

Conveners of the several committees of Synod. Messrs. Abraham, McMechan, Leslie and Perrin, ministers, and Messrs. Gordon, Burns, McClellan and Hunter, elders, were appointed commissioners to the General Assembly. Dr. Robertson, Superintendent of Missions of the North-West, was nominated as Moderator of the General Assembly. Messrs. Leslie and Burns were appointed on the Synod's Committee on Bills and Overtures. Mr. McMechan expressed his adherence to his resignation and produced a medical certificate with regard to the state of his health. The Presbytery, with great regret, agreed to accept his resignation and dissolve the pastoral relation between him and the congregation of Port Perry, said dissolution to take effect on the fourth day of May. Mr. Abraham was appointed to declare the church vacant and act as Moderator of Session during the vacancy. Mr. A. McLaren, with permission of Presbytery, fell from his Protest and Appeal to the Synod. The Presbytery agreed to sever the tie between him and Enniskillen, Blackstock and First Cartwright congregation, said dissolution to take effect after the last Sabbath of June. Mr. McKean was appointed to declare the church vacant on the first Sabbath of July and to act as Moderator of Session during the vacancy. The congregation of Pickering asked leave of the Presbytery to sell their present church and lot and with the proceeds to aid in building a new church on the lot adjoining the manse. The Presbytery granted the request and expressed gratification with the prosperity of the congregation. A committee was appointed to nominate the standing committees of Presbytery and report at next quarterly meeting, which is to be held in Bowmanville on the third Tuesday of July at half-past ten o'clock a.m.—A. A. DRUMMOND, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.—This Presbytery met recently in Chalmers Hall, Halifax. Dr. Burrows and Rev. A. P. Logan being present were invited to correspond. Mr. Gunn's resignation of the congregation of Gore and Kennetcook and Mr. George's of the congregation of St. James' Church, Dartmouth, were accepted, to take effect about May 1st. Mr. Campbell to declare the first named vacant May 3rd, and Mr. Jack the second, May 10th. The Presbytery part with these brethren reluctantly, for they have been faithful labourers in their respective fields—Mr. Gunn for fifteen years, and Mr. George for four. But both had their minds made up to leave, and could not be induced to change them. Their brethren of the Presbytery will follow them with best wishes and prayers. Dr. Burns being advised by his physician to seek rest and change was cordially granted leave of absence for some months. The Presbytery offered to assist in providing supply for his pulpit. It is the earnest desire and prayer of all his brethren that the contemplated change and rest may by God's blessing result in restoration to his wonted good health. The Doctor informed the Presbytery that on the first of July next he would if spared complete the forty-fourth year of his ministry. The reports on Sabbath Schools, State of Religion and Temperance were read by the Conveners of the Committees on those subjects respectively, adopted and ordered to be forwarded to the Conveners of the Assembly's committees. Rev. John Cameron was appointed to moderate in a call at Yarmouth to Rev. E. D. Millar, at a time convenient to all parties. The General Assembly will be asked for leave to receive Rev. Dr. Burrows, late of Boston, and Rev. James Burgess of the Church of Scotland as ministers of this Church. A communication from the students of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, asking that power to dispense ordinances be given to a student catechist, going to Labrador, was remitted to the Assembly, with the request that the Presbytery be empowered to grant the same. The Presbytery met in St. Matthew's Church, April 22, at the conclusion of the closing exercises of the college, for the licensing of students, and will meet at Windsor, May 12 at 11 a.m., to license and ordain a missionary, and for other business.—ALLAN SIMPSON, Pres. Clerk.

HIGHER RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

SENIOR ESSAY.—Maggie Munsie, Oliver's Ferry, Ont.; D.; Effie E. Storer, Battleford, Assa.; D.; Janet M. Lyall, New Carlisle, Que.; M.; Elizabeth McTavish, N. Bruce, D.; John McClure, Brampton, D.; Maggie McConnell, Beeton, Ont.; D.; Edgar Kaulbeck, Mid. Musquodob't, N.S.; P.; F. Corrie Wilson, Carp, D.; Laura MacPherson, Ottawa, M.; Jennie Porter, Strabane, D.; Georgie Sayer, Klock's Mills, Ont., D.

Department.	Junior.	Intermed.	Senior.	Total.
Biblical	174	106	28	308
Doctrinal	49	17	20	86
History	30	21	18	67
Essays	12	15	12	39
Totals.	265	159	75	500

Department.	Medals.	Prizes.	Diplomas.	Total.
Biblical	3	40	154	197
Doctrinal	3	6	46	55
History	4	18	33	55
Essay	9	9	18	36
Totals.	19	73	251	343

OBITUARY.

GEORGE BARRON.

Another of the very few now left of the early settlers of Upper Nichol has just passed away, at the advanced age of eighty-eight—Mr. George Barron, J. P., well-known for many years and highly respected, as one of the leading men of the district. Mr. Barron was a native of the city of Aberdeen. He received the good common school education that has been the Scotchman's privilege since the time of the Reformation.

Nearly sixty years have passed since the first steps were taken in the settlement of Upper Nichol. The subject of this notice like many others at that period had had his attention turned to Canada, as holding out the prospect of a reward to the capable and industrious labourer, scarcely to be attained in Scotland, and the spring of 1830 saw him on this side of the Atlantic. In 1834 he was led to make choice of the new settlement in Upper Nichol, to which the name of Bon Accord was given.

In 1835 Mr. Barron was married to Miss Elspet Watt, a sister of Mr. Alex. Watt, and of Mrs. John Keith, with whom he had formed acquaintance during his residence in Whitby. Mr. Barron cordially deeded a portion of his land for a church and burying ground. A church was erected in 1839, known as the log church, in which divine service was for many years conducted by the late Rev. Dr. Barrie of Eramosa, and in his absence by the elders and other members of the congregation, among whom Mr. Barron took a prominent place, taking charge of the Sabbath school and teaching a Bible class of young men, many of whom are still with us and have a grateful remembrance of his devotedness to their Christian welfare. It is a notable circumstance that, at the funeral, five of these young men, all elders of the Presbyterian church, acted as pall-bearers.

In 1863, he rented his farm and took up his residence in Elora. The same year he and Mrs. Barron connected themselves with the congregation of Chalmers Church, of which he was chosen in 1869 to be an elder, whose duties he was very capable of discharging, being unusually well informed in the truths of Christianity, and having a good utterance both in prayer and exhortation. Few men had more correct views of the gospel of our salvation, and without anything of a very marked character in his Christian experience, he had an abiding persuasion that he was under unspeakable obligations to the grace of God that he had been made to differ from his former self.

Mr. Barron was one of a family of nine, of whom four survive—two brothers and two sisters. Mrs. Barron, whose age is nearly the same as that of her late husband, is left comfortably provided for, and on her decease, the bulk of her estate, after the payment of certain legacies, goes to the different missions of the Presbyterian Church, with the exception of \$500 to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, to which he also donated \$500 during his lifetime.

MRS. J. C. FORMAN.

On a recent Sabbath, preaching to a very large congregation in St. John's Church, Port Perry, from the text: "Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh," the Rev. John McMechan referred to the death of Mrs. J. C. Forman:—

"What a melancholy illustration have we not had of the solemn truth of the words: 'In such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh,' since we last met in this sanctuary. One whose kindly and familiar presence was with us a week ago is not with us to-day, and shall not be with us again here forever. How little did our departed sister, how little did any other hearer, apprehend that ere the hours of the holy day would end she should be in the article of death. Yet so it came to pass. In such an hour as we thought not, the Son of Man came! You are all informed of the mournful particulars—how, ministering to her sick husband and after reviewing the vicissitudes of their married life, she read the precious and comforting words of Jesus in John xiv., and then, assisting him to bed, returned to the sitting-room where an hour later she was found lying in an apoplectic fit. But we are all persuaded that her lovely, useful, well-rounded life was complete in Christ, that she was 'ready' to be offered, that her work was done, that she had fought a good fight against protracted bodily maladies with patience and even cheerfulness, had finished her course and kept the faith, and is now wearing the crown of righteousness which her Lord had laid up for her. Her whole life was a life of preparation for heaven. She was a daughter of the Scottish Manse, taught out of the Scriptures and drinking from those wells of salvation ever since she first sat on her father's knee or nestled in her mother's bosom, and she grew in grace as she grew in years, developing a character of great sweetness and usefulness as a teacher of secular knowledge and of religious truth. Of all that she was as a wife and mother, those who have been bereaved of her companionship, good counsel, helpfulness, devotion and love are alone competent to speak, though we all can recognize the outcome of her life and work in the character of that family and household. All who knew her appreciated her neighbourliness, her sympathy for the suffering and the sorrowing ones and her practical kindness to the poor and needy. All felt her cordial greeting and her sunny smile as a benediction, and never is religion so attractive in the disciple as when it is so glad some and happy. Her regular attendance at every diet of worship on the Lord's Day and her punctual appearance every Thursday evening at prayer-meeting were most noteworthy and praiseworthy. She loved Zion and Jerusalem and all that promoted the peace and the prosperity thereof. All that appertained to the cause of missions, and especially to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (and for years she was vice-president of our local auxiliary), lay near her heart. In all these lines she manifested the spirit that was in her, and set an example which all who loved her person and who revere her memory should imitate more sedulously than ever. Her loss shall long be seriously felt in this congregation and outside of it as well, but the feeling will be alleviated by the persuasion that hers is utter and everlasting gain. Truly, 'the memory of the just is blessed.' May it be the aspiration of every heart, 'Let me die the death of the righteous.'"

Then give we thanks, O Lord, for her,
Gone in Thy faith and fear,
For good she wrought, for seed she sowed
And left to ripen here;
For all the honour, love and peace
That keeps her name so dear.

British and Foreign.

THE National Bible Society, of Scotland, is about to send out two additional agents to China.

THE will of the late Rev. John Clelland, who died recently at Ayr, shows a personality of \$100,000.

THE late Mr. David Morton, of Perth, has left the most of his estate to the schemes of the U. P. Church.

No fewer than eleven lady missionaries have lately been obliged to leave the Punjab, chiefly on account of ill health.

THE M'Crie-Roxburgh congregation, Edinburgh, are endeavouring to secure Mr. Lee, of Nairn, for their vacant pulpit.

MR. STEAD proposes a general council of representatives of all the Churches against Sir Charles Dilke's candidature.

LORD ABERDEEN occupied the pulpit of Craigdam Church, Tarves, on a recent Sunday, when he delivered an address to farm servants.

THE Free and United Presbyterian Presbyteries of Dundee have agreed to arrange for a general exchange of pulpits on the first Sabbath of October.

AN overture proposed by Mr. Moody-Stuart in Lockerbie Presbytery in favour of a union of the three Presbyterian Churches was rejected by nine to three.

A MOVEMENT is on foot for a mission on a gigantic scale to the young men of London, its object being to urge upon them the claims of the heathen and Mohammedan world.

MR. J. H. DICKSON has given notice in Glasgow Free Church Presbytery of an overture asking the Assembly to adopt means to diffuse information on systematic giving.

BELFAST Presbytery, as to the number of families, represents about one-fifth of the whole Church; it contains 14,000 stipend-payers, and raised last year for all purposes \$228,830.

THE Rev. John Smith, M.A., of Edinburgh, holds that the time has come when the multitudinous temperance organizations should be represented in one central council by delegation or otherwise.

IN the West Church at Kirriemuir, on Sunday week, a woman is said to have hurled her Bible from the gallery where she was sitting at one of the male members of the choir who had fallen asleep.

A MOTION expressing sympathy with the aspirations of the crofters who have been deprived of their former interest in the soil was unanimously agreed to by Sutherland and Caithness Free Church Synod.

THE small but handsome church erected in Albany Street, Edinburgh, for the deaf-mutes was opened on 18th ult., Sir William Muir taking the leading part in the ceremony. Rev. W. J. Hansell is the pastor.

ANDREW MILNE was refused as missionary and then offered to go as a servant. He blacked Robert Morrison's shoes and did a servant's work for a time, but became at length one of the greatest missionaries of the world.

THE Rev. George Allison, of Kilbarchan, having entered his jubilee year as a minister, Paisley U. P. Presbytery has appointed a committee to co-operate with his congregation in making arrangements for the celebration of the event.

GLENLG Free Church Synod has unanimously approved of the overture adopted by Lochcarron Presbytery anted the decisions of last Assembly in the cases of Professors Dods and Bruce. The overture against disestablishment and in favour of the reconstruction of the Church was agreed to by a majority.

THE Rev. Robert Collie, F.L.S., the new Moderator of the General Assembly of New South Wales, gave a vivid sketch in his inaugural address of the history of the Presbyterian Church in that colony, and called special attention to the important place in the federation scheme occupied by missions to the heathen.

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PROFESSOR BLAIRIE boasts that New College, Edinburgh, is the largest theological institution of any denomination in Britain, numbering this session 166 students. One-fourth are from other countries, representing Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia.

TONGUE Free Church Presbytery has been instructed by Sutherland Synod to visit a congregation within its bounds whose minister has no elders or Kirk-Session, and absents himself from the Presbytery meetings. It was suggested by Mr. Connell, of Thurso, that his sustentation supply should be stopped, but it was replied that this could not be done.

PRINCIPAL CAIRD's continued indisposition prevented the fulfilment of his engagement to preach in Glasgow cathedral at anniversary services. Dr. Burns conducted the service in the morning, and in the afternoon Mr. McEwan, of Claremont United Presbyterian Church, officiated, Mr. Orrock Johnston, of Westbourne Free Church, preaching at night.

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