

THE
ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,
For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

VOLUME I.—No. 6.

HAMILTON, JANUARY, 1845.

[PRICE, 2s. 6d. PER ANNUM.]

THE RECORD.

MEETING OF COMMISSION.—This court meets by appointment of Synod, at Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 15th inst.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This court also meets at Hamilton, on the 15th inst., at noon.

TO OUR AGENTS AND FRIENDS.—We shall endeavour to reserve room for a list of those from whom we have received lists of subscribers and remittances; and we beg to offer them our thanks for their attention. From some places we have received lists without remittances; and from not a few—to which, in fulfilment of the Synod's intention, we have been addressing parcels of the Record—we have as yet received neither lists nor remittances. In regard to these cases, we can only again express our hope, that all, and especially the members of the Synod, will without delay supply these deficiencies.

N. B. All orders and remittances ought to be addressed to the Publisher, Mr. James Webster, James Street, Hamilton.

We publish in this number various documents of general interest to the Church, to which we beg to call the attention of our readers. We had particularly notice the circular of the Council of the Committee on Education—the object of which is of paramount and urgent importance to the prosperity of our Church and of true religion. A noble field of christian enterprise is set before the Presbyterian Church in this land; and her diligent and gracious Head is by many manifest tokens exhorting her to go up and possess it. The number of candidates for the holy ministry who have lately come forward—in all not fewer than fifteen—affords the most clear and encouraging evidence that the pious youth of the country are ready to devote themselves to the work of evangelizing—we will only open up the way for them. We trust that every member of the Church will seriously consider what is required of him on behalf of this great department of our Church's duty. It is plain that there is a peculiarly weighty responsibility resting on us in this matter, and especially on this occasion, when an answer is to be given to the appeal addressed to us for the support of this theological institution. The manner in which the appeal is responded to will, in our estimation, determine the character of our Church, and determine the place she is to hold in this land. Besides the collections to be made by congregations in which every individual member should conscientiously consider how he ought to give—it is to be observed that Treasurers have been appointed in various localities, who will receive donations in aid of the institution; and we trust that congregations and settlements which are yet without a stated ministry, will feel it to be especially incumbent on them to contribute liberally on this occasion—transmitting their contributions to

the nearest local treasurer, or by any other more convenient channel to the general treasurer, James Shaw, Esq., Toronto.

We would also remind congregations of the recommendation of the Synod, that when a pious and promising youth is found in any locality disposed to enter on a course of study for the ministry, he ought to be taken up as an object of special interest and support, where circumstances render that necessary, by the congregation with which he is connected. A number of the more wealthy members of a congregation, or the whole congregation unitedly, under the direction of the Session and Deacon's court, might thus with little difficulty open up the way for such a youth, who would, without such aid, be prevented from entering on the course at all. It will be truly honourable to the congregation that may take the lead in this matter, and institute the first congregational Bursary in our institution. It only remains for us to remind the members of the Church generally, that books are greatly wanted for the use of the institution; and that any work on general literature and science, as well as religion, will form an appropriate and valuable donation. All collections and donations of money and books will be acknowledged from time to time in the Record.

We trust that the Sustentation Fund Scheme, published in the last number of the Record, has received the attention of the members of the Church generally; and that congregations are taking active steps in the matter. We trust that every congregation of the Church will be prepared early this month to intimate to the Sustentation Board their desire to be placed on the fund, and the amount which they propose to contribute to it during the year. These communications ought, we presume, to be addressed to the President of the Board, Isaac Buchanan, Esq., who is at present resident in Hamilton.

We would direct the attention of our readers to the statement of the members of the committee, appointed to confer with a committee of the Synod in connexion with the Scottish establishment.

We announce with great satisfaction the arrival of a missionary sent out by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, viz. the Rev. William Hamilton, M. A., formerly head master in the English department of the Royal Belfast Institution. Mr. Hamilton was ordained to this mission in the Alfred Street Church, (Dr. Edgar's) Belfast, on the 23th of October, and is now supplying the congregation at Kingston. We trust the Irish Church will henceforth put forth more adequate efforts in behalf of the Colonial field; and especially in behalf of her numerous children in Canada. The extensive and extreme necessities which claim the attention of her own Home Mission, have no doubt been, and will perhaps continue to be, a restraint on her exertions in the Colonies. We regard this appointment as a clear and valuable testimony, on the part of that Church, to the rectitude of the position which the Presbyterian Church of Canada has assumed; and we earnestly wish that Mr. Hamilton may be blessed with much success and comfort in the work to which he has so disinterestedly dedicated himself.

We see it stated in some of the papers that the Rev. Mr. Geggie, of the Presbytery of Quebec, has lately withdrawn from connexion with the

Scottish establishment, and intends to connect himself with the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

The Rev. Thomas Scott, of Simcoe, has made application to the Presbytery of Hamilton for admission into the Presbyterian Church of Canada—having withdrawn from the Presbytery in connection with the Established Church of Scotland.

The temporary place of worship recently erected by the Presbyterian Church in Toronto, was opened on Friday the 20th ult. A correspondent writes thus, in regard to the occasion—"We had a very delightful meeting on Friday evening, and a full auditory: J. Ketchum, Esq., was in the chair, and Mr. Rivault, M. Esq., Mr. Roof, Mr. Lillie, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Fish, and although last not least,—Mr. King, addressed the meeting. Mr. Brown, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Westland, also made some very appropriate remarks in moving votes of thanks to those parties whose kindness the congregation had experienced during their late necessity. The young men of the St. Andrew's society, by a deputation of six of their number, presented a Pulpit Bible and Psalm Book. Mr. King addressed them; and this was not the least interesting part of the proceedings of the evening. On Sabbath, although a wet day, the church was filled both morning and afternoon, and crowded in the evening. Mr. Roof preached in the morning a very interesting sermon in the English style—animated and conversational, Mr. Essoy supplying Mr. Roof's pulpit: Mr. Harris in the afternoon—a very sweet discourse, full of Christ, and therefore very precious—in a quiet, fervent, devotional manner. Mr. King in the evening—an excellent and most appropriate sermon in his usual clear and earnest style." We also learn that the collections on the occasion amounted to £53. The church, we believe, is seated for between eight and nine hundred.

C I R C U L A R .

To the Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada:

DEAR BRETHREN—I now address you in the name, and by authority of the Synod's committee, on the education of students. You will rejoice to know that our institution in Toronto for training out divinity students, and those who are preparing for the study of divinity, is now in successful operation. Our esteemed brethren, Mr. King and Mr. Essoy, are giving themselves with alacrity and zeal to their important labours, and last week we had the high pleasure of examining ten students in the various branches of classical learning and science, and some of them in theology also, and of assigning them their several places in the academical curriculum. Their attainments, on the whole, were highly creditable to their zeal for learning, and diligent application to it, and warranted us to entertain sanguine hopes respecting them—now that they enjoy advantages for study, which in any circumstances would be regarded as great; and are especially so, considering the infant state of our church.

Our examinations were not confined to their intellectual acquirements, but extended also to their views and experience of divine truth, and their motives for seeking admission to the ministry; and