

Presbytery of Kingston

The quarterly meeting of this Presbytery was held in St. Andrew's Hall, Kingston, on the 9th and 10th days of January. The Presbytery having learned that the visit made by a deputation to the congregations of Harrington and Pittsburg in the matter of increased ministerial support had resulted favourably, it was decided to take steps in the same direction in the congregations of Seymour and Pictou. Messrs. Maclean and Burton, Ministers, and Dr. Boulter, Elder, were appointed a committee to take charge of the business in the former place, and Messrs. Wilson and Smith, ministers, and Mr. McAlister, elder, in the latter. From a report presented by the committee appointed to visit the congregations of St. Colmaba and St. Paul, Madoc, it appeared that arrears had accumulated there partly through death, and removal to other places. Mr. Beattie tendered his resignation of this pastoral charge on the ground of inadequate support. The clerk was instructed to correspond with such congregations as had not contributed their quota to the payment of the Home Mission debt, and urge immediate attention to the matter. A committee was appointed to ascertain the full extent of the Presbytery's liabilities, and devise measures to meet them. It was decided that congregations in arrears to the Presbytery fund should be corresponded with. On behalf of the committee appointed to draft a suitable minute in relation to the late Mr. Gray, Minister of Chalmers' Church, Kingston, Mr. Burton submitted the following, which was adopted:—The Presbytery hereby record their deep sense of loss in the removal from among them of their brother, Mr. Gray, by death. They would bear their testimony to their departed fellow-labourer. A deep and original thinker, and a constant student, he was nevertheless full of sympathy with all that is noble and useful in life. His pulpit preparations were of no ordinary merit, and were the product of conscientious labour. As a pastor, faithful as a man truthfully bold, and without possession of a charming simplicity. A kind husband, a tender father, a most congenial co-presbyter, a Christian gentleman, we can but deeply regret his removal from among us; nevertheless, as "the tearless life is there," we say, "Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Thy sight." The clerk was instructed to furnish the Rev. Andrew Dowseley, B.A., with a Presbyterial certificate, and to couple therewith an expression of the Presbytery's warm interest in the Indian Mission of the Church of Scotland, in connection with which Mr. Dowseley has received an appointment, and their earnest prayer that he may have many doors of usefulness opened up to him, and great success vouchsafed to his labors. Principal Snodgrass and Mr. Burton were heard in advocacy of the financial claims of Queen's and Knox Colleges. The following motion was adopted in relation thereto:—"This Presbytery recognizing the great importance of efficiently sustaining Knox and Queen's Colleges, and the necessity, to that end, of united, energetic action, resolves to enjoin, and hereby enjoins all ministers within the bounds, who have not yet submitted the matter to their people, to take an early opportunity of pressing the claims of the College fund upon the liberality of their congregations, and the Presbytery records its earnest hope that it may be enabled to do its full part in raising the total sum of \$14,850, estimated by the College authorities to be the lowest amount required to meet current expenditure." Mr. Wishart was authorized to collect moneys within the bounds to aid the congregation in Carlow. Professor Mowat was empowered to moderate in a call in Chalmers' Church, Kingston, should the people be ready for action before next meeting. It was decided to take up as the first item of business at next meeting, the mode of appointing commissioners to the General Assembly, and thereafter to proceed with their appointment.

LATE REV. WM. SMART.

The following is an obituary minute prepared by a committee of Presbytery in relation to the late Mr. Smart. In recording the demise of their esteemed and venerable father, the Reverend William Smart, which occurred on the ninth day of September last, his brethren feel it to be their duty and privilege to place on record their high esteem of their late brother; their deep sense of his many estimable qualities as a man; of his substantial abilities as a minister of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ; of his genial, happy, and cheerful characteristics as a co-presbyter and friend; and of the lively interest he ever took in the young, as well as in the welfare, prosperity and unity of the church of Christ at large. They would also put on record their deep sense of his valuable, energetic, extensive and successful labours during the early history and establishment of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, when many hardships and privations had to be endured—having been sent to this country, which he preferred to another, by a missionary society of London, England, at the early period of 1811, and having taken part in the organization of the first permanent Presbytery in 1818, and the first Synod in 1819, organized the first Sabbath School, the first Bible Society in 1817, the first Missionary Society in 1818, and the first Tract Society in 1820 in the country—as also of his zealous and faithful advocacy of religious liberty at a time when a dominant party in the country would have greatly curtailed this inestimable privilege. In aiding to organize "the United Synod of Upper Canada" in 1819, it was his desire and aim to unite all the Presbyterians into one body; and though other and different Synods arose, and that one passed away, yet he was spared to enjoy the pleasure, and to have the gratification of seeing this his desire and aim accomplished by the union of all in 1875, not only in the late provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, but in the whole of the Dominion of Canada, into one General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. His first and only pastoral charge was of the first Presbyterian Church in the town of Brockville, over which he presided from the year 1811 till that of 1848, a period of thirty-seven years. Here he

fulfilled the duties of his ministry with much energy, zeal and fidelity, extending his labors to a very large district of country, preaching the Gospel and dispensing the sacraments to the sparse and destitute settlers, and organizing new congregations. When retired from the pastorate he continued to take a deep interest in the prosperity of the body with which he was identified, and oftentimes rendered valuable services in its mission fields. He was spared in the enjoyment, even during the latter part of his life, of much vigor of body and mind to the advanced age of eighty-eight years, sixty-six of which he spent in the office of the ministry. His last days were passed away in tranquility and comfort, and in a joyful, sure and certain hope of that rest which remains to God's people. To him it has no doubt been said, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." With gratitude to God for the long and useful life and labours of this His honored servant, and their reverend friend and brother, and with an expression of their sympathy with her, who is spared to mourn the loss of a kind, attentive and faithful husband, would the Presbytery make this record of him, whose name with grateful feelings will long be remembered by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and especially by those among whom he laboured. Mr. Smith read a report furnishing detailed information in relation to the several mission stations within the bounds. A proposal to send Messrs. Beattie and Cormack on a visit to the North Hastings' mission field was sanctioned. The remit amount the Home Mission fund was considered, and it was decided to express disapproval of the proposal to divide it into two funds. The Draft Act on the constitution of the General Assembly was approved with this exception, that section 5th be amended by the omission after the word "commissioners" of the clause, "Of whom at least thirteen shall be ministers." The Barrier Act was in the main approved of. It was suggested that section 1st should read, "A proposed law or rule, etc., shall not become, etc." Section 3rd was amended by the deletion in the former part of the word "standing," and in the latter of all after the word rule. The determination of the number of missionaries required for the summer was left with the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee.

THOMAS S. CHAMBERS, Pres. Clerk.

Presbytery of Manitoba.

There was an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Manitoba held at Portage la Prairie on the 3rd ult. for the induction of the Rev. A. Bell in the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian congregation of Portage la Prairie and Burnside. In the absence of the moderator the Rev. Dr. Black was appointed moderator, pro tem. The Rev. J. S. Stewart of Palestine preached an appropriate and able sermon from the words "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." At the close of the sermon Dr. Black gave a brief narrative of the steps that led to the induction, and thereafter proposed the questions usually put to Presbyterian ministers on such occasions. These Mr. Bell answered satisfactorily. The question asked the congregation as to whether they adhered to their call to Mr. Bell was answered in the affirmative. The moderator then engaged in prayer, and at the close inducted Mr. Bell in the pastoral charge of the congregation before mentioned. Dr. Black then, according to appointment of the Presbytery, addressed Mr. Bell on the duties of his office and the spirit in which they were to be discharged. The address was largely drawn from the Doctor's own experience, and was able and interesting. The Rev. Mr. Robertson of this city addressed the congregation present on their duties to their pastor. His address was most practical, and delivered in a half humorous vein was listened to with much interest. The aim of the rev. gentleman was to make the pastorate as profitable as possible to the people, and as pleasant as circumstances would admit. Co-operation in every good work, peace among members of the church, attendance on ordinances, finance, and ministerial reputation were the subjects discussed. The charge to both minister and people were most suitable to the occasion, and if followed cannot fail producing the best results. At the close of Mr. Robertson's address the congregation welcomed Mr. Bell by shaking hands with him. The service was brought to a close by the moderator pronouncing the benediction. There was a soiree held in Blake's Hall in the evening to celebrate the occasion. There was an excellent tea provided by the ladies of the congregation, which constituted the first part of the programme. To this all present did the justice its merits deserved. There was a large number present, however, that it was found difficult to attend to their wants, owing to the crowding. All good-humouredly did their best to aid the waiters, and the tea was by all voted a success. The Rev. Mr. Bell then took the chair, and on the platform we noticed the Rev. Dr. Black, the Rev. Mr. Robertson, the Rev. J. S. Stewart, the Rev. Mr. Halstead, Mr. Ryan, M.P., Mr. McKenzie, M.P.P. There was a select choir composed of members of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches. Mr. Halstead presided at the melodeon, and was assisted by Mr. Garland. Speeches interspersed with music were then the order of the evening. Without particularizing, we may say that the speeches were all of a high order, combining the grave and humorous, the practical with the amusing. The music did credit to those who had charge of it, the solos by Mrs. Halstead and Mr. Garland being especially applauded. One of the Eastern men had heard nothing equal to it outside of Winnipeg. The Portage people were unwilling to have even this exception, but could not induce him to retract. The proceedings were brought to a close by singing the national anthem, after which Dr. Black pronounced the benediction. As we were going out we heard several speaking of the meeting as the most successful and enjoyable of the kind ever held at Portage, and with this we heartily agreed. We heartily wish that a pastorate begun under such favorable auspices may be long and prosperous.

CHAMBERLAIN Presbyterial Church during last year raised the sum of \$298 87. The Kingston congregation presented Mr. P. MacLennan, student, Presbyterian College, Montreal, with a New Year's gift in the shape of a splendid ragoon skin overcoat (and a sum of money), as a token of esteem and appreciation of his services among them as a missionary. The English revisers of the Old Testament have held forty-one sessions. They have carried their revision as far as Ezekiel xlv. 14. The English revisers of the New Testament have held sixty-five sessions. At their last meeting they reached the sixth chapter of the Hebrews.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTH. At Peter'sville, Ont., the wife of the Rev. A. Henderson, of a son. At Alsea Craig, on the 10th January the wife of the Rev. J. Routhie, of a son.

Official Announcements.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES. LINDSAY—Next regular meeting (D.V.) at Woodville on the 12th Tuesday of February, at 11 a.m. PARIS.—At Ingersoll, on 18th March, at 11 o'clock a.m. LONDON.—In the First Presbyterian Church, London, on the first Tuesday of February, at two p.m. BROCKVILLE.—In the Presbyterian Church, Kempsville, on Tuesday, 20th March, at seven p.m. BARRIE.—The meeting of this Presbytery will meet on the first Tuesday in March, 1877. OTTAWA.—The Presbytery of Ottawa will meet in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on the first Tuesday in February, at 3 o'clock. PARIS.—In Erskine Church, Ingersoll, on the 2nd Tuesday of March, at 11 a.m. HAMILTON.—In Central Church, Hamilton, on third Tuesday of March, at 11 a.m. General Assembly delegates will then be appointed. PETERBORO.—At Warsaw, on Wednesday, 21st February, at 11 a.m., and in the First Presbyterian Church, Port Hope, on the last Wednesday of March, at 1.30 p.m. DAVOS.—At Paisley, on the last Tuesday of March, at 3 o'clock, p.m. KINGSTON.—In John Street Church, Belleville, on the second Tuesday of April, at 7.30, p.m.

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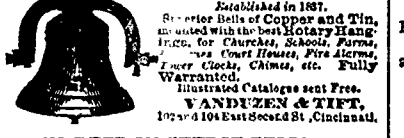
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