

have confidence in my purposes assures me of your cordial support in carrying them out.

I offer you my sincere thanks for your kind wishes for myself and family, and I pray God to enrich you with all temporal and spiritual mercies.

I am with affectionate regard  
Your servant in the Lord.

K. MACLENNAN.

The above presented a delightful scene, which will not easily be forgotten by those acting a part in it.—The *Dundas Tribune* of January 24th.

#### CONGREGATION OF WOOLWICH PRESENTATION.

On the 12 Jany. the people of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church and neighbourhood presented their Pastor, the Rev. James Thom, with the following address, expressive of their sentiments of esteem. "We beg of you to accept of us a small moiety at our hands for the valuable services you have conferred on us as our spiritual guide." The above was accompanied with an elegant and substantial cutter with robes, &c. &c. In return the Pastor replied: "I accept this unexpected memorial of your kindness with grateful emotion. I shall ever esteem it as a testimony of your regard for the great truths of the Gospel of Christ, and, whilst my hands are strengthened, and my heart encouraged, by the prayerful, united exertions of an affectionate people in the work of our Divine Master, I humbly confide in Him for supplies of His grace to enable me faithfully to minister to your spiritual edification out of His abundant fulness. By such tokens of respect the bonds of brotherly love are continued in the Christian Church; whilst my earnest prayers are for the peace and prosperity of Zion, may the same blessing rest on you and yours, till at length we are called in the dispensations of Providence from our earthly labours in the Sanctuary below to celebrate His praises in that which is above during the ceaseless ages of eternity."

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church on the evening of Thursday, January 17th. After Divine service, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, who delivered an appropriate and eloquent discourse from 1 CORINTH. XIII. 4, the Hon. Peter McGill, President of the Association, took the Chair. After expressing regret that a larger audience had not availed themselves of the satisfaction of listening to the Rev. Chaplain's excellent discourse, and referring at some length to the special objects of the Association, he called upon the Recording Secretary to read the Report, which was to the following effect.

#### REPORT FOR 1855.

The Lay Association beg to submit the following summary of their proceedings during the year 1855:—

#### BURSARY FUND.

This Fund, which in by gone years has consid-

erably contributed towards aiding during their attendance at College meritorious students having a view to the ministry, has continued to receive attention and support, there being at present three Bursars of the Association prosecuting their studies at Queen's College. It is superfluous to reiterate here how desirable it is to have a Fund available for the object contemplated by this scheme of the Association; but, in order that our aids in this direction may be increased, it ought to be borne in mind that nearly twenty of our youthful pastors, labouring among flourishing congregations, and forming nearly one-fourth of the Synod Roll, were students of Queen's College, and that some of these during their curriculum there received aid from this Fund.

#### PUBLICATION FUND.

Early in January of 1854 our brethren in Halifax started a periodical, entitled the *Monthly Record*, with the view of accomplishing for Nova Scotia and the adjoining Provinces the objects contemplated by the publication of the *Presbyterian*. While the appearance of this monthly has had the effect, as we anticipated, of inducing the great majority of our supporters in the Lower Provinces to withdraw their names from our Subscription List, the additional subscribers in Canada during the year nearly counter-balance those that have been thus withdrawn. We sincerely wish for our fellow-labourer a wide circulation within its appropriate limits; we even hope that its moderate cost, only a half dollar a year, may ensure for it considerable support in this Province.

Although numerous parties, to whom a notice of arrears for several by-gone years has been twice transmitted during the past year, have paid up these arrears, as may have been observed by their monthly acknowledgment under the SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED of the *Presbyterian*, we regret to state that nearly as many have disregarded the call; so that, although the receipts have been equivalent to the disbursements, there still remains a balance against the Fund, of about the usual amount, transmitted from former years. On the whole, however, should the remittances in the course of the current year be transmitted more generally in advance than during previous years, and should as large an amount of arrears be paid up during the present as during the past year, it is probable that the income hereafter from subscriptions and advertisements, the latter of which have been recently increased, may considerably exceed the current expenses of the periodical and gradually reduce the debt.

The Publication Committee embrace this opportunity of cordially acknowledging their indebtedness to the individuals of the Clergy and Laity who have in the course of the past year favoured them with original articles and with communications containing items of local intelligence interesting to the Church at large. The acceptableness and usefulness of the periodical have been greatly enhanced by such contributions; and they earnestly solicit an increase of these during the year on which we have entered. They desire at the same time to tender their acknowledgements of the very gratifying terms in which many subscribers have been pleased to express approval of their labours and sincere wishes for success to these.

In connection with this subject it is proper to state that the Association at its meeting on the 10th of September resolved to issue a Juvenile Record, to be entitled "The Child's Presbyterian," as early in the year as possible, should sufficient encouragement be extended to the enterprise. A prospectus has been issued, and some Clergymen and Superintendents of Sabbath Schools have ordered to the amount of upwards of 500. Literary aid in its management has been promised, and it seems proper to announce that it is likely that final arrangements for its publication at an early date may be entered into.

#### RELIEF FUND.

In the month of February the Association gifted

the sum of £12 10s. towards aiding the Congregation of St. Louis de Gonzague in the erection of a Manse; and in the month of September they voted £10 towards completing the Church at Beechridge. In both cases the Association required beforehand satisfactory proof that the deed of the property is such as to feud it to the Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and a guarantee that the congregations would make suitable exertions.

In conclusion the Lay Association, while in reviewing the results of their labours during the past year they feel conscious that a far larger amount of good might have been effected by more earnest exertions on the part of the office-bearers and others, derive satisfaction from reflecting that the objects primarily contemplated by the formation of the Association have been to a considerable extent accomplished.

The whole respectfully submitted,

T. A. GIBSON,  
Recording Secretary.

Thereafter the following Resolutions, introduced with appropriate remarks by the respective movers, were passed by the meeting:

Moved by Mr. MACK, seconded by Mr. G. D. WATSON—

*And Resolved*,—That the Report now read be received, adopted, and published in "The Presbyterian" for February.

Moved by Mr. HUGH ALLAN, seconded by Mr. JOHN SMITH—

*And Resolved*,—That in the now altered circumstances of our Church, consequent upon the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, it seems to this meeting most necessary that united exertions be put forth by all the well-wishers of our Zion in this Province towards the formation of Branch Associations, having for their chief end the promotion of the objects contemplated by this one, and that in order to the successful carrying-out of these objects a respectful application be made to the Supreme Court of our Church, soliciting their advice and direction in reference to the formation of a Society embracing within its agency the entire Province, and thus realizing the hopes of the founders of this Association.

Moved by Mr. JOHN GREENSHIELDS, seconded by Mr. J. M. ROSS—

*And Resolved*,—That the thanks of this meeting are due and they are hereby tendered to the Rev. Dr. Mathieson for his excellent discourse, and that he be requested to allow its publication in the *Presbyterian*.

Moved by Mr. G. D. WATSON, seconded by Mr. W. MACFARLAN—

*And Resolved*,—That the following gentlemen be appointed office-bearers of this Association during the present year. [1856]:—

#### PRESIDENT,

The Hon. PETER MCGILL.

#### VICE PRESIDENTS:

JOHN GREENSHIELDS, Esq., HUGH ALLAN, Esq.,  
HEW RAMSAY, Esq., JAS. MITCHELL, Esq.

Treasurer—ALEXANDER MORRIS, Esq.

Recording Secretary—T. A. GIBSON, Esq.

Corresponding Secretary—J. S. HUNTER, Esq.  
Committee of Management.—Wm. Edmondstone, J. M. Ross, Geo. Templeton, Wm. McNider, David Shaw, E. McLennan, James Goudie, John Armour, John Campbell, John Kingan, David Mair, and Wm. Ross.

Chaplains.—Rev. Alex. Mathieson, D. D., and Rev. Robert McGill, D. D.

A vote of thanks to the Office-Bearers for their services during the year having been unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.