

mixing in society, associating with strangers and transacting their business; but the poor women have no such chances."

When such a cry comes to us from behind the Parda of a Mohammedan home, may not the missionary find a welcome and the soil prepared for the acceptance of the Gospel with all that it brings to a woman. May Bibi Nisa soon be privileged to read, not with the understanding alone, the Gospel according to Jesus.

#### ARE NOT CHURCH COURTS REPRESENTATIVE?

MR. EDITOR,—Allow me to record my dissent from some of the views expressed by your correspondent D. D. M., in your last issue. In respect to the matter of representation, I think you have shown conclusively that all our courts, according to Presbyterian order, are representative. One cannot be a member of Presbytery or Synod except he represents some constituency. A minister or elder in any other capacity has no vote. Nor am I able to see any profanity in your making comparison of the representative character of a Presbytery and a county council. Our Lord compared the Church to a vineyard with wicked husbandmen, and the ways of "The children of this world" with those of "The children of light." Comparisons do not necessarily put the things compared on the same plane.

I dissent from the doctrine that a minister's expenses to Church courts should be paid, merely because of inadequate stipend. Such expenses are no part of his personal or family outlay, for which his stipend is provided. It (the stipend, not salary,) is for the support of the clergyman and for that alone, and whether liberal or otherwise, it is, in the nature of the case, no payment of expenses other than those pertaining to himself and his family. Could we say to an elder: "Your income is sufficient. Bear your own expenses to Presbytery, Synod or Assembly!" Would that be just? The elder and minister go together to the same courts, on the same footing, on the business of the Church of God; not on their own, and neither ought to be sent on their own charges. Paul and Barnabas were sent to the Synod in Jerusalem, but "They were brought on their way by the churches." The same rule applies to all members of committees, e.g., Home, Foreign, etc. If a minister should pay his expenses, so should they all, and *vice versa*. To me it would seem as reasonable to tell our minister to pay for communion expenses, wine etc., and fire, light and the sacristan, and say the stipend must cover all. I think all such expenditure should be a charge on the revenue of the church or congregation, as much as Presbytery, Synod and Assembly Fund. To lay it on the minister is unjust.

But the mode of raising some of these funds is manifestly unfair. Congregations far from the centre have heavy draughts on them, while those near—often more able have little or none. There should be "equality." Should there not be a fund for the whole Church, to cover all expenses connected with her courts and committees? I agree with D. D. M. in the view that when our people are well informed they will do their duty in relation to the expenses of their representatives to Church courts. I know of very few congregations who do not. Nor do I think it is the fault of the people. I am sure this little discussion in your columns will be beneficial. JUSTICE.

February 28th, 1884.

#### AN APPEAL FROM QUEBEC.

MR. EDITOR,—The Rev. T. Charbonnel, missionary for the Presbytery of Quebec, in the eastern townships, is at present engaged in erecting, with consent of Presbytery, a building to be used both for church and school purposes, by the French Protestants in Ditchfield in the county of Beauce. The building is very much needed. The members of the mission are very intelligent men and women, some of them from France, and likely to be very influential after a little in extending our work. A good teacher will be a great help. According to their means the people have subscribed liberally and seem to be very much in earnest. I spent a very pleasant day with them last summer, when with the clerk of the Presbytery and the missionary I visited them to arrange preliminaries in connection with the proposed church. The various congregations of the Presbytery of Quebec have sent contributions to the building fund, of which I am

treasurer. The building is up but not completed, and our missionary has issued a circular to members of our denomination and other Christian friends in Ontario and Quebec, asking for aid. While every congregation and district has its own pressing work, many may be disposed to think favourably of this appeal and to send contributions to aid work of such promise.

J. C. CATTANACH.

Sherbrooke, 16th January, 1884.

#### SYNOD OF TORONTO AND KINGSTON.

MR. EDITOR,—The Synod's Committee on State of Religion invite all members of Synod, both ministers and elders, to a religious conference, which it is proposed to hold on Monday evening, April 7th, and Tuesday morning and afternoon, 8th, in St. Andrew's Church, Belleville, the place of meeting of Synod. The satisfaction expressed on all hands in regard to the Conference held at Guelph last year has led the committee to prepare a similar Conference this year. They trust that as many as possible will come to Synod one day earlier, and so make the Conference a success. Those purposing attending Conference will confer a favour by stating the fact to Mr. Hugh Walker, Belleville, in reply to his card respecting entertainment of members of Synod.

D. FRASER, Convener of Com.

The Manse, Canada, March 5th, 1884.

#### PRESBYTERIAL SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The Presbytery of Glengarry held its fifth Sabbath School Convention at Martintown on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 12th and 13th. There were four sessions in all, Tuesday afternoon and evening, Wednesday forenoon and afternoon. The chair was occupied by the president, Mr. Hill Campbell, of Cornwall; Mr. William J. Scott, of Lancaster, being secretary.

The meetings were held in the large hall in connection with St. Andrew's Church. At the very first meeting all the seats were occupied; at the evening meeting even standing room could not be had for all, some remaining out in the lobbies.

Addresses of welcome were made by Rev. Messrs. John S. Burnet, John S. Matheson, and Mr. D. T. Cresswell, and replies equally happy by the president, by Mr. John McGinnis and Rev. Mr. McGillivray.

Fourteen congregations were represented out of twenty. The delegates from schools alone numbered over one hundred, while the audience was about four times that.

The programme consisted of

1. Short reports from Sabbath schools, most of which were very encouraging.

2. An address, Tuesday evening, by Rev. James Hastie, of Cornwall, on "The Influence of Home on the Sabbath School."

An address by Dr. Alguire, of Cornwall, on "The Responsibility of the Sabbath School to Temperance."

3. A prayer-meeting, Wednesday morning, led by Mr. Wm. J. Scott.

Next, a lesson taught (Acts xvi. 25-40) by Rev. A. McGillivray, of Williamstown, the entire audience forming the class on the occasion. This exercise was very good.

Next, "How to Conduct Reviews," was to be handled by Rev. James McCaul, of Montreal, but in the unavoidable absence of that gentleman it was taken up by Rev. A. McGillivray, Dr. Alguire, the president, Rev. John Ferguson and others.

From eleven to twelve o'clock a mass meeting of children was held, who were addressed most suitably by Rev. J. Hastie and Miss Maggie Scott.

4. The last session was taken up with answers to questions sent in.

An address by Mr. Elder on "How to Study the Bible," which he illustrated very vividly by means of the black-board.

An address by Rev. J. K. Baillie on "The Teacher's Daily Life," had the right ring. And the last address by Rev. Mr. McGillivray, on "Sabbath School Finance," a subject on which this gentleman is well qualified to speak on account of the success which has attended the financial side of his own congregation and Sabbath school.

In many respects this convention was a model one. There was the large and deeply interested audience

from first to last. There was the marked suitableness of all the addresses. There was the admirable singing by the large union choir of the two Presbyterian churches of Martintown, and the service of song is worthy of special mention that was rendered by the choir Tuesday evening. Then the kindness and hospitality of the people and the two pastors, Mr. Burnet and Mr. Matheson, were of the very best Highland type. In the rear of the hall tables were provided for all the delegates and visitors from a distance where dinner and tea were served, and these were patronized to the formidable number of some six hundred meals.

At the convention held at Cornwall less than six months previously, it was resolved to ask the several Sabbath schools to contribute each a sum which would aggregate enough to build one of Dr. McKay's chapels in Formosa, \$250. At this convention the gratifying fact was announced that going beyond the amount asked for the sum actually sent in was \$388. One or two schools gave twice the amount apportioned, while one school belonging to a congregation not in the Union—Lancaster—sent a contribution unasked, so interested was it in the Formosa mission.

In addition to those appointed to speak a prominent part was taken in the discussions by many others: e.g., Rev. Messrs. John Ferguson, John Cormack, John S. Burnet, John S. Matheson, also by Rev. Mr. McKillop of the Sunday School Union, and Rev. Mr. Powell, now travelling agent for the Montreal Witness publications. Some 2,000 children in all are under Sabbath school instruction in the Presbytery, and new schools are being opened in some needy places.

#### HOME MISSION AND AUGMENTATION SCHEMES.

##### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

The following circular has been sent to all the ministers in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba:—

MY DEAR SIR, The regular half-yearly meeting of the Home Mission Committee takes place on the 25th March. At this meeting the claims of mission stations and supplemented congregations for the past six months, October to March, are passed and paid. On account, however, of the special effort now being made to increase the stipends of ministers in supplemented congregations, the Committee cannot make appropriations until they know exactly the sum placed at their disposal for distribution. It is therefore of the utmost importance that all the congregations and mission stations in the Church, send their contributions for Home Mission work and the Stipend Augmentation Scheme, to the Rev. Dr. Reid, not later than the 22nd day of March. Unless this is done the ministers of supplemented congregations may be put to great inconvenience in not receiving the supplements due them on the 1st day of April.

May I ask you then to assist the Committee in their work by having the contributions from your own congregations sent in by the above date.

Yours very truly,

WM. COCHRANE,

Convener Home Mission Committee.

Brantford, Feb. 26th, 1884.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Rev. Dr. Reid has received the following anonymous contributions for the schemes of the Church, viz.: In Memoriam for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$50; A Friend of Missions, Ledesto, for Foreign Mission, \$5; A Member of Wroxeter congregation, for Foreign Mission, Indore, \$5; A friend, Irequels, for Waldensian College, \$5; A Friend, Layton, for Foreign Mission, \$1.25.

PRESBYTERY OF LINDSAY.—This Presbytery, at its meeting at Uxbridge on the 26th February, received reports from deputations appointed to visit the congregations requiring supplements or Augmentation of Stipends, and prepared business to bring before the Home Mission Committee. The following delegates were appointed for the General Assembly: Rev. H. Sinclair, Rev. S. Acheson, Rev. A. G. McLachlin, B.A., and Messrs. John Matthie, T. H. Glendenning, and James Leask, elders. The Rev. Prof. McLaren was unanimously nominated as moderator of the General Assembly. The next regular meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in Knox Church, Beaverton, on the last Tuesday of May, at eleven a.m.—J.R. SCOTT, Pres. Clerk.