

# THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,

For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

"Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation."

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### PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Presbytery of Toronto will meet in the Library of Knox's College, on the first Wednesday of March, at noon.

T. WIGHTMAN, *Pres. Clerk.*

### PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

The next ordinary meeting will take place at Hamilton, on the second Tuesday of April next, at three o'clock, P. M.

M. Y. STARK, *Pres. Clerk.*

### PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The ordinary meeting of the Presbytery of London was held on the 14th of January, when the following business engaged the attention of that court:—

The Rev. T. McPherson of Stratford was elected moderator for the ensuing year.

On an interesting letter being read from Mr. Kynock of Wallaceburgh, requesting a supply of preaching, the Presbytery resolved to obtain, as soon as possible, a suitable missionary for that settlement; and, in the mean time, agreed to request the Rev. William King of Buxton to visit it.

The Rev. D. Greer, who had been for the last three months labouring with encouraging success at North Dorchester and St. Andrews, was appointed to Blandford; and the Rev. D. McDermid, who had been for six months preaching at Aldborough, and the adjoining stations, was designated to Woodstock and St. Andrews, with instructions to give occasional supply to North Dorchester.

The following Missionary appointments, to be fulfilled before the next ordinary meeting, were given to members of Presbytery:—The Rev. J. Ross of London Road to visit Kincardine, by way of preparation for the labours of Mr. A. Currie, who was engaged to serve as Catechist for two months in that destitute locality; the Rev.

J. Fraser of St. Thomas, and the Rev. I. McPherson of Williams, to visit Bosanquet; and the Rev. T. McPherson of Stratford to visit the destitute settlements of Queen's Bush.

As the new and important settlement of Saugeen cannot be conveniently reached in the winter season, the Presbytery resolved to send a suitable Missionary to that station early in the Spring.

The Rev. T. McPherson of Stratford, and the Rev. D. McKuar of Blenheim, were appointed to discuss the holy ordinance of the Lord's Supper to the congregation of Blandford, before the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery.

Mr. Burns from Toronto, and Mr. McLellan from Hamilton, being present as a deputation from the Committee of the Widows' Fund scheme, were cordially welcomed, and members of the court were appointed to accompany them in their visit to the several congregations.

A special meeting of the Presbytery was appointed to be held at St. Thomas, on the 14th of February, for the purpose of considering whether it may not be expedient to dissolve the pastoral relation between the Rev. J. Fraser and the congregation of Fungal—Mr. Fraser's present charge being inconveniently large.

### PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg met in Peterboro', on the 3rd February. The ministers were all present, with one exception, but the attendance of elders was small.

During the winter season, at least, congregations should see that their elders attend the Presbytery, because, by this means the congregation, through their elder, is brought into more immediate contact with the affairs of the Church Courts, and by this means also, they are more likely to be brought to take a lively interest in the various schemes of the Church. The elder is the bond of connection between the congregation and the Church Courts, and when this link is broken, the connection is severed. Let the elders henceforth take their proper place in Presbytery and Synod, that the lay and clerical elements may be scripturally balanced.

A deputation appeared from the inhabitants of Norwood and Dunmer, praying the Presbytery to appoint the Rev. D. McAleese as their permanent supply until the meeting of Synod, and then to take the necessary steps for having him appointed their pastor. They stated their ability and willingness to support him.

The Presbytery directed him to spend the five coming Sabbaths at Carwright and Manvers, and the remainder of the time, till the meeting of the Home Mission Committee, at Dummer, Norwood, and Percy. Mr. McAleese's labors at all the stations have been much blessed, in bringing many under the preaching of the word, who had hitherto been neglecting the house of God.

The Presbytery directed the clerk to make instant application to the Convener of the Home Mission Committee, for the services of Mr. Adams, or another missionary, if he be engaged,

to labour within their bounds until the Committee meet in April.

The members were notified, that at the next meeting a report will be required from each deacon's court, shewing the progress made in raising subscriptions for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

The clerk called for the opinion of the brethren on the Declaratory Act, and some passages in the Confession of Faith, when it was agreed that at the next meeting the members should be prepared to come to some finding on the matter.

Rev. F. Andrews then presented a reference from the session of Otanabee, requesting the opinion of the Presbytery on the morality of public balls.

The Presbytery agreed to record their unanimous opinion, that such meetings are injurious to morals, prejudicial to health, and inconsistent with Christian propriety.

The Rev. D. McAleese, who has been engaged in missionary work within the bounds of the Presbytery since last Synod, with great success, applied to be admitted as a minister of this Church. The Presbytery received his papers, and agreed to proceed according to the directions of Synod, for the admission of ministers from other churches.

The next meeting was appointed to be held at Cobourg, on the second Tuesday in March.

JOHN W. SMITH, *P. C.*

### PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The Presbytery of Montreal, in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, held its ordinary quarterly meeting in the session house of the Coté Street Free Church, on the 4th February. The attendance of the members was full, and a considerable amount of business despatched. We subjoin a few items. The mission field under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery was surveyed, and it was resolved to apply to the General Home Mission Committee of the Synod, for six missionaries or catechists, to labor at the principal vacant stations during summer. On application from the congregations at Leeds and St. Sylvester, steps were taken to have a call moderated in, to the Rev. William Scott, Licentiate of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, to become Pastor of these congregations. It was agreed to overture the Synod in regard to the publication of a Directory for forms of procedure in the Presbyterian Church. The attention of the Presbytery was also called to the fact, that the Legislature have formally recognised certain Holidays of the Church of Rome and rendered their binding on the general community in Lower Canada. It was resolved, to overture the Synod, to petition the Provincial Parliament against this grievous usurpation. From returns furnished to the Presbytery, it appeared that the two congregations in the City of Montreal, have recently subscribed towards the Ministers' Widows' Fund, the following sums.—St. Gabriel Street Church, £208; Coté Street Church, £308 9s. Some of the country congregations have subscribed with corresponding liberality.