

the time of our departure till our return. What is the reason that it seems impossible to resist the temptation to sit up late when ministerial brethren meet?

A. B.

## News of the Churches.

### ANNIVERSARY SERVICES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, HAMILTON.

On Tuesday the 6th June, a public meeting was held in the Congregational Church Hamilton in celebration of the opening. After an introductory address by the Rev. Thomas Pullar, the pastor, in which he stated that during his pastoral more than 140 members had been added to the Church; 83 had left for other places, died or been separated, the highest number had been 134; and the present number 108:—Rev. George Smith D.D., addressed the meeting with power and beauty on the progress of Congregational Churches in England. Several anthems and hymns were sung, and the meeting was closed by prayer and Benediction by Dr. Smith.

On Lord's day the 11th June, appropriate services were conducted and sermons preached—in the morning by Rev. T. S. Ellerhy of Toronto, who also preached in the afternoon; and in the evening by Rev. Henry Wilkes D.D.

On Wednesday evening the 14th June, a public meeting was held, of which we copy the following account from the *Hamilton Times*:—

The Rev. Thomas Pullar, pastor of the Church, presided. The Rev. J. L. Poore, who has visited the Australian Colonies three times, delivered an incomparable address on the rise, progress and present state of those interesting and rapidly advancing infant empires. He described the state of the churches of the various denominations, the efforts which the Congregational Churches had made to evangelize and to plant churches in those regions, with the remarkable success which had followed their exertions. Mr. Poore graphically portrayed various scenes witnessed by himself in his exploring tours in those Southern lands. He highly commended the vast liberality of the Australian Churches in sustaining the institutions of Christianity among themselves, holding it up for the imitation of the Canadian Churches. The revered gentleman then referred in terms of warm commendation and congratulation to the efforts of the Congregational Church in this city to maintain the cause of God among themselves and to extinguish the entire debt on their place of worship. He understood that the last appeal for money in this regard would be made that night. "Their zeal has provoked very many," and he trusted their example would be extensively followed. After the collection was taken up, the Treasurer, Wm. Edgar, Esq., stated that exactly six years ago the public meeting in connexion with the opening services was held, and about six and a half years since their present pastor was inducted on the day the foundation stone of the edifice was laid; during the whole of the time they had supported the debt on the church themselves. With some aid from Britain they had now extinguished the debt on the church edifice. That very day arrangements had been made that put the church in possession of means to pay the whole debt and to keep the place in good repairs for six years to come. Mr. Edgar said that, as a church, were deeply indebted to the Colonial Society which Rev. Mr. Poore represents, for aid long continued, but since the present pastoral began such aid had not been required, for during that period they had raised for all purposes \$13,229, being upwards of \$2000 annually, and more than the average sum of \$20 to each member annually. He trusted they would now go on to the enlarged schemes of usefulness so well unfolded by their esteemed visitor, Mr. Poore. J. B. Laing, M.D., one of the deacons, then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. George Smith, D.D., and to the Rev. J. L. Poore, for the kind and effective services; which was heartily responded to by the congregation. This closed a series of most interesting and effective anniversary services culminating in the extinction of the church debt and gladdening the hearts of all the friends of the church.