

lie partly within the county, and by the neighbouring congregations of Paris, contributed considerably more than the proposed four thousand dollars.

I have received for Dr. McKay's church at Bala-Kah, and have remitted to Dr. Reid, the following sums: A Friend in Toronto, \$10; do. in Toronto, \$4; A Friend, per Rev. W. T. McMullen, \$5; Sabbath School, Cayuga, per A. D. McLeod, \$2: Total, \$21.

In closing the account, I have to tender you, Mr. Editor, my very sincere thanks for the free use of your columns in bringing this matter before our Church. I thank all my ministerial brethren, and all the kind friends in Oxford, and throughout the Church, who have so nobly responded to the appeal that was made. And, above all, I thank the Great Head of the Church for putting it into the hearts of the people to devise such liberal things. Trusting that the gifts to "Oxford College in Formosa" may be but the first-fruits of much greater things yet to be accomplished by our Church for the cause of God in heathen lands,  
*The Manse, Chalmers Church, } W. A. MCKAY.  
 Woodstock, Nov. 29th, 1881. }*

### NEW CHURCH AND CONGREGATION AT CRYSLER.

MR. EDITOR,—Under the fostering care and oversight of Rev. A. Rowat, of West and North Winchester Presbyterian congregations, a small number of families in the village of Crysler (township of Finch) has grown, by the accession of other families who were scattered about in the vicinity thereof, into a congregation of over thirty families. Less than a year ago this small but determined band resolved to erect a house in which to meet for public worship. On Sabbath morning, December 4th, 1881, they and many friends met therein for the first time. Rev. John Fraser (Indian Lands) preached a heart-stirring and appropriate sermon from 2 Chron. vi. 8. Other services followed in the afternoon and evening, and a grand soiree was held on the evening of Monday following, the financial success of the whole showing conclusively that the noble efforts of the Presbyterian element is fully appreciated by every other element of society in the village and surrounding country.

The building is a wooden structure, 48x34 feet, with a tower twelve feet square, surmounted by a very neat spire covered with tin. It is well lighted with windows of the Gothic style. The roof is tarred to preserve the shingles. The walls are painted white. The work evidently has been well done, under the superintendence of the contractor, Mr. C. Grahame, of Crysler. The whole thus far has cost \$1,000. The same contractor has engaged to seat and paint the inside work for the sum of \$350. The building, when completed and furnished, will be then free of debt for the moderate sum of \$1,500. Ralph Crysler, Esq., from whom the village takes its name, very kindly gave the site, a beautiful one, 150 feet square. May their light ever shine!  
 T. E. C.

Morewood, Dec. 7th, 1881.

### IN MEMORIAM.

Another father in Israel has passed away. Mrs. Martin, wife of Mr. John Martin, Elder, Mount Forest, died at her residence on the evening of the 19th ult. Her loss will be deeply felt not only by her own family, but by the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, of which she was a member, and by the community generally.

Mrs. Martin was one of the early pioneers of the county of Wellington. Born in Dufftown, in the parish of Mortlach, Banffshire, Scotland, in 1820, she came to Canada in 1833, and settled with her father, Mr. John Munro, in the township of Nichol. They were at that time considered the furthest back settlers north of Guelph, and had to endure all the hardships incident to the life of pioneers in a new country. She was married to Mr. Martin in 1840, and was the mother of eleven children, ten of whom are living. One son is in the ministry—the Rev. W. M. Martin, of Norwich; one of the daughters is the wife of Rev. Peter Straith, of Holstein; another son is a Sabbath school superintendent. Several of the family are Sabbath school teachers, and all are members of the Church in full communion. They owe a great deal, under God, to the influence of a pious mother. While she laboured hard to promote their earthly interests, she made their eternal welfare her first con-

cern. Even in death she seemed to think more of her family than she did of herself. Of her own salvation she had been for long years assured. Her concern in her last moments was for her children, and yet she could safely commit their future to a covenant God. Her last words were the dying words of Jacob: "I die, but God shall be with you."

As a member of the Church she took a deep interest in whatever pertained to the advancement of the cause of Christ, and was sensible in counsel and judicious in action. Many of the ministers of the Church will remember her generous hospitality, especially during her later days. In short, hers was that rounded, consistent Christianity which we might expect in one who was the child of Godly parents and who early gave herself to the Saviour. Her memory will long be revered.

### THE GREAT CONTEST.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities."—Eph. vi. 12.

This war has for its battle-scene  
 Each continent and isle,  
 Wherever foot of man has been  
 Or light of woman's smile;  
 Of combatants, from pole to pole,  
 All nations furnish forth the roll;  
 The aim, by truth or guile,  
 The kingdoms of the earth to win  
 To ways of Holiness or Sin.

Proud history records "the pomp  
 And circumstance of war,"  
 The cannon's roar, the swelling tramp,  
 The helmets flashing far;  
 But other powers than "flesh and blood"  
 Direct the battle's rolling flood,  
 And speed the victor's car:  
 Unseen contending angels meet,  
 And God or Satan must retreat.

The real forces are within:  
 One true though naked breast  
 Is stronger than the hosts of Sin  
 In steel-wrought armour dress;  
 The shock of race encounter'g race  
 Is but the foam on ocean's face—  
 The hidden cause confessed  
 Commences in some soul on fire:  
 Ideas every war inspire.

Divine ideas, then, will away,  
 The thoughts of God shall stand—  
 Sin and misrule must pass away,  
 Christ's judgment is at hand:  
 That oracle abideth still.  
*The whole earth shall His glory fill—*  
 The Church's hopes are grand  
 As are the promises of God,  
 Like starry heaven o'er us broad.

—James Ballantine.

### ERROR IN ASSEMBLY'S MINUTES.

MR. EDITOR,—In the last minutes of the Assembly there is a mistake regarding the contributions of St. Andrew's (Chatham) congregation to the Foreign Mission Fund. The congregation is only credited with \$70 to the above Fund, whereas they remitted \$207.

Chatham, Dec. 5th, 1881.

### KNOX COLLEGE METAPHYSICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY.

A large and appreciative audience assembled in the College, on the 9th inst., to attend the forty-fourth public meeting of this Society. Convocation Hall was completely filled, so that there must have been about 500 persons present. The attendance at these meetings has been steadily increasing, and it is a source of great encouragement to the students that their entertainments are so highly valued by their friends in Toronto.

Rev. Dr. Proudfoot, of First Church, London, occupied the chair, and discharged his duties to the great satisfaction of all.

The musical part of the programme was more than usually interesting. The College Glee Club, under the vigorous and painstaking instruction of Mr. Collins, is constantly increasing in efficiency. The "Soldier Chorus" was rendered in a spirited and highly artistic manner, as was also the second musical selections, viz., "Huntsman's Chorus" and "We'll way the Keel Row." Encores were given, and elicited hearty applause from those present.

The essayist for the evening, Mr. D. M. Ramsay, B.A., read a paper on "The Mounds and Mound-builders." He said these mounds were built, long

before Columbus reached the coast of San Salvador, by a race of men comparatively civilized. They are found on the banks of the Mississippi and its tributaries, and especially in the State of Ohio. Judging from their situation and construction, some of them are thought to have been made for defence, some for religious worship, some for sacrificial or memorial purposes, while others, such as the "Great Serpent" and the "Alligator," are peculiar, and their significance is not known. The essayist was followed by Mr. R. Haddow, who displayed great ability in reading a very difficult selection from Mrs. Browning, entitled "Mother and Poet." The subject "Is prevarication justifiable under any circumstances?" was debated with great skill, showing careful preparation on the part of the speakers. Mr. J. Currie opened on the affirmative by defining prevarication as "wilful deception in word or action." He then asked, when is an action right? We cannot tell, by merely considering the outward manifestations of an action, whether it is right or wrong. An ethical standard is necessary, and this standard must apply to all actions, and must be such that all actions, under any conditions or associations, may be applied to it, and a correct judgment of their moral qualities afforded in every case. To apply this standard cognisance must be taken not merely of ordinary manifestations, but also of motives and the conditions prompting them, and the circumstances under which they are performed. Hence if an action is productive of good results it must be justifiable. Mr. Meldrum supported his leader by showing that to prevaricate is not necessarily to tell a lie; that there are circumstances in which it may be impossible to avoid misleading others; that the imperfect state of society renders deception necessary. The devices of detectives and the stratagems used in war were brought forward to support these positions. Mr. Jamieson argued on the negative, that the Scriptures are explicit in maintaining truth, and that the apparent cases of prevarication in the Bible may be easily explained. He called attention to the great evils that flow from falsehood, citing as examples the effect of the first deception in Eden, the origin of the dogma of infallibility in the Church of Rome, and the recent bank failures in Glasgow and New Jersey. Mr. J. S. MacKay, B.A., sustained the negative, by showing that utility cannot be taken as the standard of morality, since it is altogether too vague. We do not always know what the results of an action will be, and besides, the rightness or wrongness of an act would in that case depend upon a man's education. Further, the sacred character of truth forbids prevarication, because truth is one of the attributes of God, and if we destroy it we detract from the character of God. Moreover, truth is the foundation on which society exists. We must cling to truth regardless of the consequences. Socrates preferred rather to drink the Hemlock than prolong life by doing a wrong action; and the Roman Consul, Regulus, chose a lingering death at the hands of the Carthaginians rather than break his word.

The Chairman, after summing up the arguments gave his decision in favour of the negative. In moving a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the hope was again expressed that the authorities of the College would soon see their way clear to give the Theological students, the benefit of Dr. Proudfoot's stimulating and thorough teaching during the whole of their academic course.

After singing the Doxology, the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Gregg.

JAS. A. HAMILTON,  
 Recording Secretary.

In Micronesia nearly 400 additions to the churches are reported, and the Gilbert Islands are becoming a more promising field.

THE missionaries in Northern India propose a revised Urdu version of the New Testament to correspond with the new English version.

AN Atheistic Congress at Paris recently resolved that parents should be prohibited by law from speaking of religion at home. Meanwhile a committee is preparing for a visit from Moody and Sankey.

THE International Lessor Committee has sometimes been accused of dealing with Scripture in a detached and fragmentary manner in the selection of lesson texts. There will be no such complaints heard regarding the lesson texts for 1882, as they include the entire Gospel of Mark.