

# THE O'Kennedy 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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## TO PRESBYTERY CLERKS.

Presbytery Clerks are earnestly requested to forward to the Rev. Wm. Reid, Toronto, the Clerk of the Synod, before the meeting of Synod, which will take place at Toronto, on Tuesday, 14th June, Rolls of their respective Presbyteries, so that the Synod Roll may be made up at the commencement of the Session.

Presbytery Clerks are also requested to forward to the Synod, the necessary certificates and extracts with reference to such Students of Divinity, as may be proposed for being taken on trials for license.

Presbyteries are also directed to report to the Synod such congregations, as have continued to neglect the stated collections.

Presbytery Clerks are also directed to report specially to the Convener of the College Committee, with reference to the examination of Students.

Presbytery Clerks are required by the Synod to prepare and forward condensed reports of all cases of license, ordination, induction, deposition, and death of ministers, within the bounds of the several Presbyteries during the year.

It is desirable that all Overtures, References, Petitions, and other papers to be laid before the Synod, be forwarded as early as possible, so that the business of the Synod may be properly arranged.

It is requested that each extract, &c., be written on a separate sheet of paper, and that each extract, overture or petition, be written on a full sheet of foolscap.

Wm. REID, Synod Clerk.

## Notices of Recent Publications.

**SACRED TRIADS:** by Rev. A. N. Somerville, Glasgow. Thos. Nelson & Sons, London, Edinburgh and New York.

This small publication contains much in little. It consists of fifty-two pages, one for each week or sabbath of the year. A few words, or three lines stand forth in the centre of each page, embodying well chosen remarks; always just three on each of the 52 topics, and each head expressed in the fewest possible words.

For example, triad Seventh, runs thus: three doctrines concerning the Holy Spirit, to be understood:

- I. The Divinity of the Holy Spirit.
  - II. The Personality of the Holy Spirit.
  - III. The Office of the Holy Spirit.
- Or Triad 45—Three seasons in which we should call on God:
- I. Call on God before the day of trouble.
  - II. Call on God in the day of trouble.
  - III. Call on God after the day of trouble.

The heads are without any words of illustration, except a rare marginal note, and so the design has this peculiarity beyond a great many Sabbath School Books, that it is richly and amply suggestive to both Teachers and

Pupils, without exacting much of the memory, and mining down as some catechisms do to a fault, the morsels of divine truth. In avoiding vagueness, we lose the advantage of generalization, and the mind is distracted by minute and verbal details.

The number three, like seven, has been counted "a perfect" or mystical number. But without any mystery, it is true, that in a remarkable variety of cases, subjects most appropriately arrange themselves for luminous discussion, under three heads. We do not say, that each topic here is exhausted. The plan, like rhyme in poetry, may necessitate an occasional sacrifice, here to condensation, there to sound. But what is done by the worthy author is well done, and topics so various, and so fitly chosen, would, in the hands of a judicious Teacher, be found capable of most convenient and profitable discussion under the method indicated in this neat little volume.

CONFESSIO OF FAITH WITH SHORTER CATECHISM—Philadelphia. Presbyterian Board of Publication.

We have before us a well got up, and remarkably cheap edition of the Confession of Faith, to which is appended the Shorter Catechism. The scripture references accompany the various sections of the Confession of Faith. The twenty-third chapter is of course modified, and hence the edition would not exactly suit us. We should rejoice however to see a similar edition, without alteration or modification, for circulation amongst our people, and especially the young.

THE PARLOUR PREACHER, OR, SHORT ADDRESSES TO THOSE WHO ARE DETERMINED TO WIN CHRIST; By W. Mason, author of "The Spiritual Treasury." Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

The addresses contained in this little volume are plain, pointed, and evangelical. We trust the volume may have a place on many a table, and that it may be, in many a dwelling, a 'Parlour Preacher.'

THE GOSPEL FOUNTAIN, OR THE ANXIOUS YOUTH MADE HAPPY. By James Wood D. D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.

The object of the author of this book is to state, prove, and illustrate some of the great doctrines of the gospel, as embodied more particularly in the standards of the Presbyterian Church. The mode of illustration is by anecdotes, which are varied, appropriate, and well selected. The work is well worthy of the attention of parents.

THE CHURCH OF GOD AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT, OF THE GOSPEL, AND THE IDEA, STRUCTURE, AND FUNCTIONS THEREOF. A Discourse in Four Parts. By Rev. Stuart Robinson, Professor