

OWEN SOUND PRESBYTERY.

At the regular fall meeting of Owen Sound Presbytery, held September 3rd, the resignation of Mr. McNabb of Kilsyth was regretfully accepted and a very appreciative resolution recorded respecting his fifteen years' successful pastorate, during which the charge became self-sustaining and a handsome modern church was built at Kilsyth and paid for, while the congregations are among the foremost in the presbytery in support of the church schemes. It is understood that Mr. McNabb will take a well-earned and needed rest before taking another charge. Mr. Woodside of Owen Sound is interim moderator.

The salary of Dr. Fraser, pastor of Annan, etc., has been made \$1,000, with manse and the usual holidays. Action of congregations was commended. A call from Kumbie, etc., to Mr. D. H. Currie of Hillsdale, with salary of \$1,000 and holidays, was sanctioned.

The Sabbath Observance Committee was instructed to take measures to compel enforcement of law to prevent shunting cars, etc., on Sabbath. Sunday school institutes have been arranged for at Markdale, Keady and Shallow Lake, September 17-19, under direction of Rev. Dr. Robertson, general Sunday school secretary. A conference of young people's societies was decided on for evening preceding March meeting. Mr. Andrew Armstrong, assistant treasurer of Owen Sound, was appointed treasurer of presbytery in succession to Mr. McNabb.

Considerable time was spent discussing the report of the Union Committee and several "suggestions" were adopted and reported to the secretary—Dr. E. D. McLaren.

It was also agreed to suggest to the committee appointed by last Assembly to prepare a plan for the more satisfactory settlement of vacant charges, not only that improved arrangements should be made to facilitate the calling of ministers, but that an alternative system should be sanctioned, which should be optional with the congregations and ministers, under which all charges failing to call within a time to be agreed on, and all vacant charges so desiring should have a minister appointed, without a time limit, on condition that in all such cases a change could be asked for at the close of any synodical year by either charge or minister, and that there should be in each of the synods a settlement committee for this purpose. The Presbytery was unanimous in the suggestion. The feeling that some remedy should be found for the many objectionable features of the present unsatisfactory system is strong and widespread, though the problem is confessedly a very perplexing one. If all the presbyteries of the church will discuss it and send suggestions to the committee it should be possible to prepare a satisfactory plan.

The annual union picnic of the Bright Methodist and Presbyterian Sunday schools was held on Robson's Plains on Labor Day, and a very enjoyable time was spent. First among the sports was a game of football by all the young ladies and young men. After this the young ladies retired to another part of the grounds and enjoyed themselves in a game of baseball, while the men, old and young, chose sides for a game of football. These games were continued till the hour of running off the races. The races were well graded, from infants to old men, so that all had a chance of competing for a prize.

In the absence of Rev. Mr. Young, Rev. Mr. Eddy conducted union services last Sunday at Clifford—in the morning in the Presbyterian Church, and in the evening in the Methodist Church.

RESIGNATION OF REV. WILLIAM FRIZZELL.

The resignation of Rev. Wm. Frizzell, Ph.B., from the pastorate of Queen Street East Presbyterian Church has been accepted. Mr. Frizzell has been obliged to take this step owing to continued ill health. About a year ago he had a severe sickness, which continued for months, and from which he has never fully recovered. He had hoped, however, to remain in charge of his congregation until the completion of his twenty-fifth year in that pastorate, which would be in October, and his congregation urged him to remain with them at least to celebrate that event, but his desire is to be allowed to vacate the charge now, lest there might be anything in the way of a satisfactory settlement being speedily made.

Mr. Frizzell's only reason for asking Presbytery to receive his resignation is that he feels physical and mental inability to do justice to the requirements of a large and growing congregation.

In laying down his work at this time, amid such prosperous prospects, Rev. Mr. Frizzell carries with him the esteem and confidence of a faithful and loyal people. Mr. Frizzell expects to spend the winter months with his son in Redlands, California.

Rev. Wm. Frizzell was born in 1844, in the county Tyrone, Ireland. He came to this country at an early age, and received his education in University College, Knox College, Toronto, and the Union Theological College, Bloomington, Ill., from which he obtained the degree of bachelor of philosophy.

Mr. Frizzell has seen the congregation of Queen Street East Presbyterian church grow from small proportions to a size sufficient to fill the present building, much larger than the original church. As a pastor he has been unwearied in his labors, and particularly as a Bible class teacher has been zealous and helpful to his people. His interests were not restricted to his own congregation or denomination, for he spent several years of service on the Executive of the Ontario Sunday School Association, of which he was for a while chairman, and was elected President of the association last year. He was a delegate to the world's Sunday School Convention at Denver, and also at Jerusalem. He was also for twelve years a vice-president of the Upper Canada Bible Society, and was a director of the House of Industry.

DO YOU HAVE FAMILY PRAYERS.

A clergyman, occupying a prominent place as an educator, and who has opportunity to know something of the home life of many American families, declares the absence of the family altar in the majority of homes. In fact, he declares that in comparatively few is the usage of family worship continued.

At one time it was the rule in most Christian families to have prayers either morning or evening every day, but now you rarely find a family where this is done. How is it in your home? Another thing this clergyman says is that the absence of our sacred Church really alive as it ought to be unless we re-establish the custom of family worship.

Children need it. Parents need it. The most needs it. God must be acknowledged and honored in the home.

The warmth of family life dies down unless there be this daily rendering of homage to the Lord of the family. What is there to hinder your reading a few verses from your Bible and saying a prayer with your family tonight? Think about it? Do not know just how to begin? There is a form of family prayers in the prayer book. You have your Bible. Begin with the Beatitudes, St. Matthew 5th. Only a few minutes and you have started your family altar.

—American Church S. S. Magazine

THE MASTER'S CALL.

Every ear ought to be open to every call of God. The Indians learned to put their ears to the ground to hear sound is of approaching enemies, and all should acquire skill in listening to the voice of God.

God has His own way of calling, and calls in many ways. Elijah did not hear God in the fire, wind or earthquake, but in the still, small voice. It may be in a very small sermon by a very humble minister that God would speak to us. It was so with Mr. Spurgeon, who was led to consecrate himself to the service of Christ by a sermon of a poor Wesleyan minister in a plain country chapel.

Sometimes God calls men through a sharp Providence when a milder voice seems to be unable to wake a sleeping conscience. Some will not hear till the Lord comes very near to them and speaks dreadfully in their ears, as with the voice of thunder to wake the dead. The death of a child or other dear one sometimes appears to be the voice of God to call sleeping or resisting souls into his service. The Lord seems often to call persons by name, as He called Samuel, and many others who have received personal intimations of the Divine interest in them, and of call to the Master's service.

The patience of God in continuing these calls even till a late period in life, instead of steeling the heart with indifference, should make the heart tender with gratitude, and so far from begetting presumption, it ought to lead the soul to prompt acceptance of God's offer of mercy and salvation. A man who was not a Christian read that there was small hope of a man's conversion after he was forty; that was on his fortieth birthday, and he gave his heart to God.

The call of God has come to everyone, and the call is clothed with Divine authority, and no one is at liberty to neglect or decline the call in safety. No one can say how long God will stand calling and knocking at his door, or how long our ears will retain their power to hear God's call, if our ears are taught not to hear and heed the call of the Master. Even the alarm clock that is not obeyed in a few mornings will lose power to arouse the unresponsive sleeper. It is a common experience that sounds that are not heeded all around us soon lose their power to disturb us or excite attention, so that multitudes learn to work or sleep amid roaring wheels, screeching whistles, and ringing bells with no more note of these discordant sounds than if they were passing their days and nights in the midst of rural stillness. In like manner a great number have so long turned a deaf ear to the call of the Master that the sound of that sweet voice no longer rings in the unwilling ear, and the soul learn to sleep amid the greatest efforts to arouse souls that are asleep to the danger of their situation and to the Lord's call to repentance, faith, service and salvation.—Cumberland Presbyterian.

What a good Master do we serve that allows us time for sleep and furnishes us with conveniences for it and makes it refreshing and reviving to us! By this it appears that the Lord is for the body, and it is a good reason why we should present our bodies to Him as living sacrifices and glorify Him with them.—Matthew Henry.

God has made you after his own plan, and he places you just where he wishes you to work with him to bring about the highest results for yourself. He has given you every opportunity. Make yourself what you will. Remember it lies with you. God can make no mistakes!—Alice Freeman Palmer.