

which these objects are most likely to be secured.—The whole service left upon the minds of all who witnessed it, a deep impression of the simplicity, yet solemn and scriptural character, of Presbyterian and primitive ordination in the Church of Christ.—*St. Andrews Standard, March 26.*

The reader will find in another column a letter from our agreeable correspondent, the Rev. Mr. Fettes, of the Free Church. Not satisfied with the amount of "sturdy particulars" (to use his own powerful phraseology) which we caused him to furnish from his own writings, he offers in the handsomest manner to produce another sketch still more "sturdy" in particulars and more sombre in colouring than his first one. This offer we are obliged to decline. If the Rev. Gentleman is determined to enact the part of "Katerfelto," who "at his own wonders wondered for his bread", he must look out for another stage whereon to play out his part. He himself will admit that we devoted plenty of space to him in our last; and he then, for the first time in his life, had an audience of sixteen hundred persons to listen to his eloquence.

CANADA SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

We have received the Eleventh Annual Report of the *Canada Sunday School Union*—that for 1847, and will furnish our readers with an abstract of its contents.

The efforts of the Union have been restricted to the specific object, for which it was originally constituted, of encouraging among Christians of all denominations the establishment of Sabbath-Schools wherever opportunity offers, and of fostering those already in operation; whilst their full efficiency is sought to be promoted by supplying them with suitable books and tracts. There is acknowledgement of devout thanksgiving to God for the measure of success which the Institution has attained, and for the increasing appreciation of Sabbath-school instruction. The want of an efficient Travelling Agent is represented as having crippled the efforts, and impaired the activity and usefulness, of the Society; and an earnest hope is entertained that this deficiency will be supplied during the current year. Regret is expressed that Returns to the Annual Circulars have not been sent in so regularly as in some previous years—a deficiency which the periodical visit of an Agent would tend to greatly diminish. The heavy postage precludes in many cases returns from the poorer settlements.—103 schools have been reported; 11 of which have been established during 1847. They number 892 Teachers and 5902 Pupils, 1154 of whom, we regret to say, are reported as unable to read, whilst 31 of the Schools are not open throughout the year. 89 Schools are supplied with libraries, the beneficial influence of which, not only upon the scholars themselves, but upon their parents and other adults, is amply attested. There have been issued

during last year 13,799 of Library books, 3,029 of Elementary books, 447 of Hymn books, 104 of Bibles and Testaments, and 1956 of Tracts. The total for 1847 is 19,335; whilst from the commencement it amounts to 172,948. In 1847 there have been issued 90 Libraries, a number far exceeding any previous year's issue. These libraries, composed of religious publications calculated to instruct and interest the young, emanate from the London Tract Society and the American Sunday School Union. The former has published two libraries, a large and small, comprising each 100 volumes, and sold at one-half or two-thirds' value (£3 10s and £2 respectively), while the library of the latter, containing 100 volumes, is sold at £2 10s. We notice with pleasure free grants of books to the amount of £42 3s 6d to poor settlements, and the allowance made on libraries sold to £107 10s. For being enabled to produce these results, a heavy debt of gratitude is due to the above mentioned Societies in London and New York.—The circulation of the *Missionary and Sabbath-School Record*, which issues from the Canada Sunday-School Union, amounts to 2500 copies monthly.—Of 150 schools that have participated during the by-gone year in the benefits of the Union, we find that there are conducted by

Presbyterians . . . . .	32
Baptists . . . . .	17
Methodists . . . . .	17
Congregationalists . . . . .	14
Episcopalians . . . . .	10
Persons of various Denominations, or where the Denomination is not reported . . . . .	60
Total	150
We find that the schools reported are conducted thus;	
Presbyterian . . . . .	32
Union* . . . . .	28
Methodist . . . . .	17
Baptist . . . . .	11
Congregational . . . . .	9
Episcopalian . . . . .	6
Total	103

Sabbath-school instruction is stated to be steadily, though not rapidly, advancing; although the sad announcement is received from some quarters, marked by great religious destitution, that there appear to be no competent teachers willing to enter upon the work. It is gratifying, however, to learn that, in not a few districts where the population is divided into different denominations, there is presented the interesting spectacle of Christian men and women overlooking their sectional peculiarities and combining their exertions in imparting to

\* Schools not in connection with any sect, composed of, and conducted by, those of different creeds, where differences would seem for a time to be forgotten in the all-absorbing work in which they are engaged.

the young a knowledge of Him, all whose children compose but one family, and of whose kingdom they are willing subjects. The Returns speak encouragingly of the general bearing of the schools upon the moral tone and character of the community at large, and that their influence tends, though in a small degree indeed, to stem the torrent of Sabbath desecration in this country, which threatens to lower so much the reverence for the worship and ordinances of God still dwelling in the hearts and consciences of our Protestant population. The Report concludes in the following terms;

"It is our conviction, that Christians cannot overrate the importance of leavening thoroughly with the principles of the Bible the minds, memories and consciences of childhood and of youth. Heavenly wisdom is the foundation on which alone the highest order of intellectual and moral elevation can be built. There is no sound or thorough education which does not rest upon the acknowledgement of Divine truth as that which is essentially supreme. A people growing up in ignorance of God, or daring disregard of his authority—whatever their merely intellectual attainments, social comforts, or mechanical superiority may be—are yet a moral spectacle, dark and ominous enough. The Christian philanthropist recognises in the Sabbath School an engine of influence reaching to the very foundations of individual happiness and national progression, striking at the first buddings of ungodliness, and pointing the soul, almost from its birth, to those things which concern its everlasting peace. Its pretensions are humble, but its aim is high. It seeks, under the effectual blessing of the Spirit of grace, to 'turn from darkness unto light;' to shield our country from future unbelief, anarchy and wrath; and to write the truth of God 'upon the forehead of the age to come.' For the encouragement of this system our Union has been organized; and, in continuing to prosecute the work, we entreat the people of Christ to strengthen our hands alike by active, cheerful liberality, and by their prayers for a yet greater measure of union and success."

From the Appendix we learn that, of 5 schools under the superintendance of females, the one at Amherstburg is a *coloured* school of 30. Miss Gibbs remarks that "in other places some *coloured* teachers are at work, but have no suitable libraries, and find it difficult to keep up an interest. White people would not teach." Honourable mention is made of Miss Ann Dixon's school at Kenyon near Lochiel. It numbers from 50 to 60, is open during winter, and is conducted by her with very little assistance.

In conclusion, we have drawn out a concise tabular view of the relative attendance at 110 schools reported.

Schools.	
1 . . . . .	= 410*
4 . . . . .	= 215 each†
5 . . . . .	125 to 150 inclusive
6 . . . . .	100 to 125 do.
8 . . . . .	75 to 100 do.
21 . . . . .	50 to 75 do.
36 . . . . .	25 to 50 do.
29 . . . . .	under 25

110

\* That of Trinity Church, Montreal, established we believe, and ably superintended by the late indefatigable Pastor Rev. Mark Willoughby.

† Wesleyan Methodists, Montreal.