

according to instructions he had declared the charge of Knox Church, Elora, vacant in the usual way. Mr. Beattie, from the committee, submitted a minute relating to the loss sustained by the death of Rev. Hugh Rose, which on motion, duly made and seconded, was approved and ordered to be inserted in the records of the Presbytery as its minute on the subject, and the Clerk was instructed to send a copy to Mrs. Rose, and one to the session and congregation of Knox Church. An estimate was presented by the Committee on Finance of the income necessary to meet the expenditure of the ensuing year, showing that a rate of eight cents per family must be levied for ordinary Presbytery expenses. Mr. Beattie gave in a report from the standing Committee on Sabbath Schools. This committee, with those on Temperance and the State of Religion, were instructed to make arrangements for holding the usual annual conferences on these subjects and report at the next ordinary meeting. A careful and elaborate report was read from the committee to whom had been referred the exercises of students labouring in the bounds, and the same was approved and thanks given to the committee for the pains they had taken in the fulfilment of their duties. A report was read from the deputation appointed to visit Hawkesville and Linwood and inquire as to their ability to contribute more largely to the support of ordinances among them; the report showed that the people were contributing liberally, and were unable of themselves to raise a sufficient amount to procure the supply of preaching by students and much less by probationers. A call from the congregation of Erskine Church, Hamilton, to the late Mr. Rose was produced. The Clerk stated that he had notified the Clerk of Hamilton Presbytery of Mr. Rose's death, and the call was laid aside. A letter was read from Mrs. Rose, thanking the Presbytery for the expression of its sympathy at the meeting held in Acton on the 23rd of August, and for the provision made for the supply of Mr. Rose's pulpit. Dr. Middlemiss reported from the committee on the proposed triennial visitation of congregations in the bounds a series of questions to be put (1) to the minister, (2) to the Kirk Session, and (3) to the deacons or managers, and the same were approved, and the Clerk was directed to get a sufficient number of copies printed for the use of the Presbytery. Messrs. McKen and Grant and Dr. Junor, being present, were invited to sit with the court. A petition was submitted from the congregation of the First Church, Eramosa, praying the Presbytery to appoint one of their number to moderate in a call which they proposed to give to one to become their minister. The petition was granted, Dr. Wardrope, interim Moderator of Session, was authorized to hold a moderation on such a day as may be found most suitable. Arrangements were made for the supply of mission stations during the winter, the matter being left in the hands of the respective Sessions. Mr. Mulvan was appointed Moderator of the Session of Knox Church, Elora, during the vacancy, and the Moderator and Clerk of Presbytery were associated with the elders of that congregation to secure supply for the pulpit. The Clerk was directed to report the vacancy to the committee of the General Assembly on Supply and Distribution for appointments from the probationers' roll for six Sabbaths of the ensuing quarter. It was also agreed to inform the Session that \$12 a Sabbath would be expected as the rate of remuneration for supply furnished in accordance with the regulations of the General Assembly. The Clerk reported the amount required for the Synod Fund (\$40), and the proportion required from each congregation to raise it. He was instructed to prepare a statement of the sums required for the Schemes of the Church in the Presbytery on the basis of the estimate drawn up and circulated by the Agents of the Church (Dr. Reid and Mr. Warden), and to send a copy to each congregation and mission station. Dr. Torrance, Convener, Dr. Middlemiss, Mr. J. C. Smith and Mr. Charles Davidson were appointed a committee to consider all business contained in the Minutes of the late General Assembly, calling for the attention or action of the Presbytery, and to report as soon as convenient. Mr. Rae's name was substituted for that of the late Mr. Rose on all committees on which the latter had been appointed. Next meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, on the third Tuesday of November, at half past ten o'clock, forenoon. The roll having been called and marked, the proceedings closed with the benediction.

PRESBYTERY OF PETERBOROUGH.—This Presbytery met in St. Andrew's Church, Peterborough, on the 13th inst. There were twenty-one ministers and seven elders present. Rev. Mr. Torrance was chosen Moderator for the next six months. A call from Mill Street Church, Port Hope, to Rev. William McWilliam, M.A., LL.B., was read and sustained. Arrangements were made for the induction of Rev. Mr. McWilliam on the 13th of October, at two o'clock p.m.; Rev. Mr. Cameron to preside, Rev. Mr. McLeod to preach, Rev. Mr. Bell to explain the policy of the Church, Rev. Mr. Torrance to address the minister, and Rev. Mr. McEwen the people. Very encouraging and interesting reports were presented from several of the mission fields within the bounds. It was agreed to ask the Presbytery of Lindsay to take the superintendence of the mission fields of Minden and Haliburton. Rev. Messrs. Carmichael, Ewing and Bennett were appointed a committee to visit the Lakefield, North Smith and Harvey stations with a view to the union of North Smith and Harvey, so as to form a separate pastoral charge. The name of Mr. Hosack, barrister, was ordered to be forwarded to the college authorities as a student of the first year in Theology. There was held a conference on the subject of Systematic Benevolence. The conference was opened by Rev. Mr. Bennett, who had prepared a Scheme for the acceptance of the Presbytery with a view to the increase of liberality in the congregations and mission stations. The recommendations were received and adopted, and copies ordered to be printed for distribution in the congregations. The following are the recommendations: 1. That all the members of our Church be earnestly exhorted to devote a fair proportion of their income for the support of religious and benevolent objects. 2. That our congregations be recommended to adopt the weekly offering system as the best plan for the raising of funds for the maintenance of Gospel ordinances

at home and abroad. 3. That the Session of each congregation be requested to take steps to give all the people under their care, who are willing, the opportunity of contributing weekly to the stipend fund and to the Schemes of the Church, and that the members of Sessions themselves be affectionately exhorted to show a good example of liberality to the other members of the congregation. 4. That in order to the carrying out of the foregoing recommendations suitable subscription lists be drawn up for use in each of the congregations. The committee on Evangelistic Work gave in their report. The report was ordered to be printed, and copies sent to the Sessions of the Church. The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in Mill Street Church, Port Hope, on the second Tuesday of January, at ten o'clock a.m. Mr. McArthur, a student missionary at Havelock, read a discourse, which was heartily sustained by the Presbytery. A report was read to the effect that trustees had been appointed to take charge of the church property at Oak Hill. Messrs. Carmichael and Thompson were appointed to hold a series of evangelistic services at Minden and Haliburton at a time most suitable to themselves and the people. The Presbytery resolved to hold Sabbath school institutes at Hastings, Peterborough, Millbrook and Grafton. The following minute was adopted in connection with the death of the Rev. J. W. Smith, to be engrossed on the records of Presbytery: "In view of the removal by death, on the 21st of June last, of the Rev. J. W. Smith, late minister of Grafton and Vernonville, this Presbytery desire to put on record their high appreciation of his worth and work. They are thankful to the Great Head of the Church for the grace given to their departed father, as manifested in the zeal, ability and fidelity with which, during a period of thirty-six years, he has discharged, to an attached flock, the active duties of the pastorate. They bear testimony to his faithful attendance on the courts of the Church and his unwearied efforts to advance her interests, both by his steadfast adherence to her principles, and his effective advocacy of the Schemes. They also remember with gratitude the uniform kindness which has marked his intercourse with the members of the Presbytery, and the faithful counsels by which he sought to promote her well-being. In his removal they would hear the voice of the Master addressed to each, 'Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.' The Presbytery rejoice to know that that cheerful piety which characterized Mr. Smith's life in the various relationships in which he was placed enabled him to sustain severe affliction, and took away from him all fear in the hour of death. They unite in an expression of deepest sympathy with his surviving partner, praying that the God of all comfort, who has hitherto sustained her may gladden her spirit with increasing tokens of His gracious presence and blessing."—W. BENNETT, *Pres. Clerk*.

OBITUARY.

THE REV. HUGH ROSE, ELORA.

At its last meeting, the Presbytery of Guelph adopted the following minute: It having seemed good to our heavenly Father to take from the Church on earth to his eternal rest the Rev. Hugh Rose, M.A., pastor of Knox Church, Elora, we as members of this Presbytery would humbly bow to the Divine Will, and through this visitation be reminded of our own mortality, and of the time when our work here will be ended. During a period of nearly three years, in which he was a member of this court, he was regular in his attendance on its meetings, and always deeply interested in the work of the Church as done by us. We desire to record the very high regard entertained toward him by his co-presbyters, and also by a rapidly increasing circle of friends who were drawn to him by his zeal in the cause of Christ, and his literary and aesthetic tastes, and by public labours voluntarily and disinterestedly undertaken. Throughout his short pastorate in Knox Church, Elora, he performed his ministerial duties with great diligence and fidelity. We record with gratitude the success which attended his arduous efforts put forth in behalf of the congregation to which he ministered, and the valuable qualities of mind and heart which gave freshness and power to his preaching of the Gospel of Christ. While sympathizing deeply with the congregation in the loss of a pastor so gifted and faithful, and with Mrs. Rose and her children who have been deprived of a loving husband and father, we rejoice with them in the assurance that the crown of life is now his, and for ourselves in the fact that though for so short a time we have been associated with our departed brother, whose warm hearted sympathy, genial spirit, zeal for Christ's work and sound views of truth, have made him an inspiration to very many, so that he yet speaks after his death.

MR. JAMES M'DONALD, PROSPECT, MANITOBA.

The Presbytery of Brandon, Man., adopted the following minute relating to the loss sustained by the death of Mr. James McDonald:

The Presbytery has learned with great regret of the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. James McDonald, an elder of Prospect and High Bluff, and a member of this court; that the Presbytery desire to record its estimate of his high character and consistent life. He was one of the first settlers in Prospect, and as a man and as a Christian he was held in high esteem, and by counsel and personal effort he has been foremost for advancing temperance and all that pertains to the moral and spiritual welfare of the neighbourhood. And his attendance at the meetings was most exemplary, and the Presbytery would record its sympathy with the congregation at the loss sustained in the removal of so esteemed an elder, and with the family of the deceased in their sore bereavement; and the Presbytery would hear the voice of God speaking with members saying, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." The committee would record that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Session of High Bluff and Prospect, and another to the family of the deceased.

The twenty second Protestant Church in Rome is at present in course of erection.

Sabbath School Teacher.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

Oct. 8,
1887.

THE TEMPEST STILLED.

Matt. 8:
18-27.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?—Matt. viii. 26.

SHORTER CATECHISM.

Question 42.—The Saviour has taught us that the law of God has to do with the whole of man's nature, with the outward acts of life and, above all, with the heart. Obedience to God's law begins in the soul. Love to God and love to man must be its supreme motive. We must love the Lord with all our heart's affection, with all our soul's desires, with the whole strength of our being, with our entire spiritual, intellectual and moral nature. God must have the supreme place in our heart and life. This the first table of the moral law sets forth. The second, under the same animating principle, love, relates to the duties we owe our neighbour. We are bound to love him as we love ourselves.

INTRODUCTORY.

Jesus was still pursuing His beneficent ministry in the neighbourhood of Capernaum, by the shore of the Lake of Galilee. He had passed a busy day. From morning till dark He had been engaged in doing good to the bodies and souls of men. He had healed one who was blind and dumb and a victim of demonic possessions. He had encountered the opposition and cavilling of the Pharisees and other opponents, and now, wearied with the labours of the day, and seeing no immediate prospect of rest, because of the crowds that had gathered around Him, the order is given to prepare the boat to cross the lake, a sail of about six or eight miles. Before embarking he had an interview with two

I. Half-Hearted Disciples.—Jesus had the power of attracting all classes to Himself. The little children came fearlessly. Outcasts did not feel repelled, the common people heard him gladly. The Scribes in general did not regard Him with favour, but one of that somewhat exclusive and self-sufficient class approaches, and says, "I will follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest." He surely is a promising disciple. What expression of more complete devotion than this had any of His accepted disciples uttered? He who knoweth what is in man discerns more clearly than the Scribe can possibly do that the right motive is wanting. Not complete devotion to Jesus, not unmixed motives animated the Scribe. He was drawn toward the Wonder-worker and the sublime Teacher, but the answer of the Saviour would lead to the inference that self-seeking was the guiding motive. Christ did not repel him. He never sends any sincere seeker away, but by the revelation He made to the Scribe He enabled the self-seeker to see himself. "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man hath not where to lay His head." What self-denial on the part of Him who was Lord of Nature, Lord of all! Another disciple comes with the request, "Suffer me first to bury my father." This would seem not only a natural but becoming wish. But Jesus answers, "Follow Me; and let the dead bury their dead." The Saviour does not condemn the discharge of natural filial duties. He teaches their relative importance. There are duties more important to the living than in long and elaborate mourning for the dead common among the Jews. To follow Christ in the salvation of souls is of more importance than fruitless wailing over dead bodies.

II. The Stilling of the Tempest.—The Lake of Galilee is from its position exposed to frequent and violent storms. The winds from the northern mountain ranges sweep down upon the waters, and they are soon lashed into fury. The Saviour and His disciples had put out from shore, but they are soon exposed to an awful storm. The angry waves break over the little vessel, "but He was asleep," calm and untroubled amid the rage of the elements. Not so the disciples. In their despair they awake Him and cry, "Lord save us; we perish." They felt that they could not save themselves, and they cry fervently for help. It was the best thing to do. The infinite Saviour first calms their fears by the unruffled serenity of His demeanour, and the question he puts to them: "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?" The danger seemed great, but the great Saviour was with them. Him they could fully trust, but their faith was not so strong as it ought to have been considering the opportunities they had enjoyed. Then He who but a few minutes before had been lying in innocent sleep now arose and rebuked the winds and the sea. Waves threw chains into the sea to quell the storm, but the waves spurned his impotent fury. King Canute ordered the waves to stay their advance, but to the dismay of the servile and flattering courtiers they continued to dash in upon the shore. When Christ speaks to the waves He is obeyed. There was a great calm. The miracle was complete. The winds died away and the waters were instantly still. What a change! The boat floated on the placid bosom of the lake. The fears of the disciples were dispelled. With grateful and quiet hearts they marvelled, saying, "What manner of Man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?" Only the God-man can command, and only He is so obeyed.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

No excuse can be pleaded for not following Christ.

If Christ's service is placed first, there will be time and opportunity for all other duties.

In the voyage of life there will be storms to try the faith of Christ's disciples.

Christ is the only refuge from the storm.

Christ has power over all things. Therefore He is able to save unto the uttermost,