

taking before entering upon another. In this matter the Foreign Mission Committee is only the servant of the Church, and when the Church by its General Assembly says, begin a new mission here, or there, it ought also to mean that the Church is ready to sustain it in a state of reasonable efficiency. The money wherewith to relieve our college at Indore of its difficulties and enable it to do a noble work is in the hands of our people. Are we prepared to give it? The plan put before the Church by Mrs. Ross by the sanction of the F. M. Committee is simple and feasible, and we trust may be heartily responded to, so heartily that by the time specified for completing it, we hope she may be able to report that the whole amount needed is either on its way to India or is in her hands.

### OUR MISSIONS.

Having noticed in previous letters our foreign missions to India and China, we can turn with profit and pleasure to our mission in Formosa; this is unique in many respects. Some twenty years ago a solitary representative of our Church was sent to this far-off heathen island, to do what he could in civilizing and christianizing; we need not follow the weary, chilling life he so long had to lead; the wonder is the heroic man is yet alive. His wanderings by sea and land, his trials from heat and cold, his home privations that words fail to express—all these are now history, and a glorious history, that the maker has said little about. His reward and monument are the sixty preaching stations now illuminating that not long ago all-heathen island. The hero of all this, with God's help, is now with us, and, as on his previous visit, a right royal welcome he will receive wherever he travels in our Dominion.

Dr. Mackay has worked his mission field in his own way; perhaps the Church has not always approved, but no obstacles were put in his way, and success sweeps away all opposition. The weak feature has been his being alone as Director, or I might say as Presbyterian Bishop. Many have said, should he break down, or anything serious happen him, then what? Happily, this reasonable objection now appears to be in a fair way of removal.

Formosa is the last of our foreign missions that belong to the whole Church. Most interesting missions in the New Hebrides and Trinidad, etc., are specially under the charge of the Eastern section of our Church; as the latter in particular appear to be growing beyond the strength of the East to sustain, would it not be a graceful act for the whole Church to lend a helping hand? There are thousands upon thousands of the same heathen in these islands, almost at our door, that we are sending missionaries long weary miles to reach; here, I think, is another of the mistakes we have made. Many of these island coolies have become Christians; numbers, I believe, return to their native land; if so, they become lights shining in dark places, their changed lives alone making them a power for good wherever they go. Let us help our weaker brethren. L. A. C.

### MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY S.S. COMMITTEE.

The S. School Committee of the General Assembly met on the 23rd and 24th ult., in the Toronto Y.M.C.A. Board room. There was a large attendance. The Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, of St. John, N.B., Convener, presided. The financial statement submitted by the Convener, showed a balance on hand of \$221.00, with outstanding liabilities of \$700.00, and that liberal contributions were coming in from Sunday schools, giving every prospect that the debt would be wiped out by the end of the year. The Convener was authorized to appeal to Sunday schools for contributions as to his judgment might appear right and best.

The Syllabus of Higher Religious Instruction for 1894, for examinations of 1895 was considered, and the following text books assigned:

I. Biblical Department, junior and intermediate scholars, the International S. S. lessons for 1894.  
Senior, the same with an additional paper on the "Life of Abraham," "Men of the Bible series."

II. Doctrinal Department, junior and intermediate, Professor Salmond's Primer on the Shorter Catechism, Vol. II.  
Senior, Dr. Whyte's Handbook, page 154 to the end.

III. Church History: Junior and intermediate, The Church of Scotland, by Madam Muir.

Senior: Scottish Church History, by Dr. Norman Walker.

IV. Essay: The same for all grades, "The Life of Abraham."

V. Teacher's Training: Dr. Morrison's Handbook for S.S. teachers.

The Home Study Leaflet was reported as having a circulation of 6,000 and rapidly increasing, with every prospect of being on a paying basis by the end of the year. The committee was appointed to prepare a new series of class books for S.S., and to report at the April meeting. A committee was also reported to draw up a Foreign Mission S.S. concert exercise for 1894. Mr. D. Torrance Fraser brought before the committee the need of S.S. in our French S.S. work. The Convener was instructed to correspond with the Board of French Evangelization on the subject, and the Montreal members of committee were appointed a sub-committee to confer with Rev. Mr. Amarion regarding the publication of a column for French Sunday schools in the proposed new French paper shortly to be published.

### JUBILEE OF CHALMERS' CHURCH, HALIFAX.

The jubilee of this church, held lately, was a most delightful and memorable occasion. After a social meeting of two hours' length, held in the hall, of member and adherents of former years and of the present, they repaired to the church, which was decorated for the occasion and looked its brightest and best. The pastor, the Rev. John McMillan, occupied the chair, and on the platform with him were a large number of ministers of the city, elders of the congregation and others. After welcoming all, letters were read from friends, and the one written to Dr. Welsh in 1843, in response to which the Rev. R. Robb was sent out to be their first pastor. Mr. Robt. Murray, editor of the Presbyterian Witness, then gave a sketch of the fifty years of the congregation's history, embracing many interesting particulars, respecting the pastors, elders and members who had been or are still connected with it. Of the forty-four who formed the first roll three, all residents in Halifax, still survive. After paying a glowing tribute to the character and work of the Rev. C. B. Pitblado, now of Winnipeg, Mr. Murray said: On the 29th of April, 1844, Rev. John McMillan was inducted into the pastorate of this church. As his pastorate has been the longest in our chequered history, it has been the most fruitful. All that is becoming me to say is, that with God's blessing on the preaching of the pure Gospel, his organizing skill, his business tact, his unexampled vigilance and activity as a pastor—the congregation has grown and prospered and done wonders. The congregation was at no time larger than it is now; the prayer meeting was never so well attended or so lively; the people were never so liberal, and never did they more fully manifest the fruits of the Spirit.

Mr. J. C. Mackintosh followed with interesting references to Presbyterianism in Halifax during the past fifty years. Mr. McPherson gave a clear and concise account of Presbyterianism in Canada during the past fifty years. Dr. McKnight and Dr. Forrest gave brief addresses of the most timely and cordial character. The whole service from 5 to 10.30 was most interesting and delightful.

On Sabbath, the morning service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Sedgwick, Moderator of the General Assembly, who preached from Acts 25: 18. He spoke eloquently of the grounds we have for courage, and wisely and hopefully of the state of the country morally and spiritually.

In the afternoon there was a Jubilee Service for the young, especially the Sabbath school. W. T. Kennedy, Superintendent, presided. Rev. A. Simpson, Moderator of Synod, gave the principal address. Rev. W. M. Fraser, Robt. Murray, John Watson, George Cunningham, John Grierson, J. Thompson, and Dr. Sedgwick and Rev. A. Robertson, and the pastor spoke briefly. There was excellent singing. The whole service was impressive and excellent.

In the evening the church was filled to its utmost capacity by a most attentive audience. Rev. Dr. Forrest preached from Deut. 4: 1. Chalmers church has prospered, and that is due to the zeal of the founders of the church. From its very beginning, its members seemed to be fired with zeal, but its success is most due to its band of godly women, who afterwards were the moving spirits in founding many of our charitable and benevolent institutions. This church has told upon the religious life of Halifax, of the whole Province, and of the whole Church. The preacher concluded with an earnest appeal to present duty.

The jubilee, taken all in all, was most

delightful, and we have no doubt it will be profitable to the congregation in stirring up their zeal and intensifying their loyalty to the Church and the Church's ever living Head.

### CHURCH OPENING AT ST. THOMAS.

Knox church, St. Thomas, after having undergone a thorough renovation, was reopened for divine service on Sabbath, Oct. 22nd. The church was packed at both services, chairs being placed in the aisles, and at the evening service all who desired could not obtain admission. The clean, quiet beauty of the interior was greatly admired by all who attended. The re-opening sermons were preached by the eloquent pastor of St. Andrew's church, Toronto, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.D., who, by the way, officiated on a similar occasion some seventeen or eighteen years ago in the old church which stood on the site of the post office.

On Monday evening a platform meeting in connection with the re-opening services was held. The church was well filled. On the platform were Rev. J. A. Macdonald, pastor of the church, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, of St. Andrew's church, Toronto, Rev. Canon Hill, and others. In the audience were a number of ministers from other city churches.

The Rev. J. A. Macdonald, pastor, occupied the chair, and said that, after consulting with city ministers, it had been decided to substitute for the usual five-minute addresses, a lecture, sermon, or speech by Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, who had the privilege of speaking for an hour and a half, or as long as he desired and there were people left in the church to listen. He then introduced the reverend gentleman, who announced his subject as "Conservatism and Progress in the Church," founding his remarks upon conservatism on the text, "Hold fast that which is good," and on progress on the text, "Let us press on unto perfection." He considered the subject in its application to worship, to the preaching and teaching of the Word, and to the state of theological thought of to-day, which he characterized as being one of transition.

The meeting was closed with the usual devotional exercises, after which refreshments were served by the ladies of the church in the lecture rooms.

The entire collections in the special envelopes amounted to \$283.71, of which the children in the Sunday school gave \$64.82. The open collections at both services amounted to \$41.70.

### PRESBYTERY MEETINGS.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Presbyterian congregation at Petrolia was held on the evening of Oct. 26th, for the purpose of moderating in a call to a minister, which resulted in the choice of the Rev. J. S. Hardie, of Ayr, Ont. The Rev. George Cuthbertson, of Wyoming, Moderator of session, presided.

The Presbytery of Sarnia held an adjourned meeting on the 17th of Oct., in St. Andrew's church, Sarnia, Rev. Mr. McKee, Moderator pro tem. The Presbytery proceeded to consider a call from Streetsville congregation in the Presbytery of Toronto, to Rev. J. Campbell Tibb, of Burns church and Moore Line, in this Presbytery. Rev. Mr. Tibb intimated his acceptance of the call, and a resolution highly commendatory of Mr. Tibb's personal character and work, was unanimously carried, and the Presbytery took up the consideration of the call to Rev. James Pritchard, of Forest, from Fordwich and Gorrie, in the Presbytery of Saugeen. Mr. Pritchard intimated his declination of the call. Rev. Dr. Thompson intimated that on the 25th of September he had moderated in a call at Point Edward in favour of Mr. John Eadie, signed by 41 members and 13 adherents, promising \$800 with manse, and asking \$150 supplement. Messrs. Beveridge and McClester were heard in the matter. It was agreed to approve of the Moderator's conduct, sustain the call as a regular Gospel call, and instruct the Clerk to transmit the same to Mr. Eadie for his consideration. Intimation was received by the Clerk of the acceptance by Mr. Halg of the call from Adelaide and Arkona, and arrangements were made for his induction. There was laid on the table and read, a paper intimating the resignation by Rev. Mr. Beamer, of his charge of Courtright and Sombra, he having received a call from Marine City, Mich., U.S., and asking immediate action to be taken in the matter. Parties were cited to appear for their interests at the meeting in Adelaide, on the 31st Oct., at 11 a.m.—Geo. Cuthbertson, Clerk.

At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's church there, on Tuesday, Sept. 19th, at 3 o'clock, p.m., the Presbytery of Kingston met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Joseph Gandler, who in the absence of the Moderator was requested to preside. The Moderator, Rev. Mr. Wishart, having entered he was requested to continue to act as Moderator until the full term of one year be completed, instead of the six months for which the Moderator is usually elected. The Clerk submitted and read communications which had come in to his hands for the Presbytery, viz.:—1. From Dr. Cochran, Convener of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee, stating that \$68,000 is required from the whole Church for Home Missions during the current year, and that this Presbytery is expected to contribute \$2,150 towards said amount. That \$10,000 will be required for the Augmentation Fund, of which this Presbytery is expected to contribute \$1,100. 2. From Dr. Reid, stating that the estimated amount required for the Assembly Fund is \$4,720, of which this Presbytery is expected to contribute \$120. 3. From Dr. Reid, relating to the distribution of the Assembly Minutes. 4. From Dr. Torrance, in reference to distribution of Probationers and the reporting of vacancies, and also concerning the dropping from the roll of probationers the name of Mr. J. Walker. Mr. Maclean submitted a very lucid and interesting report from the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee, which was received and its several recommendations adopted. He further reported that there is at present an unexpended balance of \$70.00 in his hands as Convener of the Home Mission Committee, available for carrying on the work. The Clerk brought before the Presbytery the subject of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and reminded it that he and Mr. W. G. Craig had been appointed at the last meeting of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston to look after the interests of this fund within the bounds of this Presbytery. He read communications from Rev. W. Burns, the Assembly's agent for this scheme, and stated that they had two objects in view: 1. To endeavour to have all the ministers on the roll of Presbytery connected with the fund, and an increased interest taken in the matter of congregational contributions to the ordinary revenue. 2. To render assistance to Mr. Burns in canvassing the congregations for subscriptions to the proposed endowment for this fund. It was resolved to defer further action in regard to this matter until the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery. Mr. Fleming reported that the congregations of Glenvale, Harrowsmith and Wilton have taken action, as recommended by the Presbytery at its last meeting, to provide a manse for their minister, and that good progress is being made. The Presbytery expressed its satisfaction with this report. The Presbytery proceeded to consider the question of making appointments for Missionary meetings throughout its bounds. Mr. George moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, and it was resolved:—That a committee be appointed to consider the best means of stirring up among our congregations an increased interest in the various schemes of the Church, whether by missionary meetings or otherwise, and report on the subject at the next meeting of Presbytery. Mr. Gracey called attention to certain matters in connection with the report of the Assembly's committee on statistics, and submitted certain recommendations which were adopted and ordered to be entered in the minutes, as follows: 1. That sessions be asked by Presbytery to give attention to this matter, with a view to having the items in the several statistical columns as accurate as possible, in order that the Assembly's statistical report may be reliable in the information it gives respecting our Presbytery. 2. That the statistical committee of the Presbytery be instructed to enter Professors' salaries, if at all, only in the first column—"Stipend from all sources;" and that the amounts be not carried to the column—"Total for strictly congregational purposes." 3. That the Statistical Committee be urged to procure, if reasonably possible, full returns from our mission fields. Mr. McLean brought up the subject of the deductions made from grants from the Augmentation Fund for the last six months, and it was agreed that the members of Presbytery appointed to visit augmented congregations shall bring this matter before the several congregations visited, with a view to their making up the amounts deducted from the grants by the Augmentation Committee.—Wm. T. Wilkins, Clerk.

The anniversary services of the Bloor St. Presbyterian church will be held on Sabbath, 12th inst., at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and be conducted by the Rev. D. H. MacVicar, D.D., Principal of the Presbyterian College, Montreal. At these services a collection will be taken up in aid of the Church-building Fund.