

The attendance on the preaching of the Gospel is encouraging. The sum of £150 has been granted by the Mission Board for the purpose of providing house accommodation for a missionary.

The Mission Board contemplate sending two missionaries to Natal, South Africa.

MADAGASCAR.

The Rev. Dr. Ellis reports the continued extension of the Gospel in Madagascar, and the steady increase of those who profess Christianity. He states that 30 were received at one church on the previous Sabbath, and 19 on another Sabbath. The king shows himself to be earnest and sincere in affording unrestricted liberty to his people to become christians if they wish to do so.

Proceedings of Presbyteries, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

The Presbytery of Hamilton held its quarterly stated meeting on the 11th and 15th of April. There was a large attendance—sixteen ministers and twelve elders—with six ministers belonging to other Presbyteries, who were invited to sit as corresponding members.

Mr. Thomas Wilson, probationer, signified his acceptance of the call from the Sutherland Street Church, Caledonia. His trials were heard, and unanimously sustained, and his ordination was appointed to take place on the 28th of April.

The Rev. Alexander McGlashan signified his acceptance of the call from the congregations of Pelham and St. Ann's, Gainsborough, and his induction was appointed to take place on the 19th of May.

It was agreed to apply to the next meeting of Synod, for leave to take Mr. James Mitchell on trial for license. The Presbytery engaged in lengthened conference on the state of religion within their bounds. The following deliverance on the subject was unanimously adopted:

As the result of the conference the Presbytery find—

1st, That the attendance on the ordinary means of grace, is on the whole, steadily increasing.

2nd, That prayer meetings are held weekly, in connexion with each pastoral charge, and that in several instances, the interest in such devotional exercises, is becoming much more deep and practical.

3rd, That the children of the church, are more or less under sessional supervision—that our Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes are, on the whole, in a flourishing state, and that the Shorter Catechism is almost universally used as a text book.

4th, That family worship is in some instances universally attended to, in a few neglected, but in the majority, observed with variable regularity.

5th, That many of the members of our churches are putting forth direct efforts for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, in Bible Classes, Sabbath Schools, and Tract Societies.

6th, That the missionary meetings supported by the Presbytery, have been eminently successful, adding largely to our Home Mission Funds, and tending greatly to the developing and intensifying of a missionary spirit.

7th, Finally, That in some portions of our Presbytery, there have been decided manifestations of a special religious interest, and that a considerable number have been added to the church.

The Presbytery while humbled under a sense of manifold deficiencies, found much ground in the foregoing review for devout gratitude to Almighty God, and renewed reasons for more earnestly taking heed to themselves, and to all the flocks, of which the Holy Spirit hath made them overseers. They would strongly urge upon sessions, the momentous importance, in all their meetings, of giving increased prominence to the rise and progress of true religion in the souls of those committed to their charge; while they would affectionately impress upon all the churches, within their bounds,