

THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD.



FOR

THE

Presbyterian Church of Canada.

"Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation."

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LETTERS RECEIVED.

From Rev. J. W. Smith, Grafton, with £13s. 9d.; Rev. G. Lowry, Barrie, with £1; Rev. D. McAleer, Ramsay, with £1 10s.; W. Anderson, Caledon, 10s.; A. Stewart, Beckwith, with £4 10s.; Rev. J. M. Roger, Peterboro', with £1 5s.,—too late for this number—particulars in our next.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg will meet at Cobourg on the second Tuesday of January, 1851.

J. W. SMITH, *Prec. Clerk*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Presbytery of Toronto will meet on Wednesday, the 4th December.

T. WIGHTMAN, *Prec. Clerk*.

FOUNTAIN OF SILOAM.

BY REV. R. M. McCHEYNE.

Beneath Moriah's rocky sky
A gentle fountain springs;
Silent and soft its waters glide,
Like the peace the Spirit brings.
The thirsty Arab stoops to drink
Of the cool and quiet wave,
And the thirsty spirit stops to think
Of Him who came to save.
Siloam is the fountain's name,
It means "one sent from God;"
And thus the holy Saviour's fame
It gently spreads abroad.
O grant that I, like this sweet well,
May Jesus' life imbibe,
And spend my life, my all, to tell
How full his mercies are!

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

According to appointment, an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Toronto was held in the Library of Knox's College, on the 13th Nov.—A considerable amount of business was gone through. We only notice the following: Dr. Willis read a communication from the Students of Divinity, which had been previously laid before the Professors' Court, to whom it was addressed, expressing their deep conviction, that the frequent calls upon them for missionary services during the session, especially when they have to travel to distant localities, is unfavorable to their application to their proper studies, at the same time intimating their willingness to assist in supplying the vacancies, and praying that they be not required to go to the several stations oftener than four times during the session. The Dr. intimated that the Professors' Court entirely concurred in the view taken by the Students. The Presbytery having fully considered this matter, agreed to record their concurrence, and in order, as far as possible, to carry it out, refer the same to their Home Mission Committee, whom they authorised to confer with the Students and make the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Burns, Convener of the Committee appointed at last meeting, for securing a place for an afternoon diet of public worship, on the Sabbath, reported that the necessary steps had been taken, and that there was a prospect of a place being obtained, and which would be ready for opening in the course of a week or two.

The Rev. Mr. McLachlan was appointed to supply the vacant congregations in West Gwillimbury and Bradford, until the end of December. Application was also made for a share of Mr.

McLachlan's services in Acton and Boston churches.

The Financial affairs of the Presbytery were referred to the Home Mission Committee.

A letter from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Hamilton was read, requesting this Presbytery to extend supply to Niagara, and also to take charge of dispensing the Communion to that congregation at an early day. The Rev. Dr. Willis agreed to dispense the Sacrament on the first Sabbath of December.

Applications for supply to Pine Grove, Vaughan and King, were presented to the Presbytery, and referred to the Home Mission Committee.

A paper, purporting to be a call from Oro, Orillia and Medonte, in favour of Mr. John Gray, probationer, together with an explanatory letter, were laid upon the table.

The Presbytery having considered these documents, resolved, before proceeding farther in the matter, to visit the several congregations, and to ascertain more fully their condition, with a view to a regular moderation of a call according to the laws of the Church, if circumstances should justify that step. The Rev. Mr. Gale, at the request of the Presbytery, agreed to visit the above-named congregations, in the end of December.

Mr. Burns called the attention of the Presbytery to a printed circular, in reference to the establishment of a fund for the relief of the widows and ministers of this Church. The Presbytery cordially approved of the general principles, as propounded by the circular, and recommended the scheme to the favourable and liberal consideration of the various sessions and congregations within the bounds.

The Presbytery had under consideration, the subject of the sustentation of the ministry, when it was resolved to enjoin the Deacons' Courts, or managers, in their respective congregations, to give in half-yearly returns of the amount of stipend paid to the minister of the congregation, for the preceding half-year. The report to be given in at the next meeting of Presbytery to embrace the half-year ending 30th November.

The Presbytery resolved to call upon the congregations within their bounds, to set apart an early day for solemn thanksgiving, for the Lord's mercies to the land—for the late abundant harvest, and the peace and the general prosperity of the country—and appoint Dr. Willis, Mr. Gale, and J. Burns, elder, a committee to confer with other religious bodies, and with His Excellency the Governor General, in case of some united movement being found practicable.

The Presbytery agreed to take up the subject of the charter for Knox's College at the next ordinary meeting, which was announced to be held in the Library of the College, on Wednesday the fourth day of December. Closed with prayer.