for 1856.

QUERIES SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD ON CHURCH PROPERTY.

1st.—What is the designation of your Church or belongs to the congregation? For what purpose is it used—specifying the total number of acres and also the number applied to each purpose? What was the cost of said land? What is its present value? Is there any and what debt upon it? How was said land acquired—by gift or purchase?

2nd.—What are the names of the present Trustees who hold said property, and when and how were they appointed?

3rd.—Can you supply a copy of the title-deed or deeds of the Church, manse and glebe property, or of either of them? If so, please transmit them at your early convenience to the Secretary.

4th.—Of what material is your Church erected, and how many is it seated for? When was it built? What did it cost? Is there any and how much debt upon it? Is it in good condition?

5th.—Is there a manse for the accommodation of the Minister? When and of what materials was it built? What did it cost? Is there any debt?

6th.—Is there any and what Church property in your vicinity or within your Presbytery belonging to the Church not in possession of any congregation of the Church? If so, furnish such information as may be in your power with regard to it, and state in whose name it stands.

The Committee trust that answers will be generally returned to the foregoing queries, and with as little delay as possible. They are desirous of carrying out the commission entrusted to them by the Church, and are persuaded that, if cordially supported, they may be enabled to contribute to the advantage and benefit of the Church. They conceive that statistical information such as that sought for is very desirable, and they are fully persuaded that, could a full statement once be procured, the future record of the efforts for Church and Manse extension from time to time made would exhibit satisfactory evidence of steady and decided progress. Even now they are persuaded that in various localities liberal and judicious efforts in this direction are being made, the moral effect of which upon the whole Church is lost, owing to there having hitherto been no record of such exertions.

Communications to be addressed to John Greenshields, Esq.

Montreal, 19 February, 1856.

THE SYNOD FUND.

We would remind our readers that the collection for this Fund is appointed to be taken up on the first Sabbath of this month, March.

We are aware that in many congregations an assessment is substituted for a collection, but in the present circumstances of the Fund a collection might prove serviceable, and would we think be cheerfully contributed to. It must be borne in mind, that this Fund is now charged with the