

The Minutes of the Japan Conference came to hand as these Notes were being prepared. It is a pleasure to receive intelligence from such a distant country. Dr. Davidson Macdonald was elected President for the second time. Rev. F. A. Cassidy, M.A., and Rev. M. Kobayashi, Secretaries. Fourteen ministers and thirteen laymen were present at the first roll-call. Rev. Y. Hiraiwa and Dr. Eby were the Japanese and English interpreters respectively.

The work in Japan is divided into three districts, to one of which a Japanese minister is appointed chairman. There are no financial secretaries, but this does not imply that no attention is ever paid to finances. A scale of contribution is provided to be observed by all Church members. Contributions are made by the churches for the ministers' salaries, missions and all other expenses for church purposes including Sabbath-schools, the poor, etc., amounting to 6,491.35 yen, which is an increase of 2,390.83 yen. The present membership is 1,716 an increase of 211. A yen is about 90 cents. There is also a Japanese Home Missionary Society, which raised 784.27 yen. One evangelist who received 150 yen per annum, laboured amidst great persecution and received twenty-one converts into society, some of whom returned a portion of the money paid to the evangelist on their behalf.

The report of the Educational Institution, of which Dr. Cochrane is Principal, is especially interesting. Seven students have attended the Theological Department during the past year. The Academic Department, under the Rev. R. Whittington, M.A., has a principal and seven teachers. The curriculum extends over six years, and includes a thorough training in the Japanese and English language and literature, in science and mathematics. Religious exercises are kept up, and there can be no doubt that the educational institutions are accomplishing much good.

Rev. Dr. Grant once visited Victoria Mission in the North-West, and said, "We have seen enough to-day

to convince us more than all the arguments in the world, that missionary labour among the Indians is a reality, and that the positive language on the other side is a language of ignorance, self-interest or downright opposition to the Gospel. A mission without schools is a mistake, almost a crime. And the Methodists deserve the praise of having seen and vigorously acted upon this, and they can point to visible proofs of success in their Indian Missions."

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CANADA.

The following statistics show the rapid progress of this Church during the last half century. Fifty years ago there were only 130 ordained ministers, now there are 900 and 300 students. Then there were only 200,000 Presbyterians, now there are 800,000, of whom 158,000 are in full communion, besides 158,000 children in the Sabbath-schools. In Manitoba alone there are 28,000 Presbyterians, and 32 per cent. of whole population claimed the same Church. The above statistics are taken from a speech delivered by the Rev. W. Frizzell at Belfast, Ireland, in July.

RECENT DEATHS.

Since our last issue, three of our ministers have finished their course. In the month of August Rev. Wm. M. Pattysen, of the Bay of Quinte Conference, died at his post, Hall's Bridge. He was in the ministry forty-four years, and did a great amount of hard labour on poor circuits. His son, W. A. V. E. Pattysen, is stationed at Penetanguishene.

Rev. W. E. Norman died in the same month. He was a veteran, having lived until he was ninety-six years of age, and was able to preach on his ninety-fifth birth-day. He entered the ministry in 1836. His active labours were in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

As these Notes are being prepared, news comes to hand that Rev. James Broley, Fergus, has been called home. He was thirty-three years in the ministry.