

chell, accompanied with a guarantee of one hundred and eighty pounds currency of annual stipend, was presented and sustained. The call was put into Mr Mitchell's hands (who was present) who signified his cordial acceptance of it.

Subjects of trial were prescribed to Mitchell, and the Presbytery agreed to meet on the 28th January to hear the trial discourse, or some of them, and for the transaction of any other competent business.

Petitions were presented from Whitby, Markham, and Brock for moderation of calls; the prayer of these petitions was granted, and brethren were appointed to moderate in calls in these three vacant charges on an early day.

An application was made on behalf of the congregation of Knox's Church, Toronto, for the moderation of a call to a minister, as soon as the congregation are prepared for it. As the Presbytery is to meet soon, it was agreed to defer this matter till next meeting. Meanwhile Mr. Lowry, the Convener of the committee formerly appointed, was instructed to confer with the Trustees of Knox's Church, relative to the alteration of the constitution.

The subject of Missionary meetings throughout the bounds of the Presbytery was taken up—the plan formerly submitted was read and agreed to, with the understanding that the brethren be left very much to their own discretion as to the mode of conducting the meetings, and that the work be completed and collections taken up not later than the month of March.

The plan is as follows:

No. 1. Rev. Messrs. Marshall and Ure to be associated together. The former will attend to Yorkville, Humber, and such portions of the city as he considers most important, as his destitute missionary field; and the latter will hold meetings at Churchville, and Port Credit.

The Professors and the Rev. Mr. Reid will be attached to this district, with the view of giving such assistance as their professional and other duties will admit.

No. 2. Rev. Messrs. Wightman and Laing. Their destitute mission field will comprise Markham, Whitby, and Reels. The Rev. Mr. Harris will be attached to this district.

No. 3. Rev. Messrs. Nisbet and Alexander, with Georgetown, and Mono, as the destitute mission field.

No. 4. Rev. Messrs. Holmes and Adams, with Weston, and the country around Lloydtown as their mission district.

No. 5. Rev. Messrs. McLachlan and McTavish. Their mission field will comprehend Caledon, Erin, and Brock.

No. 6. Rev. Messrs. Meldrum and Grant (missionary). Nottawasaga and Sunnidale will be their mission district.

No. 7. Rev. Messrs. Lowrie and Mackenzie. Their mission field will comprise Adjala, Essa, and lower end of Mono.

No. 8. Rev. Messrs. Gray and Rennie (missionary) with Medonte, north end of Mara, and Collingwood as their missionary district.

The attention of the Presbytery having been called to the terms in which the overture on the management of congregational matters was sent down to Presbyteries, and which seem not to have been particularly noticed at last meeting, viz., instructing them (the Presbyteries) to report their opinions on the overture, and not simply to signify their approval or disapproval of it; it was therefore agreed to take up this matter, that, in order to avoid misconception, reasons may be recorded why the Presbytery disapproved of the overture at last meeting. After lengthened discussion and due deliberation the following motion was agreed to, viz.:—The Presbytery having had its attention called to the fact that its deliverance anent the overture on congregational affairs at last meeting is liable to be misconstrued,

ed, agree to record that its disapproval was chiefly based upon the circumstance of the overture being too vague and indefinite for practical use; while at the same time the Presbytery is generally favourable to the object which seems to be aimed at in the overture.

Dr Burns begged it to be marked that it was quite out of his power to be present at last Presbytery, otherwise he would have moved the cordial approval of the overture on congregational management, and further that the explanatory clause now inserted does not in any respect meet his approval.

An overture on the subject of a mission to the North American Indians was submitted by Mr. McTavish, and it was agreed to transmit it to the Synod. It is as follows:

Whereas, it is the duty of each branch of the Church of Christ to proclaim his name as widely as possible, and especially among the inhabitants of the country within which its members dwell.

It is overtured by the Presbytery of Toronto to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, that it take steps towards instituting a mission to the aborigines of this land, as soon as God in his providence shall enable it to do so.

Mr. Reid brought before the Presbytery the subject of Church extension in Toronto. After mature deliberation the Presbytery agreed to record their cordial approval of the subject brought before them, and appoint the members of Presbytery resident in Toronto a committee to collect information relative to the extent of the Presbyterian population in the city beyond the range of the existing congregations; and the localities where it may be considered expedient to open mission or preaching stations, and the raising of the ways and means for affording a supply of ordinances to such as may at present be destitute or neglected, and to report.

The subject of periodical returns of ministers' stipend was considered. After deliberation it was agreed that printed forms be issued to the Treasurers of the several congregations once a quarter, requesting that they be filled up and sent in to the Presbytery at the end of each quarter; and that in the case of those congregations where contributions are made to the minister's stipend only twice a year, returns be made at least half yearly.

The Presbytery further agreed to recommend to the ministers within its bounds to preach on an early Sabbath on the duty of Christians contributing after a scriptural manner, according to their ability, both for the maintenance of public ordinance among themselves, and for the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom generally throughout the world.

T. WIGHTMAN, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery met in Cobourg on the 6th of January.

Half yearly financial reports were received from Bowmanville, Cobourg, Springville, Peterboro', and Norwood. The report from one congregation was unsatisfactory, and a deputation was appointed to visit that congregation.

There was laid on the table a call from the congregation of Cartwright and Manvers, to the Rev. J. W. Chesnut, which was sustained. Mr. C. being present the call was presented to him with the request that he would consider the matter. At a subsequent stage in the proceedings it was declined by him. The Presbytery sympathize with the congregation in this disappointment, and earnestly hope that a pastor will be provided for them in due time.

Mr. McKee was appointed to supply Cartwright and Manvers, on the 11th and 18th of January, and after that Percy and Seymour Bridge.

Mr. Crawford to supply Percy and Seymour Bridge the 18th of January; and after that Cartwright and Manvers.

Mr. Cuthbertson to supply Bethesda Church and Alnwick.

Mr. McLeod was appointed to visit Alnwick, and Mr. McKenzie, Percy and Seymour Bridge, and to inquire into the financial condition of these stations.

There was read a petition from Bethesda Church, praying to be organized into a regular congregation in connexion with this church.—The Presbytery received it as a congregation, directed Mr. McKenzie to get a communion roll prepared, and to dispense the Lord's Supper.

There was a conversation on the necessity of improving the Psalmody of our congregations; and Messrs. McLeod and Roger, A. Fraser, Esq., and C. H. Morgan, Esq., were appointed a committee to consider the matter, and to report.—Mr. McLeod, Convener.

It was agreed for the better conducting of Missionary Meetings to divide the Presbytery.

Those in Cobourg, Grafton, Colborne, Baltimore, Coldsprings, Robson's Station, Bethesda Church, Bowmanville and Elmiskillen, to be under the charge of the Rev. Messrs. McLeod, McKenzie, J. W. Smith, and John Smith.

Those in Peterboro', Springville, South Cayvan, Millbrook, Keene, Westwood, Norwood, Warsaw, Smithtown, Percy, Alnwick, and Seymour Bridge, to be under the charge of the Messrs. Douglas, Roger, Andrews, Bluin, and Bowie.

Mr. John Smith was appointed to attend to the meetings in Cartwright and Manvers.

It was agreed to consider the various overtures sent down from Synod at next meeting.

Mr. McKenzie reported that he had received returns on the state of religion from all the congregations in the bounds except one. It was agreed that the evening of the first day of next meeting should be spent in devotional exercises, and in conference on the state of religion.

Three of the ministers and some of the elders having left before the business was concluded, it was agreed to require an explanation at next meeting.

The Presbytery appointed its next meeting to be held at Cobourg on the 24th and 25th of February.

JAMES BOWIE, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

The Presbytery of Hamilton held its ordinary meeting on the 13th instant and adjourned till the following day. There was a fair attendance of Ministers but few Elders.

On petition from the congregations at Berlin and Woolwich, a call was appointed to be moderated in from these congregations on the 28th current by the Rev. Samuel Young.

A deputy from the congregation of West Puslinch, homologated, on the part of that congregation, the action of Dr. Bayne, in conjunction with the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, in inviting Mr. Andrew McLean, probationer, to be their minister; and a presbyterial and other certificates in favor of Mr. McLean, together with his designation to the congregation of West Puslinch by the Colonial Committee having been read and sustained, the Presbytery received Mr. McLean as a probationer within the bounds—appointed the subjects of his ordination trials, and agreed to meet at Galt on the third Wednesday of February, at eleven o'clock, a.m., for the purpose of hearing them, and making further arrangements.

A letter from the Rev. James Pirie, resigning his charge at Niagara on account of continued ill health, was read. The Presbytery while they accepted his resignation, did so with sin-