

ent standing committees. Home Missions—Rev. J. E. Munro, Foreign Missions—Rev. P. Wright; Augmentation Fund—Rev. P. Wright; Church Life and Work—Rev. Jos. White; Sabbath Schools—Mr. W. W. Miller; Manitoba College—Rev. R. Paterson; Examination of Students—Rev. Jas. Douglas; Statistics—Rev. F. McRae; Church Property—Mr. A. D. McLeod. The next meeting of Presbytery is to be held at Portage La Prairie, September 16th, at 7.30 p.m.—FARQUHAR McRAE, Clerk.

Off to Honan.

THE interest taken in Foreign Missions was illustrated in two delightful farewell meetings, held on the eve of the departure of Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Goforth and Miss Annie McKenzie. On Saturday night, the 11th inst., the first of these meetings was held in the Mission Hall on Mission Avenue. It was in connection with this mission that Miss McKenzie laboured so successfully as Bible woman, for four years. It was extremely affecting to see the large meeting, many of whom had very little of this world's goods but had tender hearts full of affection for one who had brought light into many a home and peace into many a heart, in that district of the city. A little girl of six years read a neatly worded address in the name of her Sabbath school class, and presented a gold ring as a token of their affection, which Miss McKenzie happily accepted as a pledge of their united loyalty to Christ. Mrs. Glover, in the name of other workers in the mission, presented a beautiful travelling rug and a purse containing about \$20, to which Miss McKenzie in her usually happy style, responded, sketching her connection with the mission and pleading with her hearers to be loyal to the Lord. It is usually regarded as an important qualification for mission work, that the candidate has been a missionary at home. In this respect Miss McKenzie has few equals. Short addresses were afterwards delivered by Mr. Henry O'Brien, who occupied the chair, Rev. Mr. John Salmon, Rev. R. P. MacKay, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Sampson, Mrs. Goforth, and Mr. Gartshore, after which the meeting was brought to a close.

The second meeting was held in Knox church on Sabbath evening, which was very largely attended notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather. It was a happy thought to make it a communion service, which was profoundly impressive. Dr. Parsons read the Scripture lessons, after which the congregation heartily sang the hymn, "Rock of Ages." Rev. Prof. MacLaren offered the consecration prayer when the sacred emblems were dispensed by Dr. Parsons, assisted by the Rev. R. P. McFay. After the feast several short addresses were delivered in a spirit that was entirely in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion. Dr. Scofield read Luke xxiv. 47-48, 1st 2 Cor. v. 14-15 to show how suitable it was, as a communion service should be connected with a missionary meeting, indeed emphasizing the thought that any one who has not an interest in missions has failed to understand the import of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Mr. Hamilton Cassels, with lawyer-like clearness and force, spoke of the need and urgency of this work. If, as we believe, there is only one Saviour, and that without Him the heathen are perishing; if they cannot be sure in Him of whom they have not heard, and they cannot hear without a preacher, surely the case is an urgent one and needs immediate and prayerful attention. Mr. R. S. Gourlay, who with Mr. Cassels had been appointed to represent the Foreign Mission Committee, spoke appropriate words upon the privilege of abiding in Christ and of the power of prayer, assuring the missionaries of the continued interest of the Church and the certainty of the Divine care. Dr. Parsons said he felt sure he voiced the wish of the congregation in asking the missionaries to say a few words. Mrs. Goforth reminded them of the meeting in that church over eight years ago, when in saying farewell so many of them pledged their prayers in their behalf, and she felt sure that these pledges had been redeemed and answered in the grace given during the stormy days through which the mission had passed. Honan is a difficult field. Hudson Taylor said when he heard that the Canadian Church had chosen it. "If they enter Honan they will have to enter upon their knees." She

implored the Church not to criticize the missionaries, for they were imperfect like other men, but rather to pray the more that they might be able to accomplish the work assigned them. Miss McKenzie followed with words of peculiar tenderness, finding expression for her desires in behalf of missionaries and the home Church in the Song of Solomon, vi. 10. "Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners." That she took to represent the zeal and power of the Church, giving forth in the Lord's service, and asked the prayers of the Church that all at home and abroad might be endowed with that power.

Mr. Mitchell, who is a fine athletic specimen of manhood, spoke of the manner in which the Lord led him into this work, removing all obstacles and making the way plain. He too solicited the prayers of the Church that they might be able to fight a good fight and finish their course with joy. The last address was given by the Rev. R. P. MacKay, the secretary of Foreign Missions, in which he dwelt upon another sacramental feast spoken of in the seventh chapter of the Revelation, which will come by-and-by, and at which there will be present a great multitude which no man can number, and amongst them Chinese from Honan, who will be there because these missionaries are going away from us to teach them. It will be in the presence of the throne, they will be robed in white, and the Lamb shall feed them. He drew especial attention to the statement that they came through great tribulation. Several had said to him during the last days, that it was not right to send out missionaries when there is such trouble in China, but said he how have victories been won in the past? Was it by retreating at the first appearance of danger? Mr. MacKay at this point read in the xi. chap. of Heb. the closing verses descriptive of the tribulations of the early Church—and asked why this was recorded. Was it that the Church should retreat? No, but that they might cast aside every weight, gird on their armour, and win similar victories. These martyrs of old are speaking to the Church still, with a power such as they would not have had had they not gone through the great tribulation. Already letters are speaking of the fruits of these trials in China in the loyalty of the native Christians, risking their own lives in defence of the missionaries. Mr. MacKay said, "God may be doing His best work for China's salvation through these distressing experiences." This brought to a close a meeting of unusual tenderness and power—after which many came forward to say good-bye.

On Monday at 3 p.m. there was a large gathering at the Union Station to see the missionaries off. The crowd sang: "All hail the power of Jesus' name," "Blest be the tie," and as the train moved out they sang, "God be with you till we meet again." Dr. and Mrs. McClure will join the party at Minneapolis, and four young ladies accompany them who are going out in the service of the China Inland Mission.

Obituary.

The Rev. Wm. T. Canning, who passed away on Tuesday, the 23rd of July, was the fourth son of the Rev. Jas. Canning, of Malin, Ireland. Three of his brothers, John, James and Alexander, were ministers respectively of Malin, Port Rush and Cromlin. After receiving a thorough training at Edinburgh University and Belfast College, he was licensed by the Presbytery of Derry in the year 1849, and the same year sent to Canada by the Colonial Committee of the Irish Presbyterian Church. After laboring in Chipewagan, N.B., Martin, Michigan, and Douglas, Ont., he was transferred to Bishop's Mills in the Presbytery of Rockville, where he labored twenty-four years. He was compelled through failing health to resign this charge in the year 1886. He then took up his residence in Mountain Village, Dundas Co., Ont. As a man Mr. Canning was courteous and honorable, as a friend unselfish and unchangeable. His piety was of the humble, meek Joseph of Arimathea type, and as a teacher and preacher it was his constant study to show himself apportioned unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. J. H. Higgins, of Halville. The text selected as the basis of Mr. Higgins' remarks, "To me to live is Christ—to die is

gain." Rev. H. McDairmid, of Kempsville, and Rev. D. G. S. Connery, of Winchester, also took part in the service.

Correspondence.

Missionary Contributions of Our Young People's Societies.

EDITOR PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW:

SIR,—In one of your recent issues there appeared a letter signed by the respected secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee on the above subject. Since its publication, letters not a few have been sent me, taking very strong objection to the sentence in Mr. MacKay's letter which reads as follows:—

"By authority of the Committees, Home and Foreign, we suggest that for the year 1895-6, contributions be given for the support of the Missions in Honan and British Columbia."

In reply to these, I may say, that such a proposal never came before the Home Mission Committee, nor has the convener been asked to do so.

In a private communication from my friend Mr. Conning, of Caledonia, mention was made of a meeting of friends of missions in Toronto, when action had been taken along the above lines: and I was asked to name some Home Mission Field towards the support of which the Young People's Societies might be directed. My reply was to the effect, that in view of the explicit deliberations of former General Assemblies, directing Young Peoples' Societies specially to give for Home Missions or Home Missions and Augmentation, I could not see that any such action as contemplated was regular. But I added, that as there were doubtless Christian Endeavor Societies and others, who preferred to divide their contributions, such could render great service by apportioning amounts to British Columbia, or some field in the Northwest. A letter just received from Mr. Conning more than bears me out as to the reply I sent him. He says—"I have a distinct recollection of the contents of your letter. You decidedly objected to the division of the funds of the Young People's Societies in the way proposed, on the ground chiefly of the action of the General Assembly. But if such a division was insisted upon, you specified British Columbia as a field towards which the Home Mission givings of the young people should be directed." This letter Mr. Conning tells me he forwarded to Mr. MacKay, who is at liberty to publish it if he sees fit.

The proposal made in Mr. MacKay's communication seems at least to override the judgment of the General Assembly. It is well-known to many, if not all your readers, that several years ago, the Home Mission Committee made an unsuccessful effort to enlist the Women's Foreign Mission Auxiliary in Home Mission work, by giving to Home Mission Funds a share of their revenue, however small. At the joint conference then held by the Home and Foreign Mission Committees, and by ladies representing the Women's Auxiliary, it was suggested—not by members of the Home Mission Committee, but by members of the Foreign Mission Committee—that the young people in our congregations, might to some extent at least, do for Home Missions what the Women's Auxiliary were doing for Foreign. Accordingly in 1892, the Presbytery of Toronto overruled the General Assembly, asking it to sanction the formation of Young Peoples' Societies, for the procuring and diffusing of information concerning the mission work of the Church, the discussion of missionary topics, and especially that "all moneys received from membership fees, or otherwise, be paid over to the treasurer of the Church, and that in the application of such monies, special attention be given to the necessities of the Home Mission and Augmentation Funds." The prayer of the overture was granted, as was also that of another overture from the Synod of Manitoba and the Northwest, asking for the formation of such societies. At the following Assembly in 1891, the Home Mission Committee reported what they had done, in carrying out the instructions of the previous year, and presented a constitution for such Young Peoples' Societies for approval. The result was that the following resolution was adopted:—"The General Assembly ap-