

in spring. The Red River brethren are delighted with the prospect of his arrival. Mr. Nisbet is busily preparing for his important Mission to the Plain Cree of the Saskatchewan. In a happy, hopeful spirit, he anticipates starting with his family as soon as the season opens. The friends at the Red River are contributing to the Mission goods &c., equal to \$500—and our Missionary and his assistant are in various ways, making a contribution, equally liberal. In addition to an Interpreter, it was found absolutely necessary, to secure the services of a helper. Mr. Nisbet writes of date Feb. 20th, "One man is the very least help besides an Interpreter, that it is possible to do with, for the reasons that I have given in former letters. We shall require such help for putting up even the most temporary dwelling, without it we shall not be able to make a beginning at cultivating the soil and will be under the necessity of importing from Red River. But above all, the Mission, cannot be what the Synod, the Committee and myself, wish it very much to be—viz., in great part, of an *itinerant kind*. My interpreter and I could not leave our families in the wilderness, perhaps three or five days journey from any civilized being, without, at least, one trustworthy man to stay with them. Besides, by having such reliable help, there will always be some progress making at the station. I am perfectly sensible of the need for economy. Every plan is being taken here to keep down the expenses". Mr. Black, of same date writes—"what Mr. Nisbet has written, has my full sanction and approval." They have been fortunate enough to secure the services of two of the very best men that could have been got, Mr. George Flett and Mr. John McKay, Mr. Nisbet speaks in the highest terms of them both; and in a second communication (dated Feb. 24th) Mr. Black cordially endorses his opinion. He writes "He (*i.e.* Mr. Flett) is an excellent Cree speaker, knows Indian character and ways, to perfection—is accustomed to address them, takes great interest in their welfare, and soon acquires a great influence over them. John McKay is also a first rate man, so getting both, Mr. Nisbet will be better furnished for his work than any Missionary I know of. The place the friends of that quarter, recommend for the Mission is Turtle Lake between Carlton and Fort Pitt." Mr. Black, though weighed down under the propose of a double affliction deserving our kindest sympathy, enters with his whole heart into the Mission. It is estimated that the expenditure for all the departments of our work during the current year, will amount to about six thousand Dollars. The highest sum that we have as yet realized in a year has reached not much over the half of this. But we are persuaded, that our people feeling the weight of their increasing privileges and blessings, and of our increasing responsibilities will make a proportional increase in their contributions. We now stand fairly committed as a church of Foreign Mission prosper. In view of the whitening fields, which are opening before us, let every one lay by in store as God hath prospered him.

### PRESBYTERY *VERSUS* PRELACY.

Whether is Presbytery or Prelacy the right Scriptural form of Church Government? As Presbyterians, we, of course, reply at once—Presbytery, and not Prelacy, is right and scriptural. We maintain that Elders or Presbyters are of the same rank as Bishops or Overseers, and that there is no warrant for a higher class of office-bearers, such as Prelates, to whom it exclusively belongs to ordain Presbyters or Bishops, and to administer the so-called rite of Confirmation. We leave out of view at present the office of Deacons, who, according to the Scriptures, have especially to do with temporal affairs. We confine our attention to the *spiritual* office-bearers of the Church. All these, we hold, are of the same rank, and have the same authority. We believe we have the best reasons for taking this view, and shall state them as plainly as possible.