

ordained missionaries. In particular, attention was called to the fact, that there was no missionary of our Church on Manitoulin Island last winter, and that the people were becoming disheartened at this seeming neglect. Mr. Tolmie submitted the Home Mission Report, in connection with which he stated that missionaries had been appointed to Manitoulin Island, but they had declined to go. Notice was given to Mr. Henderson's resignation of the stations of Bruce Mines, etc. It was agreed to apply to the Home Mission Committee for four ordained missionaries, viz.: two for Manitoulin Island, one for Tarbut and St. Joseph's Island, and one for Thessalon River and Bruce Mines. A committee consisting of Dr. Scott Messrs. Tolmie and Gourlay, was appointed to draft an application to the Assembly's Home Mission Committee, regarding the importance of having ordained missionaries sent to this field, and Dr. Scott was requested to accompany the convener to the next meeting of committee and place the matter before them in the strongest light possible. A vote of thanks was tendered to the deputies for their diligence in carrying out the instructions of the Presbytery; Mr. Wardrope who was absent through illness, and Mr. Duff, who is still at Manitowaning, are expected to report at next meeting of Presbytery. Mr. W. L. H. Rowand, B.A., was present and read a discourse with which the Presbytery expressed its high satisfaction, and agreed to certify him, together with Messrs. J. C. Smith, Elliot, Thompson, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Beattie, and Campbell, students labouring within the bounds of the Presbytery to their colleges. Dr. Scott submitted a plan for dividing the Presbytery into districts to be canvassed on behalf of Knox College Endowment Fund, and reported that two congregations had already been partially canvassed, viz.—North Bruce and Port Elgin, in the former of which \$361 has been subscribed, in the latter \$255; and it was expected that, in both cases, the amounts would be considerably increased at the completion of the canvass. The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held within Knox Church, Paisley, on Tuesday, 11th December, at two o'clock, p.m.—JAMES GOURLAY, M.A., *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF SARNIA.—This Presbytery met at St. Andrew's Church, Strathroy, on the 18th ult. There was a full attendance of members. The moderator, Rev. J. W. McLintock, of Mandaumin, presiding. Records from the Kirk Sessions of Nairn, Adelaide and Arkona were referred to committee to examine and report. Intimation was received from Glengarry Presbytery, that Mr. Patterson had declined the call from the congregation of Parkhill and McGillivray. The amounts required in aid of supplemented congregations and mission stations were considered. A call was presented from the congregations of Dover and Chalmers Church, in Chatham Presbytery, to Rev. John McAlmon, Moore Line and Burns Church. Rev. Mr. Becket and Messrs. Jellatt and Campbell were heard in support of the call. Messrs. Maitland, Simpson and McDougall appeared as commissioners from Moore Line and Burns Church. Mr. McAlmon intimated his acceptance of the call. A grant of \$50 to the church of West Adelaide and Arkona, and a deputation was appointed to meet the congregation on some Sabbath at an early date, and after service to make a strong appeal to the people, urging them to the exercise of a more liberal support of their church and its ordinances. Rev. Mr. Wells and Thomas Gordon, of Strathroy, were appointed. The report of Mr. Johnston in relation to the state of the congregation at Oil Springs and Oil City, excited some attention. After much discussion a deputation was appointed to visit this congregation, with a view to organize a building committee for the purpose of erecting a church in that locality. The supplement asked for was granted. A letter from the missionary, Mr. Ballantyne, was read, asking for a guarantee of \$300 from the Presbytery, and promising to raise an additional \$400 for the erection of a church. Messrs. Thompson, Blaikie, Duncan and McRobbie were appointed as a deputation to visit Oil Springs and Oil City in connection with the effort being made for the erection of a new church. Rev. W. Burns addressed the Presbytery on present movement to endow Knox College. It was agreed that the Presbytery recommend this matter of raising the endowment fund as early as possible to the careful consideration and sympathy of the congregations of Sarnia Presbytery. Rev. Hector Currie, convener, presented the reports of the Home Mission and treasurer. The assessment for the Presbytery fund for the year has been \$189, of which

\$117 has been paid and \$72 to be collected. The reports were received and their recommendations adopted. At the evening meeting the Rev. John Wells, M.A., of Allsa Craig, read an essay on "Presbyterianism and Modern Forms of Civil Government," and the Rev. George Cuthbertson, Wyoming, read a paper on "What Has Presbyterianism Done For Canada." The Rev. Messrs. T. Macadam, Hector Currie and others took part in the discussions suggested by the papers read. The next meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Sarnia, on the third Tuesday of December at three o'clock p.m.

PRESBYTERY OF BARRIE.—This Presbytery met at Orillia on the 25th Sept., and was attended by a large number of ministers, elders, and others having business with the court. The Rev. Professor McLaren, and Rev. W. Blain of Presbytery of Bruce being present were associated. Three calls were sustained. First, from Bradford, etc., in favour of Mr. James Bryant, formerly of Guelph Presbytery. Mr. Bryant accepted the call, and the Presbytery agreed to induct him to the pastoral charge of the congregations meeting at Bradford on Tuesday the 9th Oct., at one p.m. On this occasion W. S. Acheson is to preside, Mr. D. H. McLennan to preach, and Messrs. McConnell and Rodgers to address the newly inducted minister and congregation respectively. The second call was from East Nottawasaga in favour of Mr. John K. Henry, who accepted it. It was agreed to meet at Creemore and induct him to the charge on Wednesday 10th Oct., at one p.m. Mr. A. McDonald to preside, Mr. Rodgers to preach, Messrs. Gray and Burnett to address the newly inducted minister and the congregation. The third call was from First West Gwillimbury and Cookstown in favour of Mr. James Carswell, of Adelaide and Arkona, Presbytery of Sarnia. The call was transmitted to his Presbytery, and arrangements made for induction should he accept. Yet another call was laid before the Presbytery, namely, that from the Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee to Mr. John Jamieson, ordained missionary at Magnetawan, to be follow-labourer with Dr. Mackay in Formosa. Dr. McLaren on behalf of the committee explained what steps had been taken in the matter, and pleaded for the release of Mr. Jamieson from his present charge. Though regret was necessarily felt at the prospect of losing the services of Mr. Jamieson, there was a unanimous response, admitting the claim of the committee and agreeing to release him. A resolution was passed expressing the Presbytery's high appreciation of the services of Mr. Jamieson in the Home Mission Work in its bounds, and the conviction that his appointment to the Foreign field is a suitable one, also assuring Mr. Jamieson of the interest with which his co-presbyters will follow him to his distant field of labour. The Presbytery further arranged to meet for ordinary business on Wednesday, 17th Oct., at two p.m., at Orillia, and to hold an evening sederunt for services designating Mr. Jamieson as missionary to Formosa. The moderator, Mr. Dawson, will preside, Mr. D. James preach, Mr. Gray lead in the designation prayer, Drs. Wardrope and McLaren afterwards addressing severally the missionary and the congregation. A very large amount of Home Mission business in view of the meeting of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee in October, was attended to. A petition for organization of a station at Mitchell Square was granted, the station to be attached to Mr. Fairbairn's charge of Esson and Willis churches. Knox and Guthrie churches in Oro were united as one pastoral charge. A petition from Huntsville group of stations to be recognized as a congregation, and to receive supplement for support of a minister was granted. Reports were received from members who had been appointed to visit congregations and administer ordinances to stations in Muskoka. It was agreed that the Presbytery renew its former application to the Assembly's Home Mission Committee for the appointment of a superintendent of missions in the bounds, without his having charge of any particular group of stations. Re-arrangement of the Waubashene and Midland groups was made, Mr. James to continue at Midland and Penetanguishene; Mr. Stevenson to take charge of Wyebridge, Vasey, Victoria Harbour and Medonte Centre. Waubashene, Severn and Sturgeon Bay returning to the care of the Knox College Students' Missionary Society.—ROB. MOODIE, *Pres. Clerk*.

HAD I read as much as others I might have been as ignorant.—Hobbes.

SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

LESSON XLIII

Oct. 21,
1883.

ASAKING FOR A KING.

{ 1 Sam. viii.
1-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.—Ps. 118. 9.

CONNECTION. About twenty more years had passed. It had been a time of peace and prosperity. Once the Israelites had proposed to Gideon (Judg. 8: 22) the idea of his being king, but he would not listen to it. Now again the thought took possession of the public mind, and a ready excuse was found in the "actually bad" conduct of Samuel's sons.

NOTES. Beer sheba, situated in the southern extremity of Palestine, in the tribe of Simeon, about twenty-five miles south-west of Hebron. Ramah: the residence of Samuel, five miles to the north of Jerusalem.

I. GOD REJECTED.—Ver. 1.—Samuel was old: we suppose about seventy. Made his sons judges. He needed help in his old age; but instead of searching out the best men for assistant judges, his partiality led him to appoint his sons.

Ver. 2. They were judges in Beer sheba. he appointed his sons Joel and Abiah to have jurisdiction at the extreme south of the land.

Ver. 3.—His sons walked not in his ways: he was a righteous judge; but his sons loved money, and received bribes from suitors, and gave corrupt judgment. And such conduct would soon become notorious. In Spain—I have it on excellent authority—it is a universal thing for a suitor in an important cause to give the judge a "gratification," in plain words, a *bribe*. And generally the man who gives the largest bribe gains his case.

Ver. 4: 5.—Elders of Israel gathered: the elders seemed to be the hereditary chiefs or heads of families. These representative men came together, and came to Samuel. Thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: this was very true, and they should have asked him to have other judges appointed in place of his sons. Now make us a king. here their corrupt desires came out. They wanted to be like the nations around. The very plea the sinner has for his impotence: he "wants to be like other people."

Ver. 6. The thing displeased Samuel. the good and aged judge was grieved, because he saw it was a weakness of being governed by God, and a desire to have the government pass over to a king. And Samuel prayed: the best thing he could do. He wanted to know what God thought about it. So with the Christian: he "goes and tells Jesus."

II. A KING GRANTED.—Ver. 7.—Hearken unto the voice of the people: the Lord intended they should have their own way in this matter; just as He often lets the sinner run his own way, to his own chastisement. They have not rejected thee: Samuel need not feel grief on his own account. He had never been Supreme Ruler. It was not he they were rejecting. So when a minister's words are despised, it is not the servant but the Master who is insulted. They have rejected me: instead of being thankful that they were unlike heathen nations, they desired to copy them. They wanted more of this world's splendour, and to obtain it they were willing to part with God's favour.

Ver. 8.—According to all the works, etc. they, in this matter, have just done what they have continually— for ages—done ever since they were in Egypt: shown their rebellious heart. So do they also unto Thee. even as Moses had to bear with them (for when rebelling against God, they also rebelled against him), so also Samuel.

Ver. 9.—Hearken unto their voice: let them have a king. Show them the manner of the king: Samuel was to discharge his duty by showing them solemnly how wrong was their desire, and how much oppression and service would be put upon them by their kings: words which came true every day for many ages. (8: 10-18.)

Ver. 10.—Samuel told all the words: the Lord seemed to talk familiarly with Samuel; probably by an audible voice, while nothing appeared to the eye. And Samuel faithfully repeated to the people all that God had said. It ought to have changed their determination, but did not.

PRACTICAL LESSONS.

1. A common sin of children is to despise parents: a common sin of parents is to over-indulge their children.

2. According to Fuller—A father's piety cannot be entailed. that is bad news for a man! But neither is the burden of his own sins hereditary. that is good news for the man's son!

3. If men want to do wrong, it is easy to find an excuse. (Ver. 3.)

4. The reason urged may be quite true as a matter of fact, and yet lame as a *reason*. e.g., Samuel's sons were corrupt; yet that was no reason for rejecting God!

5. It is a great comfort to the Christian whose good offices and counsels are rejected, that God feels the rejection, too, and sympathizes with him. (Ver. 3.)

KING OF KINGS REJECTED.

INDIGNANT AT REBELLION.

GOD NOTES ISRAEL'S INGRATITUDE.

GRANTS A KING.

THE "Pall Mall Gazette" asserts that Mr. Spurgeon is one of the most popular authors in England, judged by the double test of the circulation of his works and his personal popularity. His most popular book is "John Ploughman's Talk," published in 1868, now in its 320th thousand.