

Jerusalem. Rev. Mr. Johnson has been appointed Mission Agent of the Presbytery. He read some queries which he proposed to send in the form of circular to all the ministers, requesting them to return him written answers before the February meeting, when he would present a report. The queries are as follows:—

1. What mode does your congregation adopt of raising contributions to the Missionary Schemes?

2. If more than one mode has been tried, which do you find most successful?

3. What schemes have you contributed to this year up to the present time?

These questions were approved of, and it was agreed to send them to brethren then absent, and to propose them then and there to those present. Various modes were found to be in operation—special collections on specified days, the collection being announced beforehand, and the claims of the schemes put forward; collecting cards or books; envelopes put in the pews a week beforehand with the schemes printed on the back, and the congregation asked to put their contributions in them, and bring them next Sabbath; collections taken at the prayer-meeting and given to one or more schemes at the end of the year, etc., etc. One congregation raises for all purposes by weekly offerings. Another keeps a mission box in the lobby of the Church constantly, with the name of the scheme over it, and changing the scheme from time to time to do them all justice. It was also found that considerable progress had been made up to the present time this year.

Attention being called to the Tercentenary of the death of Knox, it was moved and agreed to:—

1. That the brethren of the Presbytery be requested to preach on Knox and the principles with which he was identified on Sabbath the 24th of this month.

2. That instructions be renewed to the Committee appointed at last quarterly meeting to take concert with the other Presbyterian bodies as to the propriety of holding a joint Public celebration, on or about that time, on that and the introduction of Presbyterianism into England. Mr. Houston was asked to be convener of the Committee.

The Presbytery meet at Carleton for visitation of Rev. J. C. Burgess' congregation. It appears that there are about 70 families in the congregation, while as many as 80 are visited by the pastor, besides 12 or 15 young men not belonging to families that reside here; there are about 60 on the communicants' roll, of whom 45 were present on the last occasion of observance; in the Sunday school there are 65 on the

roll with 46 of an average attendance, with 14 teachers. The prayer meeting is small.

The managers report that they pay to the pastor this year \$500, and \$100 towards house rent; they do not think that sufficient, but it is the most they can do under the circumstances; all obligations to him are met; the liberality and promptitude of the congregation are pretty well: the system pursued in raising the salary is by pew rents, supplemented if necessary by subscriptions, there being 52 pew-holders; and they meet quarterly, while their financial year ends at 1st February. The debt on the church is \$2,200, and there is not much effort just at present made to clear it off, but the managers think it might be done.

The members of Presbytery in order expressed their opinion on the state of matters manifested. Satisfaction was expressed that in each of the three years of the present pastorate, they had increased the salary paid by \$100 over the preceding one, that whereas only between \$20 and \$30 were given to the schemes of the church last year, this year there will be between \$80 and \$90, and that the tokens of progress in spiritual life are so encouraging. Attention, however, was called to the smallness of the prayer meeting and other departments of the congregation in which improvement is much needed. After deliberation, the following was adopted as the finding:—

The Presbytery having heard and considered the answers made to the queries of the formula by the representatives of this congregation, are much gratified with the signs of progress that are apparent, especially in hearing that a growing attention is paid to family worship and training, that liberality is increasing, that the Sabbath School is prosperous, that the membership are showing signs of activity in the Lord's work, and that the rules of the church are faithfully carried out. They would, however, call attention to the small attendance at the prayer meeting, that the communicants are so few compared with the aggregate of families reported, that there is still much room for liberality both towards the pastor and to the schemes of the church, and for greater activity on the part of the members. They would recommend the pastor and the session to organize cottage meetings if at all possible, and everything that is instrumental in the growth of knowledge and of life, if possible, that the knowledge to be aimed at in both cottage meetings and in diets of catechising should embrace not only the doctrines of grace and their application to the life, but also the minute details of the work of our own church at home and abroad, and would urge on all to unite in earnest and persevering prayer to God, that He would send times of refreshing from his presence.