

Book Reviews.

THE KINDERGARTEN GUIDE. By M. Kraus Boelte and J. Kraus. No. 1. Price, 30 cents.—STYGER'S KINDERGARTEN TRACTS, Nos. 1 to 15.—PAPERSON EDUCATION. First Series, Nov. 1 to 6. N. W. York: E. Steiger, 22 and 24 Frankfort Street.

The word Kindergarten is German, and literally translated into English means Child-garden. Of course the garden referred to is a school—an infant school—and if the school is regarded as a garden, then the children are regarded as flowers, and must be cultivated from the beginning and kept free from noxious weeds. Public school teachers find that their work consists not only in instilling new ideas, but in rooting out the old; for although the child should come under their charge at seven or even at five years of age he has already learned a great deal, not of letters perhaps, but of things, and learned them wrong, so that they have got to be unlearned. The Kindergarten wonderfully obviates this difficulty. Under this system the children are trained to think correctly from the first, or at least from the time that they are three years old, and to adopt correct views of the things around them, while at the same time the whole thing is done under the name of play. It is German in its origin, but it has now obtained a pretty broad footing in Great Britain and in the United States as well as in some other parts of the world. It is a pupil of Pestalozzi's. His intention was to make it an intermediate step and connecting link between the child's home life and the school, which brings the child into contact with children of his own age, enhances his pleasure in following the same pursuits with them, and plants the seeds of sociable virtues. During his lifetime Froebel was appreciated only by a few superior minds. In order to make his ideas more widely known, this unselfish man practised much self-denial, and travelled many miles, frequently resting on the green sward at night, "with an umbrella for his bed-room and a knapsack for his pillow." Toward the close of his life his labors were rewarded with success, for he lived to see many Kindergartens established in Germany. His motto was "Play is the work of the child." The toys used he called "gifts." In one respect they are toys, but in another they are means of instruction. The first "gift" consists of seven worsted balls, each ball having one of the colors of the rainbow—violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, red. With this apparatus the child, in an unconscious sort of way, is taught the principles of form and color and of motion. Simple rhymes are extensively used in the process. The second gift consists of a sphere, cylinder, and cube, by means of which the child is still further advanced in knowledge. There are about twenty gifts in all, and by the time they are all disposed of, the child is educated to a considerable extent without having learned a letter. Even although schools of the class indicated should not be established in this country for some time, these few hints may be of use to parents. The pamphlets here noticed give full information on the subject.

Late Rev. John McLean, Oro.

The Rev. John McLean, minister of Knox Church, Oro, died at Stayner in the house of his son-in-law Mr. Alexander McLean, on the evening of Saturday, 24th March. Mr. McLean had been on a visit to his relations and other friends in Osprey, and was conducting public worship when he was suddenly seized with the disease which terminated, after five weeks of intense suffering, in his death. About ten days after the attack, he wished to return to his own home in Oro, and got as far as Stayner on his way, but was unable to proceed further. During the week preceding his death his mind was affected by the disease, so that his thoughts wandered at times. There were lucid intervals when he conversed rationally, and appeared to enjoy the visits of friends who sought to impart religious consolation. He felt himself to be in the hands of the Lord. Mr. McLean was formerly a minister of the Congregational Church, and laboured in the interest of that denomination in Chingaucoosy and Osprey. On connecting himself with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, he became pastor of Finch in the Montreal Presbytery, and about two years ago was inducted to the charge of Knox Church, Oro. Perhaps some one having longer and more intimate acquaintance with the deceased will supply a sketch of his life and work.—R. M.

Stayner, March 26, 1877.

How is it that notwithstanding the hard times and great competition R. M. Wanzer & Co., of Hamilton, Ont., are running their factory and foundry full force, turning out hundreds of sewing machines daily? This is a question we are often asked. The superiority of their sewing machines to all others is acknowledged by the public, and is the foundation of their great success. Most of our readers are aware that the Wanzer machines were awarded an international medal and diploma, and the only gold medal given for sewing machines at the Centennial, two honours which no other sewing machine can claim. These awards by the greatest experts of the day, and confirmed by the public, are, we believe, the most satisfactory answer to the question.

The Late Mr. John Thom.

There died at his residence, in this city, on the 10th instant, one of our oldest citizens, Mr. John Thom. He was born late December, 1791, in Ceylton Parish, Ayrshire, Scotland. He emigrated to Upper Canada in 1821, worked some years at his trade of joiner in Kingston, where he was thought to have no superior as a workman, then went to Scotland, married, and returned to Canada in 1828, coming on to York, (now Toronto), and soon afterward settled on a farm in Scarborough, where he remained till 1853, when he removed to Toronto for the education of his family. Before emigrating he was a member of the Relief Church in Ayr. When he came to York he joined the Presbyterian Church, of which Rev. James Harris was minister. After going to Scarborough he gladly attended on the preaching of the Rev. Mr. Jenkins, of Yonge Street, when on his rounds he came that way. Afterwards he had his minister the Rev. (afterwards Dr.) James George, whom he would gladly have followed into the Free Church, but like the others there who sympathized with that Church, he did not sever his connection with that church while Mr. George remained in Scarborough; but when Mr. George went to Kingston he went with those who formed Knox's Church. Shortly afterwards, desiring to have a Presbyterian Church in the front of Scarborough, but not caring to have it at his own door, he with a few others worked for the establishment of the Highland Creek Church. Their success in this was greatly owing to the untiring extra work of the Rev. Thomas Wightman, then minister of Scarborough, (Knox Church) and York Mills, and the cautiousness and influential assistance of Rev. Principal Wallis, who was in a sense considered patron, and who often preached there, especially when other good preaching could not be steadily got; and through whom the young congregation enjoyed the preaching of those who are now thought the best alumni of Knox College of that time. It was Mr. Thom's custom to come into the city on Saturday and look up and take out a minister for the morning, generally a student of Knox College during the college session, at other times the best he could get; and he often rejoiced in getting a student of the Congregational College, then in Toronto. And on Sabbath both the buggy and big wagon went to church, and those who had not vehicles of their own were called for or picked up, as far as possible. For many years a magistrate, he used his influence in settling quarrels and lessening the number of houses licensed to sell liquors, of which at one time there were some twenty on the seventeen miles of the Kingston road, north-east of the Don. After coming to live in Toronto he was for some eighteen years an elder, first of Knox's and then of Cook's Church, and was of use as a director and trustee of the Bible Society, and the House of Industry, and was always attentive to his duties. He was not very demonstrative of his feelings, but had good judgment and tenacity of purpose; and, though not a bigot, was one whom men knew where to find. His race run, his remaining brother and sister of a large family having but a few weeks predeceased him, he was gathered to his fathers, showing to the last clearness of intellect and quiet trust in Christ; and leaving behind him for a little while her who through so many years had sympathized with him in all that was best in his life, and helped him to accomplish what he purposed.

A special sermon was preached last Sabbath evening, from the text, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord," vide Revelations, chapter xiv. and 13th verse, by the Rev. J. Gardner Robb, D.D., pastor in Cook's Church, Toronto, of which church deceased was an elder.—Com.

Anniversary Entertainment.

On Friday evening the 23rd February, a large number of the office-bearers and friends of Knox's and Burn's church paid an unexpected visit to the Rev. W. R. Sutherland, at his own residence, to congratulate him on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of his pastorate of these churches. After partaking of the many good things which the ladies provided and brought with them, with the design of making themselves and others comfortable at what all present regarded as a sumptuous festival, Mr. Charles McKie, deacon, was appointed to preside over the moral department of the entertainment. Mr. McKie gave a most appropriate address in reference to matters reminiscent, historical, moral and spiritual, affecting the interests of the church of God in these districts and localities, and throughout the Dominion. After hearing other good speeches, the following address was presented to Mrs. Sutherland:—

DEAR MRS. SUTHERLAND—We the ladies and friends of the congregation of Knox's and Burn's Church hereby present you with this purse as a slight token of the esteem in which you and your household are held by us, hoping that you will accept of the same with our best wishes and prayers that you may be long spared to fill your place in your own household and in the church with happiness and comfort. Ever affectionately yours. On behalf of the ladies, JAMES ALLAN.

The value of the purse and other things presented was about \$100.

Mr. Sutherland, in reciprocating those congratulations on his own and Mrs. Sutherland's behalf, said that inasmuch as it came upon him unexpectedly he felt it quite impossible for him to express his thoughts and feelings in a manner satisfactory to himself, or consistent with the bearings of the occasion of their visit to him. That during the past twenty-nine years of his pastorate over their church, he often thought that probably there were but very few ministers in the church throughout the Dominion that had enjoyed so many comforts as he did. As he endeavored to trust in our exalted Lord day by day, he was never disappointed in realizing reasonable help from Him in every duty and every emergency. That the Lord makes darkness light; and crooked ways, straight; and rough places smooth; and to every one that trusts in Him. It could not be expected from the nature of things, that

during a lengthened pastorate, the course of events should invariably run smooth. There have been always parties in the church, who from unworthy motives of their own, sought for admission into the fold—but who, upon being put to the test, betrayed the confidence placed in them. The Lord has been setting the fan to our barn-floor, and by events in his mysterious Providence, removing from us parties whom we thought should be with us, but whom the Lord would not permit to abide with us. But we have much reason to be thankful to God that we have been hitherto preserved from being hurt or much affected by the designs and inconsistencies of such parties. During the past twenty-nine years we have witnessed many changes in the constituency of our church here. We have set off some three or four churches which have now their own churches and mansees and settled pastors. We have had the privilege of enjoying together sixty-five communion seasons.

Mr. S. further stated that he had baptized about thirteen hundred individuals of whom thirty were adults. That he solemnized about four hundred marriages, and buried about one hundred and fifty of our people, of whom seven belonged to his own household. Have all these slept in Jesus? We are confident that they have, and that we shall embrace them again, and be with them forever in our Father's house of many mansions.

Dear friends.—Let me ask you to follow the Lord Jesus with a perfect heart. It has been my decided purpose during my ministry among you to seek the glory of God and the salvation of your souls, according to the course prescribed to me in my ordination vows, to know nothing among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. Follow him and ever realize communion with him in secret prayer, and in all its ordinances, and it shall be well with you, and you shall prosper and be in safety in life and in death. Let us all know that we are in Christ, and neither life nor death shall ever separate us from Him or from each other. And as we have been worshipping and praising him together in the church below that we shall praise him together forever in the church on high.

These friends after enjoying a considerable amount of conversational and musical entertainment, and being satisfied that they had accomplished the design of their visit retired to their various homes.—Com. Strathburn, Feb. 25th, 1877.

Presbytery of Manitoba.

The Presbytery of Manitoba met in Knox Church, Winnipeg, on Wednesday, 14th March. The following were the members present:—Dr. Black, Rev. Messrs. Scott, Borthwick, Profs. Bryce and Hart, and the clerk, ministers, and Messrs. Sutherland and Patterson, elders. On petition the following congregations were granted a moderation in a call to a minister, viz.: Little Britain, Springfield and Sunnyside, and High Bluff and Portage Creek. The Rev. Mr. Bell was appointed to preside at the moderation at High Bluff when most convenient for all parties. Dr. Black at Little Britain on the 26th inst., and at the hour of two p.m., and Prof. Hart at Sunnyside and at the house of Mr. Joseph Smith, there on the 28th inst. and at the hour of 2.30 p.m. At the request of the congregation of Little Britain, the Presbytery granted leave of absence to the Rev. Mr. Matheson to proceed to the eastern provinces to solicit aid in liquidating the debt on the church property at Little Britain. The Presbytery appointed Dr. Black, Rev. Mr. Scott, Rev. Mr. Robinson, and Rev. Mr. Bryce, Commissioners to the General Assembly meeting in Halifax in June next; Mr. Duncan McVicar, elder of Knox Church; Mr. Jas. Campbell, Toronto; Mr. Cecil, Montreal; and Mr. Court, Montreal, were appointed as the Presbytery's elders to attend that Court. The several remits sent down by the General Assembly to Presbyteries to consider and report were taken up and an affirmative answer given to all with a slight change in the wording of one. These remits are too long to give here. They concerned different missions and other funds, and what is known in the Presbyterian Church as the Barrier Act. We may mention, however, that the Presbytery is in favor of only one fund for the aid of supplemented congregations and Home Mission work, and not one for each of these objects. Reports were handed in from the Home and Foreign Mission Committees of the Presbytery. The Foreign Mission report stated that the Roseau school was begun under very favorable auspices, and that the attendance was largely beyond expectation, and that the Rev. Mr. McKellar had retired from the service of the Foreign Mission Committee. The Rev. Mr. Flait gave an interesting account of the work in his field, and consulted the Presbytery in reference to extending the work. An effort is to be made to secure a teacher for the purpose of establishing a regular school at Okanese. The whole matter was referred to the Foreign Mission Committee of Presbytery to report at the next meeting. Steps were taken to secure the organization of a congregation on the Little Saskatchewan, and the election of a session and the appointment of a missionary among the Sioux, where an American teacher of the Presbytery of Dakota is at present laboring. It was agreed to relieve the Rev. Mr. Stewart, now laboring at Prince Albert, on the 1st of July, and the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly was urged to appoint another missionary at once, to proceed to Battleford in the beginning of summer. The Rev. Mr. Borthwick was recommended as such missionary, if his place at the Boyne and Pembina Mountain could be supplied. The Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery was instructed to prepare a report of the year's work, and transmit the same to the General Assembly's Committee. It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Presbytery in Knox Church, Winnipeg, on the 9th day of May next, and at the hour of nine o'clock in the forenoon. The above are but a few of the important items of business transacted at this meeting. The meeting was closed by the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

Presbytery of Hamilton

This court met on the 20th inst. in Central Church, Hamilton, when much important business was transacted. Thirty ministers and fifteen elders were in attendance. The business of more public interest was that a call from the congregation of Beverly to Rev. R. Thynne, was sustained and transmitted, the stipend promised is \$800 with use of manse and glebe. The church in Saltfleet is henceforth to be known as Chayne's Church, Saltfleet. Commissioners for the General Assembly were elected by ballot, viz., Messrs. Fletcher, Bruce, Black, Little, Smith, McEldon, McGuire, Fisher, ministers; and Messrs. H. Young, Dr. McDonald, Dr. Aberdeen, W. Henderson, W. J. McCulla, R. McQueen, A. Kennedy, W. Buntin, J. Oberlton, M.P., elders. Two calls were presented to Rev. E. W. White of Waterdown, the one from the congregation of Palmerston in the Presbytery of Niagara, the other from St. Andrew's Church, Stratford. Mr. Waits intimated his acceptance of the former, and his translation was agreed to by the Presbytery. A Committee was appointed to confer with the several congregations interested, with a view to the re-arrangement of the field, and the uniting of the two congregations in Waterdown in one charge. It was agreed to send one student to Barton and another to Ancaster during the summer months. A Committee was appointed to prepare the report of the state of religion. Mr. Fletcher, convener. The reports of the Missionary meetings were given in and on the whole were very satisfactory. A Commission of Presbytery consisting of Messrs. Smith (Moderator), Fletcher, Dr. James, Fisher, Balfour, Chrysal, Little, S. O. Fraser, and Gordon, ministers; and Messrs. Hutcheson, J. Watson, W. Henderson, W. Buntin, elders, was appointed to meet the congregation of St. Andrew's church, Dundas, and settle matters now pending in connection with the retirement of the late pastor. The Commission is to meet on Thursday, April 12th, at two o'clock p.m. The Mission Station at Delhi was put under the care of Rev. Mr. Pullar, Stevensville, was recognized as a Mission field, and it was resolved to apply for aid to send a student there. An overture to the Synod about the Bible in the public schools was received and transmitted. Messrs. Laing and Smith were appointed to support it. JOHN LAING, Pres. Clerk.

Presbytery of Guelph.

This Presbytery held their usual bi-monthly meeting in Chalmers' Church on Tuesday the 16th inst., and there was a large attendance of Ministers and representative elders. Among the first items of business was the report of the death of the late Dr. Hogg. Mr. Torrance moved the adoption of a resolution or minute which he had prepared on the event, and which was unanimously adopted, ordered to be engrossed on the records of the court, and a copy was directed to be sent to the widow and one to the congregation. The subject of supply to the church during the vacancy was considered, and provision made for the same, it being understood that no infringement be made on the rights of the Probationers. Mr. Bentley was appointed to declare the pastoral charge vacant on the following day, and Mr. Wardrope moderator of the session during the vacancy. The Clerk reported that in reply to a question forwarded to him, he had furnished the requisite information to have Mrs. Hogg's name placed on the list of annuitants from the widows' and orphans' fund. The records of the Kirk session of Chalmers' church, Elora, were laid on the table, and a committee appointed to examine them. The Committee afterwards reported them carefully and correctly kept, and the Presbytery ordered them to be attested accordingly. A long time was given to the consideration of a petition by Mr. Andrew Nichol, for a deputation of Presbytery to visit the congregation of St. John's Church, Garafra, and inquire into the cause of excitement alleged to exist there. After hearing parties, and making as full inquiry as practicable, it was agreed that there was no cause shown for granting the petition, and it was therefore dismissed. Commissioners to the General Assembly were elected by ballot, resulting in the following appointments:—Messrs. Bentley, Middlemiss, McDonald, Davidson, Cameron and Smellie, Ministers, and Messrs. Thos. McCrae, A. Campbell, O. Davidson, J. Ross, W. Kerr, and J. Massie, M.P.P., ruling elders. A conference was held on the state of religion, introduced by reading a report prepared by the clerk on the subject, which was followed by addresses by Messrs. Middlemiss, Campbell and McDonald, on subjects previously assigned them. Dr. Barrie tendered his resignation of the pastoral oversight of his congregation at Erasmus, to take effect from the end of May, or beginning of June. The Clerk was instructed to send notice of this to the congregation, to meet with them and ascertain how much they were prepared to give as a retiring allowance to their minister, in the event of the Presbytery accepting his resignation. Mr. Davidson reported that, according to appointment, the induction of elders at Winterbourne had been duly carried out, according to the rules of the church. Two calls, both largely signed, were laid on the table: one from Doon, Hespeler and Preston, and the other from Erin and Osprey, in favor of Mr. A. M. Hamilton, a licentiate of the church. Mr. Hamilton being present, the calls were placed in his hands, when he, in feeling terms, and for reasons stated, declined them, and they were accordingly laid aside, the Presbytery agreeing to express their deepest and warmest sympathy with the congregations under their disappointment. Power was granted to the Moderators of Sessions in both to moderate in fresh calls, when requested, and also to the Moderator of the Kirk Sessions of Chalmers' Church, Winterbourne, to moderate in a call there on Tuesday, 27th inst., at 11 o'clock, forenoon, and to report at an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery, to be held in Chalmers' Church, Guelph, on the second Tuesday of April, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The stipend promised is \$800, with manse. Mr. Bentley read a report from the German Mission Commit-

tee, which was received, and two of its recommendations discussed, the three others being laid over for the present. Thanks were given to the Committee, and especially to the Convener, for their diligence in the matters entrusted to them. Mr. Chae. Davidson submitted the report of the Finance Committee, showing the state of the Fund to the present date, and its liabilities up to the 1st of July. The names of congregations in arrears to the ordinary and to the German Mission Funds, were read. It was ordered that \$50 be paid for supply at Elmhurst. Mr. Davidson reported that the mortgage upon the manse property at Elmhurst had been discharged, and the Presbytery agreed to express their satisfaction with the fact. Mr. Bryant, in answer to an application to that effect, was authorized to disburse the Lord's Supper, at Elmhurst, at such a date as he may find most convenient. According to request from both congregations, Mr. Dryburgh was continued at Elmhurst and Hawkeville in the meantime. A number of other matters were considered, but not such as to be of general interest. The next meeting was appointed to be held in Chalmers' Church, Guelph, on the second Tuesday of May, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. The roll having been called and marked, the proceedings were closed.

Presbytery of London.

The first business, after routine, was a call from Tilsonburg in favor of Rev. G. G. McRobbie, of Maudamin. The Presbytery of Paris was ably represented by the Rev. R. M. Grant, Ingersoll; the congregation of Tilsonburg, by Messrs. Allison, Dewart, Hamilton and Angus, in favor of the call. The Maudamin congregation was represented by Messrs. A. Duncan and Ferguson, who urged that Mr. McRobbie's services be continued at Maudamin; he having during his pastorate given great satisfaction, and that his translation would be an injury. After the parties were heard and certain questions answered, Mr. McRobbie addressed the Court, and intimated his willingness to accept the call, which was agreed to. A call was submitted from Wyoming and South Plympton to the Rev. George Outhbertson, Presbytery Clerk. Commissioners were heard in favor of the call. Mr. Outhbertson intimated his acceptance of the call. The induction is to take place on Wednesday, 18th April, Messrs. J. McRobbie, Thompson, McDiarmid and Abraham to take part in the services. Another call was then brought before the Presbytery, being in favor of Rev. R. W. Leith, of Camden and Sheffield, to the congregation of Melbourne and Caradoc. T. McMillan and T. Gordon appeared in support of the call. It was agreed to sustain and transmit the call to the Presbytery of Kingston, and Mr. McEachern was appointed to prosecute the call before that Presbytery. A telegram from Hamilton Presbytery was read, stating that a call to Rev. Mr. Thynne, English Settlement and Proof Line, to the congregation of Beverly, had been presented there. A call from East Williams to the Rev. J. S. Eakins, formerly of Parkhill, was sustained. The Presbytery then adjourned until evening, when a case relating to church property was disposed of. A petition for moderating in a call, and other matters connected therewith, was presented from the congregation of Lobo and McVillie Church, Caradoc. The moderation was granted. The request to form a new congregation at Arkona was agreed to. The election of delegates to the General Assembly at Halifax was then considered. The mode of election, on motion of Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Rennie, was adopted as follows: That the first half of the ministerial delegation be by rotation in order of seniority of ordination, and that all others be elected by ballot. Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, 21st MARCH.

The Presbytery met this morning, pursuant to adjournment. After routine, a petition was presented from Alvinston for assistance to the amount of \$60 or \$70. The petition was referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Fraser, Sutherland and Gordon, to enquire into the matter and report. The Presbytery then proceeded to elect delegates to the General Assembly. The following were elected from the roll in the order of ordination: Donald McKenzie, Ingersoll; W. R. Sutherland, Ekfrid; James B. Duncan, Forest; Dr. Proudfoot, London, and James Ferguson, Alvinston. The following were elected by ballot: Neil McKinnon, Belmont; Gustavus Munro, Embro; Lauchlin Cameron, Thamesford, and George Sutherland, Fingal. The elders elected were as follows: Thos. Gordon, Adam Murray, James Cowan, R. Gowe, James Allan, Alex. Steele, James Brown, Thomas Patterson and H. S. McKay. It was agreed that for defraying the expenses of these delegates a general collection be taken up from the various congregations of the Presbytery. The Home Mission Report was presented and considered. An adjourned meeting of Presbytery will be held at Woodstock during Sessions of Synod; and the next regular meeting in First Presbyterian Church, London, on the second Friday of July, at 2 p.m.

It is astonishing to notice that the Singer Manufacturing Company of New York, sold last year the enormous number of two hundred and sixty-two thousand three hundred and sixteen machines, which was 153,022 more than was sold by any other company in the world in the same time. The statistics on which the sales are based are from sworn returns made to the owners of the principal Sewing Machine Patents. The figures given prove that the "Genuine" New York Singer is the most popular in the market, and we think it fair to infer that prolonged popularity indicates the merit essential to a really useful sewing machine. The Canadian manager, Mr. R. C. Hickok, can be found (as per advertisement in another column,) at 22 Toronto St., Toronto.)

Dr. Edwards, speaking of beer-drinkers, says: "Their disease is always of a dangerous character, and in case of accident they never undergo even the most trifling operation with the security of the temperate. They almost invariably die."