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AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

From this date till the 1st of January next, we shall mail THE PRESBYTERIAN, postage prepaid, to any one not already on our list, on receipt of TWENTY-FIVE CENTS. Send this amount in postage stamps or Dominion currency and the paper will at once be forwarded. If our readers know any neighbours who do not subscribe for a religious paper they will do good service by DIRECTING ATTENTION TO THE ABOVE OFFER. Or if they send us names on a postal card we will mail copies as specimens for examination.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

It is with pleasure we announce that Rev. Dr. Cochrane has received £100 sterling from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, in aid of the Home Mission Fund of our Church.

WE are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of \$2 for Children's Cot in Toronto General Hospital from Hugo, Mary, Willie G., Robert, Henry and Willie—a class of little children in Galt, Ont.

WE much regret to state that on account of ill health, the Rev. D. Ross has been obliged to resign his appointment to Prince Albert. He and his family had gone as far west as Selkirk, when compelled to desist any further prosecution of the journey. The Home Mission Committee have accepted his resignation.

WE regret unintentionally doing injustice to the Rev. E. D. McLaren in our issue of the 3rd inst. Mr. McLaren accepted the call to Lancaster; but the Presbytery took the matter into its own hands and agreed to translate him from Cheltenham to Brampton. It is to be hoped the friends at Lancaster may soon find a pastor who shall go in and out among them, ministering to them in holy things.

THE Young People's Association in connection with the Presbyterian congregation of Orillia held a meeting on Friday evening, 3rd inst., when the following officers were elected: President, Dr. Beaton; Vice-Presidents, Miss Emily Armstrong and Mr. T. J. Decatur; Secretary-Treasurer, J. A. Moore. Directors—John Perry, J. B. Tudhope, E. F. Cooke, T. H. World, Miss Tudhope, Miss World and Miss Parkhill.

ON Thursday, the 2nd inst., the ladies of the Presbyterian congregation at Selkirk, Manitoba, held a successful bazaar. The numerous useful and ornamental articles which they had provided were all advantageously disposed of; and the dinner was very generally patronized. The social held in the evening was well attended. The chair was occupied by the Hon. J. W. Sifton. Addresses, to all appearance

highly appreciated by the audience, were given by Rev. Messrs. Casson, Matheson and Ross, and Mr. James Angus. The proceeds, to be applied to the building fund, amounted to the handsome sum of \$150.

THE Central Church, Hamilton, was re-opened last Sabbath, when the Rev. S. Lyle preached twice to large congregations. The interior of the church has been entirely redecorated, and presents a most attractive appearance. The ceiling is tinted gray, striped with red, and the ribs decorated in delicate colours. The walls are tinted a shade darker than the ceiling, and the plaster enrichments are picked out with heavy gold. All the woodwork is grained ash and picked out with walnut. The church is shortly to be entirely newly upholstered. The heating apparatus has been thoroughly overhauled and everything put in order for the coming winter.

WE direct attention to the Rev. Principal Macvicar's lecture on "Hindrances and Helps to Presbyterianism," which forms part of the contents of this issue. Our readers will find it well worthy of an attentive perusal. The Principal has performed with faithfulness the task for which his powers of observation, his extensive experience, and his unflagging interest in the prosperity of the Church, have so well qualified him. He has fearlessly pointed out the "hindrances," and that of itself is an important step towards their removal. Among the "helps" we would reckon the preparation and delivery of such a lecture as this; and a further help would be to have it circulated throughout the congregations and families of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

AN interesting meeting took place in the Northern Congregational Church, Toronto, on Monday evening, when the Rev. John Burton, B.A., late of John street Presbyterian Church, Belleville, was warmly welcomed by the people of his new charge, as well as by many friends from sister churches. The chair was filled by Mr. George Hague. Very earnest and appropriate addresses were delivered by Rev. H. D. Powis and Rev. J. F. Stevenson—the former directing his remarks to the minister and the latter to the congregation. Addresses to the minister were read from the church, from the Young People's Association, and from the Sabbath school, all breathing a very hearty greeting to the minister. The paper read by Deacon Clarke contained a concise statement of the principles upon which a Congregational church is founded; and to this Mr. Burton responded, giving his adhesion to the views enunciated and accepting the call to the pastorate of the church. Rev. Prof. Gregg, in a short speech, spoke of his long and intimate acquaintance with Mr. Burton, his high estimate of his ability and Christian character. Rev. Mr. Mitchell followed, making several humorous allusions and wishing pastor and people a long and happy union. The pronouncing of the benediction by Mr. Burton brought to a termination a most enjoyable evening's proceedings.

THE funeral of the late Rev. Alexander Topp, D.D., took place on Wednesday, the 8th inst. The cortege, an unusually large one, left the deceased gentleman's late residence at two o'clock in the afternoon, a short service having been previously conducted there by the Rev. Principal Caven, D.D. A large number of ministers, many of them from distant parts of the country, attended—amongst whom were noticed Rev. Drs. Reid, Gregg, Castle, Potts and Givens, Rev.

Dean Grasett, Rev. Prof. McLaren, and Rev. Messrs. King, Mitchell, Milligan, Carmichael (King), Farries (Ottawa), Middlemiss (Elora), Wallace, Broughall and Fenwick. There was also noticed a number of distinguished laymen, amongst whom were Hon. D. L. Macpherson, Hon. George Brown, Hon. Mr. McMaster, Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, Hon. Mr. McMurrich, Hon. Alex. Morris, and others. The pall bearers were, from the residence to Knox Church: Hon. John McMurrich, Messrs. James Knowles, Robert Anderson, W. B. McMurrich, Wm. Thompson, Geo. Sutherland, R. Merryfield, and Alex. Rattray; from the church to the cemetery: Messrs. J. L. Blaikie, Geo. F. Burns, Donald McKay, A. F. Crombie, John Kerr (Jarvis street), John Kerr (Church street). The mournful procession moved along Peter and Queen streets to Knox Church, where services were held, Rev. Prof. McLaren officiating. The church, which was draped in mourning, was literally packed to the doors, and a large number of people were unable to obtain admission. In singing the fifteenth Paraphrase, the congregation was visibly affected, and many were unable to restrain their tears. After the conclusion of the Rev. Professor's appropriate and affecting address the cortege re-formed and proceeded to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, where were deposited the remains of one who had well merited the respect and appreciation so largely manifested in his funeral obsequies. Rev. Dr. Reid, Moderator of the General Assembly, conducted the closing service at the grave, and on the following Sabbath preached the Funeral Sermon in Knox Church. His text was Zephaniah iii. 17. From the published report of the sermon we extract a few sentences, to show what was thought of Dr. Topp by one who knew him intimately and was well qualified to form a correct estimate. Dr. Reid said: "It has been my privilege to know your late pastor for a longer period perhaps than any of you. A full half century has passed since I first met him. In the beginning of October, 1829, I proceeded when still almost a boy to King's College, Aberdeen. Your pastor had entered two years before. My acquaintance with him was comparatively slight during the first years of college life, but I became more intimately acquainted with him at the Divinity Hall, and still more intimately when he began his labours in Elgin, at which time I succeeded him in a position which he had previously held. During the first two years of his labours in Elgin, I frequently heard him in the large parish church of that town. He was called at a very early age to assume part of the work in that collegiate charge. The position was not without difficulties, but the acceptable character of his ministrations combined with his rare prudence and his conciliatory spirit, soon gained him the confidence and affection of the congregation and the high respect of the community at large. His earnest evangelical preaching, such as was not very common in that part of Scotland at the time, attracted crowds to the church, and no doubt many were led to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. The strength of the attachment of the flock to the faithful pastor was shewn by the large numbers that followed him when in 1843 he left the Establishment and identified himself with the Free Church. From Elgin he was translated, in 1852, to Roxburgh Church, Edinburgh. During the years of his ministry there, the congregation was largely increased and consolidated." The evening service was conducted by Rev. Prof. Gregg, D.D., who preached from Rev. i. 17, 18.