

coming forward to hold up their pastor's hands, and of engaging in some Christian enterprise; and hoped that those, who should be teachers, would not hold back. It would be a consolation to them in after years, it would be an immediate benefit, and it would be an entering on the path of duty. Mr. McGill having offered up prayer, the Choir sang a sanctus, "Holy, Holy," and, Dr. Mathieson having pronounced the benediction, the large assemblage broke up, having spent an evening of much real enjoyment. The happy faces of the children showed that with them it was indeed an event. Such meetings, when properly conducted, prove both interesting and beneficial, and encourage both teachers and taught.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

This Presbytery met on the 12th of January. All the ministers were present with one exception. Besides a good deal of routine business the following matters were disposed of.

Messrs. Mowat, Macdonnell, Johnson, and Sim, were appointed to supply Mr. George's pulpit in Scarborough during the month of March.

In accordance with the 15th of the Standing Laws authority was given to the retired ministers to celebrate marriage in such localities as are destitute of settled ministers.

Applications were received from Waterdown and Binbrook for the sanction by the Presbytery of the collection from the public of contributions for building a Church in each of these places. The desired permission was given, and the Clerk was instructed to furnish the parties with attested subscription-lists.

The Rev. Mr. Gibson, of Galt, was appointed to preach in Dundas and Ancaster on the 30th of January, and to hold a meeting of the two congregations on the following Monday for the purpose of inducing them to make harmonious and satisfactory arrangements for supplying the vacancy occasioned by the translation of their late minister.

The Rev. Kenneth MacLennan submitted an excellent Report of his missionary labours. Subjoined are extracts from it. His engagement was continued till our next meeting on the 2nd of February.

MR. MACLENNAN'S REPORT.

Dundas and Ancaster. I preached here on Nov. 7th to attentive audiences. I visited among the friends of our Church in both sections of the congregation during the intervening week, and on Sabbath, Nov. 14th, officiated again at these places. Our people here are anxious to have a minister settled over them, and appear willing to give reasonable encouragement to a labourer to come among them. There are perhaps between 70 and 80 families adhering to us at the two stations. A considerable

number of the Ancaster congregation are from the country.

London (Town). Officiated in the Rev. Mr. Proudfoot's Church on Sabbath, Nov. 28th; about 75 people present. Some of them were from the country, mainly Highlanders; audience very attentive. The Sabbath previous Mr. Sim preached in this place to an audience of about the same number, and I occupied his pulpit in Woodstock and Norwich. On the evening of Dec. 13th I lectured in a private house to about 20 persons. Visited several families belonging to us, and had conversations with some of our adherents about the position of Church matters, and the prospects for a congregation. The general impression seems to be that there are materials here out of which a numerous and interesting congregation could in a short time be collected; that many, who would belong to our body, now attend other churches, and cannot be brought out by occasional services at long intervals from each other; and that, if the suit concerning the property was ended, a minister might be settled with a fair prospect of extensive usefulness. The rapid increase of the Town, which now numbers between 9 and 10 thousand inhabitants, seems fully to warrant this expectation. And this station is particularly important, as likely from its central position to influence somewhat the other stations around it. It is deserving of all the attention which you can give it, for without a good footing in London the missionary field lying beyond it cannot be satisfactorily provided for.

London (Townships). Preached in a schoolhouse, about four miles distant from the Town of London, in what is known as "McKenzie's Settlement," on Sabbath, the 28th of Nov., and on Wednesday, the 15th of Dec., the attendance ranging from 80 to 100 persons on each occasion. My meetings here were very pleasant. The devout attention of the audience could not but give cheer and comfort to the preacher. Visited some of the people, and found them anxious to secure the regular administration of ordinances. They are strongly Scotch and Highland in their feelings and attachments. I was glad to be able to speak to them in the language they so much love to hear spoken by others and employ themselves. It is touching to hear the founder of this settlement recount the discouragements which have marked all his attempts to provide religious instruction for those of his countrymen whom he had been instrumental in settling in their present homes. No wonder that he should almost despond when contemplating the waste places of Zion around him.

Westminster.—Preached in a schoolhouse in the 7th concession in English on the 10th Dec., and in Gaelic on Sabbath, the 12th, having ridden 9 miles over very rough roads from St. Thomas. Present the first day 55 persons, on the second about 90. On the latter occasion the house

was quite full. The Gaelic drew the people together. On the 14th Dec. preached to about 70 persons in the meeting-house of our Free Presbyterian brethren. A member of our communion has informed me that he thought there were 30 families adhering to us within a circuit of a few miles near him, and he was quite satisfied that a minister, having some acquaintance with Gaelic, would readily draw around him considerable numbers of steady adherents.

St. Thomas.—Preached here on Sabbath 5th and 12th Dec. The church is occupied regularly by the Free Church minister. The weather was so very unfavourable while I was at this place that I could not get much into the country, where the greatest part of our adherents are to be found. I saw a person from Yarmouth, and found that there were many in that Township who would declare themselves for us, if they had a good opportunity.

Williams.—Officiated to considerable congregations in Gaelic and English on Sabbath 19th and 26th. On Wednesday, the 22nd, preached to about 80 persons towards the West of the Township, and on Friday, the 24th, towards the East. The audiences were very Scotch-looking and respectable. Tuesday of the week between the two Sabbaths I devoted to visiting, and part of another day I spent in the same manner. My intercourse with the people was agreeable and encouraging. I should suspect, from the way in which my own services were received, that a minister would find here a very delightful field of labour. Gaelic is much spoken and would be an important qualification for a minister for this charge. There is much that is attractive about the place. The habits, dress, language and feelings of the majority of the inhabitants of the Townships would lead the traveller to imagine that they had but yesterday left their native hills.

Puslinch.—Preached here on Sabbath, January 9th; service conducted in the English language. There were about 150 persons present: several were Highlanders, and would have preferred having the services conducted in Gaelic.

I have, in closing these remarks, to express my regret that I was unable to do as much missionary duty as I could have desired, owing to the changeableness of the weather and the badness of the roads during the greater part of my tour. It was by no means easy for me in some cases to attend to my appointments, or for the people to wait on them. Notwithstanding, however, that the season of the year forbade my cherishing the expectation that large audiences would meet and welcome me, I must bear testimony to the readiness with which the people came together to hear the preaching of the Word, and the serious attention with which they listened to it.

The field traversed I regard as full of