

while sickness and other causes were dissipating their membership, the Church was languishing for want of a preacher. He laid the case before the sympathies of the Conference, and trusted that something would speedily be done to supply the wants of the friends in the district represented by him.

Mr. Templeton, Newcastle, represented that place as affording a nucleus whereon might be based occasional missionary effort.

Rev. James Howie, Guelph, said that he had reached Guelph in January last, and finding that the place had resources, had determined to accede to the request of the brethren there to labour statedly among them. The chapel was small and the meetings small; the number of brethren having been reduced by calls of business, leading many to settle in other parts of the country. They had made application to the Municipal Council of Guelph for the use of the Town Hall, which having been granted, a series of meetings had been commenced in that commodious place. He had held a large and encouraging meeting in the country at Mr. James Anderson's, and felt that they must not lose hope.

When he chose a text known to be a hard text, he might at first sight be inclined to give it up; but a second examination generally convinced him that there was a sermon in it somewhere, which, by dint of perseverance, he at length succeeded in finding and extracting. So, forbidding as Guelph might at first sight seem, he thought there was a people and a prosperous E. U. Church in it somewhere, which time and patience should at last he trusted develop.

The Conference then addressed themselves to general business.

Mr. Gemmell, Secretary to Executive Committee of the Missions, read the following Report:—

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF MISSION.

The Executive Committee of the Mission, in presenting their annual report to the Conference, beg to state that much less has been done in the past year for the spread of the Gospel in its glorious fulness and unfettered freeness, than they feel to be necessary. It is true our hearts were cheered by the arrival of the Rev. James Howie from Scotland last November. He only acted, however, as missionary for a very short period, having accepted a call from the Church in Guelph to become their pastor. The Church in that important town had been for a considerable period suffering for lack of the regular means of grace; and the committee, after deliberation, not only considered it best that the Church in Guelph should obtain Mr. Howie's services, but that for the present a part of the mission fund should be appropriated to sustain him in his labours there.

A few of the friends of a free Gospel in the Province, have contributed to the funds of our mission, and we earnestly hope that much more will be done in this necessary department next year. The following are the sums which have been received by the treasurer:—To balance in hand, \$24; Collection in United Kingdom steamboat, \$1.60; Collection in Albert street, \$6; David Bone, \$1; Mr. Crone, \$1; Mr. Brekenridge, \$1; W. Kennedy, \$1; Rev. H. Melville, \$5; Andrew