

erced to the Confession of Faith however, for the sake of its singularly accurate statements and definitions.

A part of Calvin was also read, viz., that which is comprehended in the Latin Collection (one of our own proper Class Books).—The subject of Calvin's discussion is Repentance and Confession—(refutation of Papist views). In the Biblical Criticism Class, Horne was used as a class book; and considerable portions of it exercised on—especially selections from those parts respecting the manuscripts and versions and the rules of interpretation. In this class the reading of the Greek Text (and occasionally of the Hebrew Bible) was a frequent exercise; the plan preferred being to read such portions as tended to throw light on the questions treated of at the time in the systematic course. In this way the critical analysis of texts came to the aid of our doctrinal expositions.

In the Pastoral Class also a part of the New Testament was read—especially the Epistles of Timothy, but these readings were alternated with lectures on the various duties of the Pastoral office.

As in former sessions, an hour each second Monday was given to Pulpit reading—and as before also, a monthly devotional exercise was held, common to all the members of the College.

Dr. Willis can report favourably of the attendance of the students, though occasionally considerable loss has still been caused to some of them by their withdrawal from Pulpit duty on Sabbaths often detaining them from one or more class exercises. Still, it seemed the aim of the students to give as regular attendance as possible, and any exercises prescribed during the session were, with few exceptions, not only performed, but punctually at their proper time.

Perhaps it belongs to Dr. Willis' department specially, to report the number ready (if God will) to be taken on trials for licence, and already indeed in some cases entered on trials. They amount to seven.

## Communications, &c.

### MISSIONARY NOTICES—CLINTON, &c.

MY DEAR SIR,—I should like in a few observations to turn attention to some of our Mission Stations. Those nearest this locality are Clinton and Grey, both of which I had an opportunity of lately visiting. Clinton is a flourishing little village some dozen of miles on this side of Goderich, with a respectable building for worship, finished outside with its spire, though temporary forms, it is likely, will be within for some time to come. And, albeit, the editor of a certain newspaper, alluded in rather a sarcastic way to its "wee tin steeple," yet many of us are rather partial to a spire, and if it should be a little one, it at least helps to beautify the landscape, and awaken a memory of the father land. A small object which would be almost unnoticed in the city of your habitation, is a thing of note in remote Huron. But leaving the steeple and passing on to graver matters, they have a Sabbath School and Bible Class, conducted by some of our people in the interval between the forenoon and evening services. The ministrations of our missionaries when the road is tolerably good, are well attended to. A list of Elders was nominated some time since and it is to be hoped, that though there may be difficulties to be got over, that this place ere long will have a settled Minister. It formerly formed part of the pastoral sphere of Mr. Foss, well and favourably known to our Church.

The road to Grey, between holes and cross-ways is bad enough, but if the Company's land in the northern part of the Township of McKillop were sold, things would improve in that respect, especially as beyond that, the road through the Government land is already cut out to the full breadth. Even in the wildest desert one may see a sweet spot now and again and there are some such, even in dreary McKillop. It is a God-made sight to see multitudes of wild flowers with their flowing drapery, the little sprinkling of a clearance in the meadow looking ground, while in the distance you notice two splendid tall pines, and beyond the hardwood bush, with its leafy green, encircled by the white blossoms of the wild plum, and, spiritually speaking, very good sights may sometimes be witnessed in the desert as the man of God in Germany has it, "sometimes sheep with the finest fleece are found in the wilderness, and the sweetest note of the nightingale may be heard from the rude copse." In the school house at Ainsleyville, the attendance was good upon the Sabbath when I was there. They are anxious for a dispensation of the solemn ordinance of the Supper and may they go on prospering. In this very sultry weather, it does one good to notice the contributions to various schemes of "Elder of the Church, as reported in your last number." I wish we may have such Elders by hundreds in our Church. "Gold and the Gospel" ought to go together, and when they do so sufficiently, the work of God will have a free course and be productive of more abundant results. The wise men presented unto the infant Saviour gifts out of their treasures, they presented gold, and frankincense, and myrrh,—they did this as well as worshipped, and it is well when worship and liberality go hand in hand. Let our schemes be well supported and let prayer be earnestly offered that God may appear in his glory, and build up more and more the waste places of our Zion.

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I am, &c.,  
W. G.

Egmondville, 1857.

### ORDINATION AT ASHBURN AND UTICA.

DEAR SIR,—On the morning of the 20th of May, we found ourselves in the cars of the Grand Trunk Railroad, on our way to Whitby. On arriving at that thriving town we directed our steps to the residence of the Rev. L. Lowry, the recently settled pastor of the Presbyterian congregation there, who, along with ourselves and the Rev. Mr. McFavish had, by the Presbytery of Toronto, been appointed to attend to the ordination of Mr. Sharp, over the united congregations of Ashburn and Utica. The ordination, we learned, was to take place at Ashburn, which is about ten miles from the town of Whitby, at one o'clock. One of Mr. Lowry's people very kindly placed a carriage and horses at his disposal, and about 10 o'clock we were on our way to Ashburn. We proceeded to the house of Mr. Heron, Elder, who was expecting us, and by whom we were cordially welcomed. We could easily see from the pleasant and animated countenance of our host, that an event was near at hand in which he was specially interested. No wonder our friend was pleased, for the ardent wishes of the people of the place were about to be realized, and a pastor of their own choice settled over them in the Lord. The effort made for the support of the Minister is very creditable, and speaks well for so new a congregation. The salary promised is £150, and from what we saw of the place and people, we do not think they will fail in their promise. At Whitby, the people have a Church nearly completed, and at Ashburn a Church is also in the course of erection. After taking dinner with our worthy host, we proceeded to his huge barn, which had been prepared and put in order for the occasion. A congregation of about 200 had assembled, to whom Mr. Lowry

preached an appropriate sermon from Cor. V., 19 and 20. It was quite evident from the appearance of the congregation that all were intensely interested in the proceedings of the day. After sermon, Mr. Lowry, proposed the usual questions to the Pastor elect, which being satisfactorily answered, he was, by solemn prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry, and admitted to the pastorate of these united congregations. It fell to our lot to address the newly ordained Minister and his flock. At the close of the services the people gave their Pastor a hearty welcome. May he long be spared to break among them the bread of eternal life.

ROBERT C. SWINTON.

June, 1857.

### QUARTERLY REPORT OF PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL—PICTON.

Average number of scholars in attendance.	73
do. do. absent.....	30
do. do. on roll .....	107
Number admitted.....	22
Number left and gone to other parts of Canada, and to Scotland.....	6
No. on roll at commencement of quarter ....	96
do. do. end do. ....	114
Number of teachers admitted .....	2
do. do. left .....	2
Visits paid to families .....	90
do. do. not going to school....	18
Superintendent.....	1
Librarian.....	1
Number of Teachers .....	12
BIBLE CLASS.	
Number on Roll .....	33
Average Attendance.....	20
Number attending Sab. School....	114
Do. do. Bible Class....	33
— 147	

### KEENE—EFFORTS OF LADIES TO PAY OFF MANSE DEBT.

For some time past we have had a Sewing Society in connection with the congregation, and some sales, the proceeds of which were devoted to the various religious objects. Our ladies had resolved to have another late in the fall, but thinking that the present might be a good season for their sale, they set themselves to work with all energy during the week. On the morning of the 13th, in a new building in the village, kindly granted to them by George Read, Esq. In their display there was a regard both for the outer and inner man. There was the staff of life for the inner man, of every shade and variety, including palatable temperance drinks, not the least acceptable, considering the burning heat of the day. For the outer man their was the same adaptation. There was apparel suited to the doll, the child, the young man, the blooming maid, the father and the old matron. All the articles were disposed of, and although the time was so short for making preparation for the sale, it was found in the evening that the proceeds were over £30. This, I believe, is to go to liquidate the debt on the Manse, which is now almost completed, and into which the inexorable claims of the contractors will not allow the pastor to enter until the debt is paid. The day ended happily all pleased with the kind social intercourse enjoyed during the day, and with the result of its proceedings, and above all, happy that they were engaged in a good work, a work that will tell upon the permanence and stability of gospel ordinances here. I am sure that the females in the evening, although feeling jaded with the labours of the day, felt encouraged, and went home determined to persevere in the good work. This is right. Female piety and devotedness in a congregation is just its life,