

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

At the ordinary meeting of this Presbytery, on the 6th Nov., the Rev. David Couper, Minister of the Free Church, Toronto, and commissioned by the General Synod of the Free Church of Scotland to supply the Church in Cook Street, Montreal, preached a sermon, and in terms of the recent decision of the Synod, was received, *pro tempore*, as a member of the Congregation.

The denunciation of the Commission in the case of Mr. Alexander Cameron, Professor of Theology, and of a sermon, in terms thereof, to read a sermon at Montreal, by the ordination to take place at Vankleek Hill, on the 20th Nov.

Reports of Ministers respecting missionary tours, and of Caretakers of their summer's labours, were read. Ministers were instructed to devote each one Sabbath to Missionary labour during the ensuing quarter, and report at next ordinary meeting.

The Presbytery had under consideration, the Scheme of the Widows' Fund, submitted by the Synod's Committee. It was agreed that the Ministers present should recommend it to their Congregations for their support; and that the Mission Committee of the Presbytery should take steps to have it brought before the Congregations and Mission Stations not represented at the meeting.

The Presbytery also agreed to recommend that subscriptions for Knox's College be made throughout the bounds, both in Congregations and at Mission Stations—(practicable, within the quarter ensuing)—the following gentlemen to be requested to act as local treasurers to receive contributions in their respective districts, and forward the same to John Burns, Esq., General Treasurer, Toronto, viz.—John Redpath, Esq., Montreal; Neil Stewart, Esq., Vankleek Hill;—Cummings, Esq., Whitnoustown. Ministers to report the progress of the contributions to the next ordinary meeting.

The Draft of the Constitution for Knox's College was under consideration; and Messrs. Riout and Couper, Ministers, and Mr. Redpath, Elder, were appointed a Committee to prepare a report on said Draft, and transmit it to the Presbytery of Toronto.

In the evening, the Rev. David Back preached before the Presbytery according to appointment. He delivered a very able discourse from Hab. iii. 2:—*“Revive thy work, &c.”* on the marks of a true revival of Religion, and the duty and encouragement to seek it.

The Moderator, Mr. Henry, was appointed to preach at the next ordinary meeting, to be held in Cook Street Church, on Wednesday, the 5th day of February next, at 12 o'clock, noon. The sermon to be in the evening. It was agreed to request from the City Churches one collection annually, on such occasions of meeting, for the ordinary Presbytery Fund.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

From a very full report of the proceedings of this Presbytery, sent to us by the Clerk, (Rev. J. W. Smith) too late for our last number, we give the following extracts:—

On the 3rd September this Presbytery met at Cobourg, when all the ministers and several elders were present. Mr. Thomas Dickson resigned his connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, which was unanimously accepted.

Mr. William James Mackenzie, Student of Divinity, having undergone the prescribed trials, and fully satisfied the Presbytery of his acquaintance with the various subjects and of his qualifications for the ministry, was licensed to preach the gospel.

On the 23rd of September an adjourned meeting was held at Peterboro', when Mr. McLeod reported that he had, in compliance with the in-

structions of Presbytery, moderated in a call at Baltimore and Cold-springs, in favor of Mr. Mackenzie. The call having been sustained, and Mr. Mackenzie having intimated his acceptance of the same, the Presbytery met at Cold-springs on 15th October, according to appointment, and proceeded with Mr. Mackenzie's ordination.

Mr. McLeod preached and presided. The subject of his discourse was Rev. ii. 20, last clause:—*“Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life.”* The sermon was clear, appropriate and impressive, and was listened to attentively by a crowded audience. The preacher referred liberally to the support the King of Zion afforded his faithful people in primitive times, and also the abundant blessings he had vouchsafed to the struggles of the Church for the Crown and Kingdom of the Redeemer in father-land.

Mr. McLeod then put the usual questions to Mr. Mackenzie, and Mr. Mackenzie having returned satisfactory answers, was, by prayer and the imposition of the hands of the Presbytery, solemnly set apart to the office of the Holy Ministry. Mr. Mackenzie then received the right hand of fellowship from the Presbytery, and was admitted pastor of the congregations. After which, the Rev. Mr. Roger addressed Mr. Mackenzie, affectionately directing him to the importance and responsibility of his work, and pointing him to Christ as the source of his power. Rev. Mr. Smith briefly addressed the people on their duties, and after the benediction, the congregation welcomed their young pastor in a most affectionate manner.

Mr. Mackenzie's name was then added to the Roll, and he took his seat as a member of Presbytery.

The entire proceedings connected with Mr. Mackenzie's settlement, must be highly gratifying to himself, and we trust they will result in profit to the people over whom he has been so auspiciously settled as pastor.

KNOX'S COLLEGE MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.
CIRCULAR.

AGENCY OFFICE,
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA,
TORONTO, NOV. 20, 1850.

At a Meeting of the Agency Committee of the Synod, held on the 18th inst., there were present—Rev. Alexander Gale, Convener, Rev. Dr. Willis, and John McMurrish, James Shaw, James Leask, John Kay, John Laidlaw, and Samuel Spruell, Esquires. The state of the funds of Knox's College was brought under consideration, when it was unanimously resolved “that a Circular be addressed to each Congregation and Mission Station, urging that the Annual Contributions to the College Fund be taken up at an early day,” and they remitted it to the Convener and Agent to prepare and issue such Circular.

In fulfilment of this duty we have simply to state that the Treasurer is without funds—that there is still a balance of salary due to Professors for the half year ending June 30th, and that another half year's stipend will fall due on 1st January next, which, together with other necessary expenses, will amount in all to about £500. It is obviously most desirable, for the credit and efficiency of this most important institution, that the several claims should be met as they arise. As, heretofore, the remittances from Congregations have not generally come in until after the beginning of the year, it is necessary to remind them that it would save much embarrassment to those who are connected with the Institution, if Congregational Treasurers would transmit at least a portion of their contributions on or before the 1st of January.

It may be necessary also to state that the expenditure has been reduced to the lowest amount consistent with the efficiency of the College—that the old claims are almost extinguished—and that

the sum now annually required for its support (if all the members and friends of the Church were alive to their duty in regard to it) could be easily furnished without being burdensome to any.

It is not necessary to advert to the importance of the College to the stability and extension of the Church in this land. This has been fully brought out on former occasions, and it is presumed, no one amongst us now doubts that we must chiefly depend for a supply of ordinands—for pastoral, missionary, and evangelistic labour, upon a home-trained ministry.

The Committee respectfully request that in all Congregations and Mission Stations, Contributions be immediately made on behalf of Knox's College, and that wherever no organization already exists for taking up the offerings of the people, a body of Collectors should be forthwith appointed. System, it is firmly believed, is what is mainly wanting, for calling forth the liberality of the people. A bountiful and gracious Providence has abundantly supplied them with the means.

The friends of the Church at the various Mission Stations should remember that they are especially interested in seeing the College effectively sustained, and it is confidently expected that the contributions for the current year will furnish satisfactory proof, that they are not unmindful of the services rendered in many of these otherwise desolate localities, by the Students of Knox's College, not that it is to the same quarter they must look for permanent pastors.

We are happy to add, that notwithstanding the large number of Students who completed their course last year, and are now vigorously engaged as pastors or preachers of the Gospel, the classes, both theological and preliminary, are as full as in any preceding session. In the theological classes, under the Rev. Dr. Willis, there are twenty-three Students, who attend also the Church History Class under Dr. Burns, while the classes under the care of Professor Eason, number about thirty Students, in various stages of progress, availing themselves at the same time of the instructions given in the Academy, in certain departments of their preparatory training. Mr. Hirschfelder is attended by nearly thirty Students in Hebrew and other Oriental languages. Nor are numbers alone the ground of encouragement. We believe it may be confidently stated, that the great majority of the Students are of those whose hearts the Lord himself has touched, and who give unequivocal tokens of piety and thorough-devotedness to the service of Christ. Surely the Church will not fail to sustain us by its prayers and contributions combined.

The attention of the Agency Committee was also directed to the subject of the constitution of the Ministry within the Presbyterian Church of Canada; and the Minutes of Synod, containing instructions to the Committee and Presbyteries on this most important subject, were read. After serious deliberation, it was

Resolved—That with the view of bringing the subject of a General Sostentation Scheme once more before the Church, a set of Queries be addressed to Presbyteries, in order to ascertain the existing state of matters in this respect.

The Committee respectfully solicit through Clerks of Presbyteries, answers to the following queries, viz:—

1. What steps have been taken by your Presbytery in obedience to the injunction of Synod, to secure due attention to the support of the Ministry in the several Congregations?
2. What organization exists in your Congregations for the support of the Ministry?—Donors, Trustees or Managers?
3. From what sources are the stipends derived?
4. At what terms and with what regularity paid?
5. Have the measures adopted by your Presbytery produced any good results in securing better provision and more punctual payments?