

News of the Week.

CANADIAN.

The Presbyterian and Congregational pulpits are vacant at Cobourg.

Authorised discount on American invoices until further notice, 9 per cent.

The Government has sold during the last month, Bank of Upper Canada bonds to the amount of \$20,000.

A New Brunswick paper says that the tenders for the railway building in Nova Scotia in numbers already exceed two hundred.

Colonel McKenzie, of the 78th Highlanders, is to receive one of the four good service pensions now at the disposal of the British Government.

The intelligence of the safe arrival of the McNab surveying party at Fort Wilham will be a source of satisfaction to the country.

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure of the Dominion of Canada for the month ended, 29th Feb., 1872: Revenue, \$1,521,709; Expenditure, \$771,842.

The people of Canada are invited by proclamation to observe the 15th April as a day of national thanksgiving for the recovery of the Prince of Wales.

A Napanee correspondent states that the Dunkin bill election contest for the township of Richmond, came off on Monday and Tuesday, resulting in a majority of about 90 for the Dunkin bill.

Circulation of Provincial Notes, \$9,044,811; Dominion Notes, \$9,755,994; Fractional Notes, \$455,074; total, \$19,255,879. Debentures held \$7,200,000; total specie held \$9,891,012. Excess of circulation, \$15,469.

Rev. Dr. Fyfe and Rev. Dr. Ryerson are discussing the merits of the book by the latter on "Christian Morals." Dr. Ryerson has no right to force theology down the throats of those who do not believe in it. We trust the Ontario Government will remove the volume from the list of "Authorised School Books," leaving it optional with the public to buy it at the bookstores or to leave it alone.

The following Acts affecting Church property were passed at the recent session of the Legislature:—

To appoint trustees of certain lands in the town of Belleville, for the purposes of the Presbyterian Church in connection with the Church of Scotland, and to authorise the said trustees to borrow money on a portion thereof.—To enable the trustees of the congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland in Port Hope, to sell and convey certain land.

A few evenings ago, the Rev. Dr. Burns, Montreal, delivered an admirable lecture on "American Poets," in the lecture-room connected with his church. Opening with Longfellow, the most popular of American poets, and an accomplished scholar; his writings were reviewed and their beauties brought out in choice extracts recited by the lecturer, special reference being at the same time made to the healthy moral tone pervading his lyrics. Mrs. Sigourney among women, writes of verse in America, and some charming poems by this lady were read. Poe was pronounced to be the most original of American poets; nevertheless, owing to intemperate habits, he died miserably in a public hospital. The warning to young men offered by Poe's life and death was enforced on his audience by the doctor. Glancing at the humorous poetry in which the Americans delight; the writings of Oliver Wendell Holmes, and J. R. Lowell, author of the Biglow papers, supplied numerous amusing pieces for recitation by the lecturer. Some eloquent verses by Wm. Lloyd Garrison, poet and philanthropist, and leader of the agitation for the abolition of slavery, and by J. E. Whittier, denouncing slavery, formed the concluding portion of the lecture, which was received with much attention by an audience composed mainly of young men belonging to Cote Street Church Association, under whose auspices the lecture was delivered.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

York, England, is to have the largest railway station in that Kingdom, its cost being \$1,000,000.

The Jury in the Tichborne case have informed the Court that they have heard sufficient evidence whereon to base their verdict.

Three more French men-of-war have been fitted out to cruise in the British Channel to guard against a Bonapartist expedition.

The new census shows the population of Greece to be a little less than a million and a half. The largest city is Athens with less than 46,000.

Wm. Lowther, Earl Lonsdale, formerly Postmaster-General of Great Britain, and President of the Council, died on the 5th inst., in the 85th year of his age.

The German Government has notified the French Minister of Finance that it will accept the anticipatory payment of 410,000,000 francs of the war indemnity, with a discount of five per cent.

It is said that Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, while in Rome recently, on his way to Egypt, declared that if France made an attack upon Italy, the latter country would be defended by Germany.

London advises that Mr. Tom Hughes will shortly move in the House of Commons an address to the Crown, praying that steps be taken by the Government to oblige Spain to fulfil her treaty obligations with regard to Cuba.

The Catholic Directory for 1872 shows that in the ranks of the peerage of the three kingdoms, the Roman Catholics can reckon one Duke (Norfolk), one Marquis (Bute), eight Earls, four Viscounts, twenty Barons, the list ending with Lord O'Hagan, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

UNITED STATES.

Alabama has now in operation six cotton factories.

Mr. Russell Gurney, of the British American Mixed Commission, says the New York Tribune will leave this city on the 80th inst., for England, but intends to return in November, to complete the work of the Commission.

Pennsylvania has had another mine explosion—this time admittedly resulting from the introduction of naked lamps into a mine that had been standing idle for a considerable time. Whether the miners neglected the use of safety-lamps of their own accord, or whether the mine-owners neglected to supply them with so simple a protection, does not yet appear.

There would appear to be no depth of degradation and crime to which some persons will not descend when it involves a question of gain. Frank Young, a Brooklyn butcher, is accused of having in his possession five calves (one of which had been already killed for meat), which had been inoculated for the purpose of obtaining vaccine. The case is to be investigated by the health officers of New York.

Ecclesiastical.

PRESBYTERY OF PARIS.

The Presbytery of Paris held its regular meeting on Tuesday last, 5th March, in Knox Church, Woodstock. There was a full attendance both of ministers and elders.

The Rev. Mr. McQuarrie was elected Moderator for the ensuing twelve months. A vote of thanks was tendered the retiring Moderator, Mr. Robertson, of Paris, for his conduct in the chair, and his unremitting attention to the business of the Presbytery.

Answers were called for and given in from several of the kirk-sessions, in response to the circular issued by the Assembly's Committee on the State of Religion, and remitted to a special committee of Presbytery, consisting of Messrs. Dunbar and Thomson, ministers, and Mr. Paterson, elder, to prepare a report to be transmitted to the Assembly. At a subsequent sederunt the committee presented the report, which was adopted. An interesting discussion on the state of religion within the bounds followed.

The Rev. Mr. Aull reported that he had, according to instructions of Presbytery, preached within Chalmers' Church, Woodstock, and thereafter moderated in a call for a minister to said church. He also laid on the table a unanimous call in favour of the Rev. John McEavish, Woodville, signed by 110 members and 223 adherents. Mr. Paterson was heard in support of the Presbytery sustaining the call. The necessary documents were also laid on the table to accompany the call, and a minute of the congregational meeting appointing the Rev. Mr. Cochrane, of Brantford, to prosecute the call at the Ontario Presbytery. Mr. Aull's conduct in moderating the call was sustained. The Presbytery then sustained the call to Mr. McEavish, and appointed Mr. Cochrane their representative to prosecute the call before the Presbytery of Ontario.

Mr. Lowry intimated to the Presbytery his desire to be relieved from the further supply of Mount Pleasant Congregation. On motion duly seconded, Mr. Lowry was relieved from further supply of said pulpit, and a cordial vote of thanks given to Mr. Lowry for the faithful services rendered by him during the past two years. A committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Cochrane and Lowry, ministers, and McLean and Russell, elders, to confer with the Mount Pleasant Congregation in reference to future supply. Mr. Cochrane was also appointed to preach in Mount Pleasant next Sabbath afternoon, and meet with the congregation.

The Presbytery next proceeded to consider the Remits sent down from the Assembly. In reference to the Remit on the subject of Alternates, it was moved by Mr. Farries, and seconded by Mr. Lowry, "That the system of alternates be adopted by our Church courts. It was moved in amendment by Mr. McMullen, seconded by Mr. Inglis, "That the system of alternates be not adopted. The motion and amendment having been put to the vote, the amendment was carried by a majority of one.

In reference to the remit on Instrumental Music, it was moved by Mr. Cochrane, seconded by Mr. Thomson: "The Presbytery approve simpliciter of the Interim Act of last General Assembly, leaving the question of Instrumental Music to the decision of Kirk sessions and congregations, under the usual Presbyterial supervision."

In amendment, it was moved by Mr. Lowry, seconded by Mr. J. Paterson, elder, "1. The Presbytery having considered the Assembly's remit on the subject of Instrumental Music, considers that the limited sanction given by the last Assembly to the use of instrumental music in the worship of God implies the propriety and expediency of such music being so used, and therefore cannot see the advantage of making any return to the remit. 2. The Presbytery cannot see the necessity for the use of instrumental music in the worship of God, nor the scriptural authority for such music in the worship of the Christian Church."

On the vote being taken, the motion of Mr. Cochrane (leaving the question of Instrumental Music to Kirk sessions and congregations, under Presbyterial supervision), was carried over the amendment of Mr. Lowry, by a majority of 16 to 3.

The congregations of Tilsonburgh and Culloden having requested the Presbytery to appoint one of their number to moderate in a call for a minister to said charge, the Presbytery agreed to their request, and appointed Mr. Wright, of Ingersoll, to discharge the duty, at a date convenient to all parties, before next regular meeting of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery appointed the following as Commissioners to the next meeting of the General Assembly:—

Ministers—Messrs. Hume, Cochrane, Robertson (Paris), McMullen, Lowry, Farries. Elders—Dr. Clarke, Paris; Messrs. McLean and Turnbull, Brantford; Marshall, Ayr; Bent, Ingersoll; and Chambers, Woodstock.

The Treasurer, Mr. Robertson, of Paris, read a statement of the finances of the Presbytery, which was received; and Messrs. Farries and Wright appointed to audit the same. The committee reported at a subsequent sederunt that the accounts were all correctly kept, and recommended an addition to the salary of the Presbytery Clerk, which was agreed to.

Mr. McQuarrie, minister, and Mr. P. Marshall, elder, were appointed on the Synod's Committee of Bills and Overtures. Mr. Farries, minister, and Dr. Clarke, elder, were appointed on the Assembly's Committee of Bills and Overtures. Rev. Mr. McLaren, of Ottawa, was nominated as Moderator of the next General Assembly.

Mr. Robertson, of Paris, intimated that he had received a specimen consignment of Bibles, from the National Bible Society of Scotland.

The distribution of said Bibles was left in the hands of the committee entrusted with this matter, who were also entrusted to bring in a report in reference to further action on the part of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery agreed to recommend the *British American Presbyterian*, at present published in the interests of the Church, to the support of the members of the various congregations within the bounds.

The Presbytery then agreed to meet again in Chalmers' Church, Woodstock, on Tuesday, 9th of April, at one p.m.

WM. COCHRANE,
Presbytery Clerk.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

The sum of \$300 has been subscribed in three days, at Fort Garry, for the erection of a Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. R. Ure, the esteemed pastor of Knox Church, Goderich, has returned home after a somewhat extended tour in Scotland. The rev. gentleman is much the better of his trip.

The members of the Presbyterian congregation, Cobourg, held a meeting last week with the view of giving a call to supply the pulpit vacant by the resignation of Rev. J. Laing, B.A.

The Congregations of Cheltenham and Mount Pleasant, under the pastoral care of the Rev. W. A. McKay, have let the contract for the building of a Manse. It is to be of brick, costing about \$2,000 and to be finished by next Oct. These congregations are contributing with a praise-worthy liberality, both to the support of their own pastor and to the general schemes of the Church. Last year Mount Pleasant raised for home purposes \$23 and for Missions upwards of \$2 per family. This year there being unusual expenses, the amount already subscribed in both congregations average over \$55 per family.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—The Hamilton Presbytery, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church, met on Tuesday, in McNab street church. The first business was a call from the Central Church to the Rev. John McCall, of Dundas. The call was signed by 425 members and 142 adherents, and the salary promised was \$2,400 and a free manse. The Presbytery sustained the call, and agreed to cite all parties to appear, for their interests, at a meeting to be held in Dundas on the 20th inst. Mr. Murray reported that the congregation of McNab street church had united in a unanimous call to the Rev. Mr. Fletcher, of Scarborough. The call was signed by 303 members and 94 adherents. The Presbytery sustained the call, and appointed Mr. Murray to act as commissioner to prosecute the call before the Toronto Presbytery. Mr. Baikie's resignation of his charge at Ancaster was laid before the Presbytery.

PRESENTATIONS.

The Rev. Robert H. Warden of the Presbyterian Church, Bothwell, was last week, says the *Advance*, the recipient of a handsome present from his Bothwell congregation. The gift consisted of \$120 dollars accompanied with an address expressive of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the donors and their earnest prayers for his speedy restoration. A few days previously the rev. gentleman received an address and purse from the Station at Sutherland's Corners, in testimony of the respect and affection of the congregation there. We are glad to know that Mr. Warden is rapidly recovering from the effects of the severe accident he met with in the end of November, and expects to be able to resume his pulpit labours in the course of a few weeks.

SOIREES AND ANNIVERSARIES.

The annual missionary meeting of the Scarborough congregation was held last week. The attendance was good. Earnest and appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. McKay, of Cheltenham, Rev. J. Dickie, of Berlin, and the Rev. D. H. Fletcher, pastor of the congregation. The collection for missionary purposes amounted to upwards of three hundred dollars (\$300). This is very creditable to the congregation, while they are at present contributing liberally towards the erection of a new church.

On Sabbath the 25th ult., the usual anniversary missionary sermon was preached in the C. P. Church, Glenmorris, in which the pastor clearly set forth the reflex good of giving from the words of our Lord, "give and it shall be given unto you." On the following evening the annual missionary meeting was held when after the opening exercise, Mr. Dunbar gave a brief outline of the various schemes of the Church. After which Mr. Bentley gave a very clear and comprehensive delineation of missions in general, which was listened to with marked attention. A pleasing feature of the meeting was the presence of S. S. Children, not only to hear what was said but to allocate by their vote their mission gatherings for the past year.

The annual soiree given by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church, Lakefield, came off on the evening of Tuesday, 20th ult. Tea was served in the Orange Hall, after which the people went to the Church. R. Stricklin, Esq., being called to the chair, interesting addresses were delivered by Rev. N. Clark, Pastor, Rev. H. McDonald, Rev. J. M. Royer, and Rev. W. Mitchell. The choir in connection with the Church enlightened the proceeding with well selected pieces. The attendance was large; the church being well filled. The proceeds to be applied to Manse building, the contract of which was let for \$1,900 to P. Baptie, Esq., his being the lowest tender, more than \$1700 of which is subscribed. It is expected that when the subscription list has passed through the two congregations it will cover the whole amount. Too much praise cannot be given the members of the building committee for their efforts to raise the required

amount, and to the congregations for their liberal response. If the plans and specifications are strictly adhered to, the Manse will be a credit to these growing congregations and an ornament to the village.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

A meeting of the congregation of Cooke's Church, Toronto, was held on Wednesday evening, for the purpose *inter alia* of considering the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church at its last meeting, on the subject of union with the Presbyterian Synod in connexion with the Church of Scotland. Rev. Mr. Gregg occupied the chair. The following resolution, moved by the Hon. George Brown, seconded by Mr. Wm. Wilson, elder, was carried unanimously. *Resolved*, "That this congregation, while recognizing the advantages to be attained by a union between the Canada Presbyterian Church, the the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Churches of the Maritime Provinces, and while desiring to see such a union accomplished ere many years elapse—yet cannot approve of the conditions attached to the proposed union as set forth under the head of Theological Education."

IMPORTANCE OF A CHURCH ORGAN.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

DEAR Sir,—I trust your paper will meet the support it highly deserves. The articles are good, and of a kind calculated to awaken interest in the work of the Church. It has long been a disgrace to us that we never could have a public organ in the interest of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Your paper meets the pressing want that we have often felt—a paper in which our distinctive views may be stated and religious and doctrinal subjects discussed. This is the only means of bringing such things under the notice of many of our people. While others are doing all they can, not merely in supporting their own views of truth, but in undermining the convictions of others, I say we ought, of necessity, to have some means of placing clear and forcible arguments for the truth before our people.

Again, our paper will be the means of bringing under our notice the work and progress of the whole Church, and thus tend to develop a deeper interest in the hearts of the people for the prosperity of our Zion.

The Canada Presbyterian Church is destined to play a very important part on this continent. Some of our ministers hold the highest educational positions in the Province; and when our colleges are placed on a firmer basis than at present, with a firm grasp of apostolic truth, our Church will infuse a new religious life through all grades of society. As the Church expands, I hope your paper will keep pace with her, and that, ere long, it will stand among the leading papers of the day. The *BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN* will receive the hearty support of my congregation. You will find enclosed an order for two copies. In a few days a full list of subscribers will be sent.

LITERATUS.

Cookstown, March 5th, 1872.

THE MAHOMETANS IN INDIA.

In view of the late disastrous events in India, and the rumors of a spread of discontent among the Mahometans, the following paragraph may be interesting as giving one of many clues to the cause of the discontent. It is taken from an article on Mahomet, taken from that excellent repository of current literature—the *Eclectic Magazine*:—

"Recent reports speak of a wide-spread discontent among the Mahometan inhabitants of India, a discontent founded on no other cause than that, under British rule, the Mahometan is placed on a perfect equality with men of all other creeds: whereas he deems it his inherent right to rule over men of all creeds. Such is indeed the inborn spirit of the Mahometan faith; a faith of which it is not an accident, but an essential principle, that it is to be spread by the sword, and can never, except under compulsion, sit down on an equality with other faiths. It may—within certain limits, it must—grant a contemptuous toleration to men of other religions; it can never willingly submit to accept toleration or equality at the hands of those whom it looks on as made to be either its victims, its subjects, or its converts."

MISCELLANEOUS.

General Crook has given notice to the Indians that the time has been extended to the 15th of February, to come upon a reservation and be fed; failing to do so they will be regarded as hostile, and dealt with accordingly.

Our musical friends will be glad to see the beautifully executed portrait of the venerable Lowell Mason, now in his eighty-first year, which is given in *THE ILLUSTRATED CHRISTIAN WEEKLY* of March 9th. It accompanies an interesting sketch of church music during the last fifty years. We gladly commend this paper to all our readers, knowing that nothing which can corrupt, either through the eye or the heart, will ever be found in its columns.

In reviewing the progress of the Free Church of the Edinburgh *Presbyterian* shows that an average of 12 congregations have been added every year since 1844. In that year there were 608 charges. In 1872 there were no fewer than 958. This increase is almost entirely due to Home Missionary effort. Of the 470 who signed the Protest and Deed of Demission, 215 are still living, though only 184 are still in the service of the home church. Many have done great and good service in other lands. In 1844 the Free Church had but on college with three chairs; now she has three colleges with fourteen chairs. All the Foreign Missionaries of the pre-Disruption Church joined the Free Church. In 1844 she had 15 labourers in India. Now she has 224. The whole amount collected since the Disruption is \$2,835,395. Upwards of \$200,000 of this aggregate are invested, and yielding interest.

MY AIN COUNTRY.

I am far frae my hame, and I'm weary often-whiles
For the langed-for hame bringing, an' my Father's welcome smiles.
I'll ne'er be fu' content, until my een do see
The golden gates o' heaven, an' my ain cowntree.

The earth is flecked wi' flowers, mony-tinted,
fresh, an' gay;
The birds warble blithely, for my Father made them see;
But these sights an' these sounds will as nae-thing be to me,
When I hear the songs of triumph in my ain cowntree.

I've His gude word o' promise, that some glad-some day the King
To His ain royal palace His pilgrims hame will bring;
Wi' an an' wi' hearts running ower we shall see
"The King in His beauty" an' our ain cowntree.

My sins have been mony, an' my sorrows hae been sair,
But there they'll never vex me, nor be remembered mair;
His blin'd has made me white, His hand shall dry mine ee,
When He brings me hame at last to my ain cowntree.

Like a bairn to its mither, a wee bairn to its nest,
I wad fain be gauging nee unto my Saviour's breast;
For He gathers in His bosom witless, worthless lambs like me,
And carries them Himsel' to His ain cowntree.

He's faithfu' that has promised, He'll surely come again;
He'll keep His tryet wi' me, at what hour I dinna ken,
But he bids me still to watch, an' ready aye to be,
To gang at any moment to my ain cowntree.

So I am watching aye an' singing o' my hame as I wait,
For the sunning o' His footfa' this side the golden gate.
God gie His grace to ilk ane wha listens nee to me,
That we may a' gang in gladness to our ain cowntree.

Literary Notices.

BLACKWOOD, for January, is fully an average number. The most interesting paper in it is that descriptive of the loss of the Niagara, written by an officer of that now somewhat celebrated vessel. In spite of its absurd Toryism, *Blackwood* is always an acceptable visitor to those who wish a really good literary monthly, for though one of the oldest magazines, it is still, apart from its politics, one of the best.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW, January, 1872, has no article which has a special interest for Canadian readers. There is a very kindly notice of John Wesley, suggested by "Tyerman's Life" of that great and good man. That such a notice of such a man should appear in the *Edinburgh* is itself one of the signs of the times. "Railway Organization in the late War" will find, we doubt not, a good many interested readers; and as "Irish University Education" is understood so far to shadow forth the policy of the British Ministry in reference to higher education in Ireland, it may on that account, if on no other, be looked upon as important.

BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW, for January, 1872. Since the *North British* was dropped, the Leonard-Scott Company has put among its review reprints the *British Quarterly*, so long and so ably conducted by the late Dr. Robert Vaughan. This review, which is so far to be looked on as the organ of the English Nonconformists, keeps up its original high character for ability, liberality and culture. It is especially valuable for its quarterly *resume* of contemporary literature, which is usually got up in a very careful, discriminating manner, and will help its readers considerably in keeping up, at any rate, some idea of what is going on in the world of letters, and also in determining what to read and what to avoid. The present number of this quarterly is a very excellent one. It has eight articles, all of a more or less interesting character, which will amply repay a careful perusal.

WESTMINSTER REVIEW, January 1872. The superior ability generally displayed by writers in the *Westminster*, is acknowledged on all hands, but the bitter hostility displayed in almost every number, to everything like evangelical religion makes it not a very desirable periodical to put into the hands of those whose religious opinions may still be only in the course of formation. Doubts are continually suggested, difficulties continually raised, an air of conscious superiority always affected which upon the whole may often leave far from a beneficial influence. At the same time, it is very evident that it is exceedingly desirable that all that such a class of writers have to say on religious subjects should be well considered, especially by those who are set as defenders of the faith once delivered to the Saints, and that therefore, for the latter at any rate, the *Westminster* cannot be dispensed with. A very "advanced liberal," as it claims to be, in religious matters. The *Westminster* is equally so on social and political questions, and in the latter will find a good many to sympathize with its views, who are honestly and earnestly opposed to its teaching in the region of Theology. In the current number there is on the whole less that could be objected to than in generally the case. As in the case of the *British Quarterly*, the attention given by the *Westminster* to "Contemporary Literature" is a very noticeable feature.