

ASSEMBLY FUND.—Collections for the Assembly Fund of the former Canada Presbyterian Church, and for that of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, should be taken up in all the congregations, and remitted to the Rev. W. Reid, Toronto.

SUIT IN REGARD TO TEMPORALITIES.—The suit raised in Montrea with reference to the Temporalities Fund, has been dismissed.

DEGREE CONFERRED.—Rev. A. McKay, of East Puslinch, has received the honorary degree of D.D., from Trinity University, U. S.

PETITIONS ON THE SUBJECT OF SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

It will be remembered that the General Assembly of the Union of the Churches agreed to petition the Dominion Parliament to abolish all unnecessary Sabbath labour in public works, and traffic on railways under Government control, and farther agreed to recommend Presbyteries to petition to the like effect. We subjoin a form of petition which has been prepared by one of the Joint-Conveners of the Committee on Sabbath Observance, and which may be used by Presbyteries, and also by sessions and congregations, for we believe that they also should send in petitions. A. Gordon, Esq., M.P., will be glad to receive and present the petitions to the House of Commons. They may be addressed to him at Ottawa, when the Dominion Parliament meets. If sent sooner they should be addressed to Mr. Gordon, Prince Albert, Ont:—

To the Honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament Assembled :

THE PETITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN CANADA,

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

That the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, as a day devoted to the public worship of God is a divine institution, the due observance of which is intimately connected with the social and moral well-being of the people of this Dominion, and that every citizen should be protected in his right to enjoy the rest and religious privileges of that holy day.

That in connection with public works and lines of railway throughout the Dominion, there is, as your petitioners believe, a very large amount of unnecessary labour and traffic carried on on the Sabbath ; and that the employees of railway corporations especially are subjected to the greivous hardships of having either to engage in such Sabbath labour and traffic, or resign their situations ; and that the public worship of God in cities, towns and villages, along such lines of railway, is seriously disturbed.

That the law as it now stands makes no adequate provision for arresting the evil, railway corporations not being held responsible for the violations of the civil law of the Sabbath committed in their service, but only to men who are found at work, and who, in many cases, are obeying the company contrary to their own consciences and in opposition to a deep sense of duty.

That such a state of things is highly injurious both physically and morally to the individuals and families more immediately implicated, is fitted to deaden the moral sensibility of the public mind on the claims and sanctity of the Sabbath, and thereby weaken all religious conviction, and lower the standard of public morals.

Wherefore, your petitioners humbly pray, that Your Honourable House may be pleased to take this matter into your serious consideration, and pass an Act for the more effectual suppression of all unnecessary labour and traffic on railways and public works.