

The Presbyterian,

A MISSIONARY AND



RELIGIOUS RECORD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

CONTENTS.

THE PRESBYTERIAN.	PAGE	Mr. W. R. Croil's Reply to Address, &c.	98	CORRESPONDENCE.	
Barriefield, C. W.,	97	Address to Rev. Peter MacVicar and his		From our Correspondent in Scotland, .	102
Queen's College,	97	Reply,	98	Ladies' Association St. Andrew's	
S. S. Enterprise in Scotland,	97			Church, Fergus,	102
THE CHURCH IN CANADA.		THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.		MINUTES OF SYNOD,	103
Juvenile Mission,	93	Ecclesiastical Items,	99	Bursary Fund,	112
French Mission Fund,	98	General Assembly of the Church of		Jewish and Foreign Mission Fund,	112
Home Do. Do.	98	Scotland,	100	SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS,	112

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BARRIEFIELD, C.W.

We have received a communication containing an address and presentation from several inhabitants belonging to the different denominations in the village and neighbourhood of Barriefield to Messrs Barr and Porteous, students of Divinity in Queen's College, who have been labouring among them in extending the kingdom of Christ, especially by superintending the Sabbath school. Such conduct on the part of the inhabitants recalls to our mind the words of the Psalmist; "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The proceedings of the General Assembly and the Synod of Canada, together with other matter of a more general character, prevent us from publishing the documents entire, but we cannot forbear noticing (what singularly enough is too often forgotten by Christians of every denomination), that the people of Barriefield have given the best evidence of their devotion to the Christian standard by remembering that the laborer is worthy of his hire. This is the point that pleases us most, and which claims publicity. It is a practice worthy of encouragement, and capable of large development in many congregations in Canada. Professions of attachment to the Christian cause without liberal contributions to its support must ever be regarded as wells without water, fig-trees without fruit, life without hope.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

The Bursary Fund of Queen's College is of essential importance to our Church, as without its aid many most deserving young men would be totally prevented from prosecuting their studies for the Ministry. During last session this limited fund was soon exhausted, the number entitled to participate being so much larger than in any former year. It is with regret that we learn the serious disappointment to several promising students which arose from this source—some of whom must give up all hope of again coming up to College, if a little temporary aid is not extended. There are many benevolent individuals in our Church, who would doubtless gladly render assistance, were the circumstances known to them; and we are requested to state that the Rev. Prof. Weir, Secretary to the Senatus, or Mr. Paton, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, will gladly receive contributions and furnish further information.

This appeal is one which should meet with a ready response from all with means at their disposal, who have at heart the interests of our Church.

SABBATH SCHOOL ENTERPRISE IN SCOTLAND.

The following extract from the proceedings of the last General Assembly gives a gratifying statement of what is being done for the young by the Church of Scotland:

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Mr. Leitch, of Monimall, gave in the report on Sabbath Schools. It showed that there were 1550 schools in connection with the Church of Scotland, being a decrease of 8 as compared with last year. The number of scholars on the roll in January was 111,215, or an increase of 1436, the whole number enrolled throughout the year being 126,961, and the average attendance having been 93,378, showing an increase of 848. The number of teachers was 9773, being an increase of 222. There were 418 congregations furnished with Sabbath School libraries. Of the entire population of Scotland one in every 23 attended Sabbath Schools in connection with the Church of Scotland.

The Free Church is also active in this good work, the following being from the proceedings of their Assembly:

SABBATH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Dickson read the report of committee, which showed that there were, according to the returns which had been received, 1237 Sabbath schools in operation, showing an average of two schools in connection with each congregation. Of these 694 were distinguished as congregational, and 543 as mixed or missionary. The largest number of schools in any one Synod of the Church was that of Glasgow and Ayr, and the next Aberdeen. There were 76,274 scholars on the roll, 29,500 being boys, 35,000 girls, and the remainder not classified. The average attendance at each school was 61. The five congregations standing highest in connection with Sabbath school operations were the following:—St. Matthew's, Glasgow, 732 scholars; St. Peter's, Glasgow, 800; Forfar, first congregation, 831; South Church, Paisley, 918; and St. John's, Glasgow, 937. There were, according to the returns, 1066 teachers, male and female—St. Peter's, Glasgow, having 85, the largest number.