

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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PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg will meet at Cobourg, on the 8th instant.

J. W. SMITH, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

An Adjourned Meeting of the Presbytery of Toronto will be held in the usual place on the second Wednesday of July, at noon.

And the next Ordinary Meeting, on the first Wednesday of September.

SYNOD'S HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Home Mission Committee of the Synod, will be held in the Library of Knox's College, on the 9th inst., at four o'clock, p. m. A full attendance is requested. See names of members on page 132.

The Agency Committee will meet in the same place at 7 o'clock, p. m. See names on page 134.
ALEX. GALE, *Convener.*

RESERVES AND RECTORIES.

The Synod's Committee on the above, will please meet in the Library of Knox's College, on July 9th, at ten a. m. See names on page 133.
ROBT. BURNS, *Convener.*

COLLECTION FOR THE FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

By appointment of Synod, this Collection is to be taken up throughout the Church on the third Sabbath of July. Ministers, Missionaries, and Catechists supplying the different Congregations and Mission Stations, are expected to give due notice of the collection, and to press its object upon the attention of the people. Success has already attended the labours of the Society; and the continued success of the cause which it has been established to promote, depends the

liberty, as well civil as religious, of our country. Funds are required not for any narrow sectarian object, but for the advancement of sound Protestantism, in opposition to soul-enthalling and soul-ruining error. Evangelical Christians generally can cordially co-operate in this great work. It is a sort of Evangelical Alliance, where, forgetting denominational distinctions, different churches meet in harmonious action.

The Presbyterian Church of Canada has already manifested a deep interest in this undertaking, and will not now relax her efforts, when the grand enemy is becoming daily more audacious, and when the day of victory is approaching. The duty of the churches is plain—the event is with God; and the ground of confidence is, that the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

ABSTRACT OF THE REPORT OF THE SYNOD'S HOME MISSION COMMITTEE, FOR 1850-51, READ IN SYNOD, AT KINGSTON, JUNE, 1851.

The first part of the report narrates the proceedings of the Committee during the year—referring at the outset to the lamented death of the Rev. Mr. Robb, of Hamilton, who had been appointed Convener of the Committee by the Synod in the beginning of June, 1850, and who was removed by death early in the month of July thereafter. In regard to this melancholy event, the report proceeds as follows:—

On the 26th of the same month, a meeting of the Committee was held in Hamilton, at which the following minute was adopted:—The Committee at this their first meeting since the death of the Convener, agree to record their high sense of his valuable services to the cause of the Home Mission, and in humble submission to the will of God, their deep sorrow for the loss which the Church has sustained, in being deprived of his able services and excellent counsels, and their sympathy with his wife and family in their bereavement." To this brief and simple memorial, your Committee deem it superfluous to add anything on the present occasion, being fully persuaded that the removal of this faithful and devoted minister of Christ has been deeply felt and deplored by his brethren, and throughout the Church, and that his memory will be long and affectionately cherished by many among us. The high estimate which Mr. Robb entertained of the Home Mission, and the ardor and zeal with which he devoted himself to it from the very commencement of his career amongst us, were strongly manifested in the presence of the Synod on all suitable occasions, and will, no doubt, be affecting and solemnly recalled by many at this season. But now, perhaps, can we

fully appreciate the indefatigable diligence, the warm-hearted earnestness and sound judgment with which he performed the duties devolved on him by the Synod in regard to this scheme, as those who acted with him more immediately in conducting the business of the Home Mission Committee, and by them, accordingly, the loss of his counsels and services has been felt with peculiar keenness. May the Great Head of the Church teach us by His Spirit, individually, and, as a Church, to hear and understand the voice of the *rod*, thus suddenly and severely applied—stirring us up, at once, to the exercise of meek submission under His mighty hand—of renewed diligence in His service, while it is yet day with us—and of a more entire and habitual reliance on Himself, apart from all means and agents, for the advancement of the cause which is His own.

The Rev. Gilbert Johnston's appointment to take a general superintendance of the Synod's Home Missionary operations, under the direction of the several Presbyteries, is next adverted to— together with Mr. Johnston's subsequent acceptance of a call in Scotland, and an explanation, with reference to the resolutions adopted by the Committee on this subject in October last, to the effect that they were at that period, without any information to lead them to suppose that Mr. Johnston himself had changed his mind in regard to his Canadian appointment, or that he was concurring in the invidious steps respecting the call to him. The report goes on to state that, at the April meeting of the Committee, twenty-five missionaries, preachers, and catechists, had been distributed among the several Presbyteries, and that Mr. Samuel Kedey, student, had been assigned to the Students' Missionary Association, at their request, with a view to his employment among the French Roman Catholic population, in room of the Rev. John Black, with the recommendation that Mr. Kedey should be stationed at Metis for the summer. The Committee agreed also at this meeting, to recommend to the Synod some clear and authoritative deliverance, so limiting the demands of the Presbyteries on the services of student missionaries, as that ample time should be left at their disposal, for the prosecution of their studies. The Report next refers to a communication from the Rev. Mr. McClure, of Londonderry, as Chairman of the Directors of the Colonial Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, announcing the appointment of several additional missionaries for Canada.

In the second section of the Report a sketch is presented of the extent and condition of the Synod's Home Mission field, drawn principally from the Reports of Presbyteries, laid before the Committee at the distribution of missionaries in April last. Beginning with