

REV. JOHN RANNIE, M.A.

In a previous issue we intimated the appointment by the Secretary of State for the colonies of the Rev. John Rannie, of Chatham, to the charge of the Presbyterian congregation of New Amsterdam, Berbice, British Guiana. Mr. Rannie has accepted the appointment and resigned his charge. At a meeting of the Presbytery of Chatham, on 28th March, the resignation was accepted, and the following minute unanimously adopted:—"The Rev. John Rannie, M.A., having tendered the resignation of his charge as pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, and parties having been heard, the Presbytery resolves to accept the same, to take effect from this date. The Presbytery, while recognizing the importance of the field of usefulness to which Mr. Rannie has been appointed, cannot but with feelings of deep regret part with one who has for sixteen years filled with so much success the office of pastor in their midst—who has been so intimately associated with every moral and religious cause, and who has so endeared himself to all his brethren, as well as to the congregation and community among whom he laboured. Previous to the union of the Presbyterian Churches, Mr. Rannie, as Moderator of the Synod of his own church, occupied the highest place of honour and esteem his brethren could confer upon him, and although only a few months have elapsed since the formation of the United Presbytery—of which he was the first Moderator—we have learned to value highly his large experience, ripe scholarship, and mature judgment, and looked forward to long enjoying his friendship and assistance as a co-Presbyter. However, God has ordered otherwise, and now that he is so soon to be separated from us at a great distance, we cannot but commend him and his to God who has wind and seas at His command, who is everywhere present, that He will guide and keep our brother, give him in his new home every needed blessing, make him abundantly useful in the Master's service, and when the work on earth is ended, may we all meet in the church of the first born which is written in heaven."

Mr. Rannie, who is to be the recipient of a handsome testimonial from his friends in Chatham, leaves with his family in a few days for his new field of labour. We heartily wish him every success and comfort in his future work.

SCOTCH CHURCH, DETROIT.

The last General Assembly gave leave to the Presbytery of Chatham to confer this congregation to the Presbyterian Church to the United States if deemed advisable. The congregation recently met and by a vote of 100 to 2, resolved to ask the Presbytery to effect the transfer, and appointed a deputation to wait on the Presbytery and present the request. The Session unanimously agreed to a similar course. The matter was before the Presbytery of Chatham on the 28th ult. The documents laid on the table from both the congregation and session expressed gratitude to the Canada Church for past kindness during a connection of over twenty years, and sorrow at the thought of having that connection severed, yet believing the change to be for the best interests of the congregation they desired the Presbytery's co-operation in the transfer. The delegates at greater length gave expression to similar sentiments. Several members of presbytery having reciprocated the kindly feelings, and expressed regret at the thought of parting with the congregation and its pastor, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"Whereas this Presbytery having received papers from the congregation and Kirk Session of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, Detroit, asking for a separation from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, with the view of uniting with the Presbyterian Church of the United States; and whereas the General Assembly having granted power to this Presbytery to carry into effect the said separation if desired; and whereas parties from the said congregation have been heard by this Presbytery setting forth the almost unanimous wish of said congregation and Kirk Session to be separated from this church. Be it therefore resolved, that the said request be granted, and the separation is hereby authorized to take place immediately on the reception of said congregation by the Presbytery of Detroit. And be it further resolved, that this Presbytery on parting with the congregation desires to express its brotherly kindness and good will towards it in its new relation, and its prayer that it may go on increasing in its work of faith and labour of love, and be the honoured means of bringing souls to Christ. And be it further resolved, that while we regret the departure from amongst us of the pastor of the congregation, our brother—Rev. G. M. Milligan—who has been associated with us in the work of the Church since the formation of this Presbytery, we nevertheless bid him God speed in the church to which he will be united, grant him certificate of dismissal to the Presbytery of Detroit, commend him to the Christian sympathy and fellowship of the brethren of that Presbytery, and trust that he may have many years of useful labour still before him in

the work of the Lord. And be it finally resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit, and that Messrs. Gray and Bartlett be appointed a committee to attend the meeting of said Presbytery and aid in carrying into effect this finding."

The congregation is desirous to be known as the "Central Presbyterian Church," Detroit. Mr. Milligan has had much success during his ministry in Detroit. We trust the future of the congregation under him in its new connection will be even more successful, and that the change may be as productive of good results as its warmest friends anticipate.

Ministers and Churches.

A new Presbyterian Church has been organized at Mesherston.

The Paris Presbytery at their meeting of March 28th accepted, with much regret, the resignation of the Rev. John Dunbar, M.A., Glenmorris. He was among the oldest members of the Presbytery, and has been a valued contributor to the columns of the PRESBYTERIAN. We hope to hear frequently from him in the future.

The Rev. Mr. Young of Valleyfield, Que., has been unanimously called by the Napanee Church, vacant since the resignation of Mr. Scott. Our friends are to be congratulated on having received for pastor a man of the ability and ripe experience which characterize Mr. Young.

At the annual missionary meeting of the Dumfries Street Presbyterian Church, Paris, the report read by Mr. J. Penman showed a creditable exhibit, notwithstanding the "hard times." The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Laing of Dundas, on the subject of "Home Missions," and by the Rev. Mr. McTavish of Woodstock, on the subject of "Foreign Missions." The addresses were highly interesting and instructive, and presented a very encouraging picture of the work that is being carried on by our Church, at home and abroad.

A most satisfactory tea meeting was held in the Union Presbyterian Church, Strabane, on the 22nd ult. After partaking of a substantial repast the people present were called to order by the chairman, Mr. D. Murray of Freelon. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Campbell of Kilbride; Mr. Robt. McQueen of Kirkwall; Mr. John Alexander of Hamilton. The latter gentleman gave some amusing and interesting reminiscences of the neighbourhood twenty-five years ago. The proceeds amounted to the handsome sum of \$109.

The Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.A., of this city, preached in St. Andrew's Church, Dundas, to large audiences recently. The following notice of the services appears in the *Banner*:—"His discourses were masterpieces of eloquence, and gave evidence of great talent and deep thought. On the subject of the eternity of future punishment the reverend gentleman seems to have succeeded in dispelling the mist which surrounded him some time ago." This will be most gratifying to the rev. gentleman's many friends in this city and throughout the country.

This missionary services at Chalmers' Church, Woodstock, on Sabbath last were well attended, and a handsome collection realized. On Monday evening a very pleasant meeting took place, addresses being delivered by the Revs. McLeod, Paris; McEwen, Ingersoll; Goodspeed and Clarke, Woodstock. The Rev. Mr. McTavish, pastor of the Church, presided during the evening, and the Congregational choir contributed appropriate music.

The Rev. R. Douglas Fraser was inducted into the pastorate of Charles Street Church in this city. One year ago—such has been the rapid growth of the congregation during the year, that it has been found necessary to increase the number of elders. In January ten were nominated, from among whom four were a few weeks since elected by ballot, viz.: Rev. R. H. Warden and Messrs. S. R. Marling, S. C. Duncan Clarke and G. Banks. These gentlemen were inducted into office at the close of the morning service on Sabbath last. The Session now consists of Rev. Mr. Fraser, Moderator, Rev. Wm. Reid, Messrs. Jas. Campbell, Wm. Alexander, Messrs. Brown, Joseph Gibson, J. K. Macdonald, and the above named. We understand that a joint meeting of Session and trustees is to be held this week to devise steps to increase in some way sitting accommodation, the Church having become too small for the congregation.

On the 30th ult., a reservoir dam at Worcester, Mass., gave way with a tremendous crash. Seven hundred and sixty million gallons of water were let loose. The flood dug out a channel fifty feet deep in a pine wood, and a great amount of damage was done.

Complete copies of both epistles of S. Clement have been discovered by Philotheos Bryennios, Metropolitan of Serres, Macedonia, who has published an accurate edition of them in Constantinople. The MS. is parchment, and was found in the library of the Holy Sepulchre at Fanari, in Constantinople.

Presbytery of Paris.

The Paris Presbytery met, March 28th, in River Street Church, Paris. There was a good representation of ministers and elders. The following are the more important items of business transacted: The Clerk was instructed to apply to the Home Mission Committee for the services of Mr. James Ross, a student of Queen's College, Kingston, to supply East Oxford during the summer months. The call to the Rev. Wm. Cavan of Tilsonburg from St. Paul's Church, Fredericton, N.B., was considered. There appeared for the Presbytery of St. John's, N.B., Rev. Dr. Cochrane, and Mr. Cavan for himself. A letter was read from the Session Clerk of the Tilsonburg congregation, stating that the congregations of Tilsonburg and Culloden would not oppose the translation sought. Parties having been heard Mr. Cavan intimated his acceptance of the call, whereupon, on motion of Mr. McMullen, seconded by Mr. McQuarrie, the Presbytery unanimously agreed to the translation sought. Mr. McEwen of Ingersoll, was appointed to preach the pulpits of Tilsonburg and Culloden vacant on the 9th April, and was also appointed Moderator of Kirk Session during the vacancy. The resignation of the Rev. John Dunbar of Glenmorris, was next taken up. Representatives from the congregation were heard, who stated that while deeply attached to their pastor, they would not oppose the resignation being accepted by the Presbytery. Mr. Dunbar was then asked if he adhered to the resignation, and answered in the affirmative. In resigning his charge in Glenmorris after a pastorate of nearly twenty years, he remarked that when he entered upon his charge in 1853, amid commencing hope and fear, the membership consisted of sixty-five persons, and of these only about eighteen now are left. In the first year of his pastorate the membership of the congregation was well nigh doubled. During the whole period there were two hundred and fifty-six baptisms; about three hundred persons admitted to the membership and forty-five removed by death, leaving, according to the last published statistics, one hundred and forty-nine members on the roll. In thus severing a tie at once loving and long lasting he would not attempt to describe the commingling feelings which such a severance calls forth, and would simply say that the memory of his ministrations there would be lasting as life. And commending the congregation to Him who is head over all things, to the Church he would express his hearty desire for them in the language of Scripture: "The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace." In parting with the Presbytery, which he did with sincere regret, he said that he was not only the oldest but the only member remaining of the first Presbytery formed in the county; and strange as it may appear, although he has been the minister of one congregation, yet he has been a member of four distinct Presbyteries, viz.: The United Presbyterian Presbytery of Hamilton, the United Presbyterian Presbytery of Brant, the Paris Presbytery of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and the Paris Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. During that period many pastoral changes have taken place. He said that in Paris he had seen, in the one Church, Messrs. Caw, James, Farrier and McLeod; and in the other, Messrs. McRuar, Stevens, Robertson and Anderson. In Ayr, in the one Church, Messrs. Ritchie, Irving, Balmer and Inglis; and in the other Messrs. Lindsay, McRuar and Thomson. In Blenheim he had seen Messrs. McRuar, Gillespie and McQuarrie. In Chesterfield, Messrs. Rodger, Scott and Robertson. In Ratho, Messrs. Tolmie, McQuarrie and Auld. In Woodstock, in the one Church, Messrs. Bell and McMullen; in the other, Mr. McDiarmid; and in the other, now defunct, Messrs. Balmer, Murray, Cross and Inglis. In Ingersoll, in the one Church, Messrs. Wallace, Straith and Grant; and in the other, Messrs. Cross, Wright and McEwen. In Tilsonburg, Messrs. Bodger, Tweedie, Richardson and Cavan. In Norwichville, Messrs. Rodger, Donald, Robertson and Martin. In East Oxford, Messrs. Gillespie, Donald, Robertson and Thomson. In Mount Pleasant, Messrs. Gray, Peattie and Alexander. In Brantford, in the one Church, Messrs. Al-xander and Cochrane; in the other, Messrs. Drummond, Young and Lowry; while St. George still retains its one minister, Mr. Hume. In looking beyond the Presbytery to the four Presbyterian congregations in Galt, in two of the Churches there have been three changes in each; and in the other two, four changes in each. The Presbytery then deliberated, when, on motion of Mr. Lowry, seconded by Mr. Robertson, it was agreed to accept Mr. Dunbar's resignation and take the usual steps to have the Church preached vacant. Several members of the Presbytery bore testimony to Mr. Dunbar's efficiency both as a pastor and member of the Presbytery, and expressed their deep regret that he was to leave them. The following minute was also agreed upon, and the Clerk instructed to have it sent to the Church paper and Record:—"The Presbytery cannot part with Mr. Dunbar without expressing their unfeigned regret that he has seen fit to resign his charge and sever his official connection with the brethren in the Presbytery. They desire to record the sense of his high character as an earnest Gospel minister, a faithful preacher and pastor—a diligent student, and a brother who has endeared himself to every member of the Presbytery by his unobtrusive piety and readiness at all times to serve them. They follow him with their earnest prayers for his highest welfare and abundant success wherever in the providence of God he may be called." Mr. McLeod was appointed to preach the pulpit of Glenmorris vacant, on the 9th of April, and to act as Moderator of Session during the vacancy. Messrs. Miller and Penman, elders, were appointed to act along with the Moderator, as a session for Glenmorris, until a new session is elected. Mr. Robertson of Chesterfield, submitted a deeply interesting and encouraging report on the state of religion within the bounds of the Presbytery.

The report was received and the thanks of the Presbytery tendered to the committee and especially to the Convener for their diligence. The Clerk was instructed to have the report sent to the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, the Convener of the Synod's committee on the state religion. The Rev. Mr. Pullar tendered his resignation of Richwood and Shower's Corners. The Presbytery appointed Mr. Robertson to cite those congregations to appear for their interests at the next meeting in May. It is understood that negotiations are in progress for a union of these Churches with St. Andrew's, East Oxford, under the pastorate of Rev. Hugh Thomson. Mr. Simpson, a local preacher of the Methodist Church in Canada, and at present teaching school in Waterford, appeared before the Presbytery with a view to his being prepared for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church by such attendance at Knox College and elsewhere as the Presbytery might direct. After a committee had met with Mr. Simpson and reported favourably of the application, it was agreed to refer the matter *simpliciter* to the General Assembly, and Mr. Lowry was appointed to state the reference. After the transaction of some routine business the Presbytery adjourned to hold its next regular meeting at Brantford, and within Zion Church, on the first Tuesday in July, at 2 p.m.

Presbytery of Manitoba.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of Manitoba was held in the Presbyterian Church, Kildonan, on the 8th day of March, 1876. There was a large attendance of both ministers and elders. The Rev. Mr. Scott was received as a member of the Court. Commissions were read in favour of Mr. R. D. Patterson, the Hon. D. Gunn and Mr. R. Sutherland, as representative elders, and sustained. From letters received from Dr. Williamson, stated Clerk of the Dakota Presbytery, it appears that the Dakota Presbytery would favour the transference of the Rev. Solomon Tangkamsiye, Sioux missionary, to labour among the bands of Sioux Indians in the neighbourhood of Fort Ellice, and on the Little Saskatchewan. Should Mr. Tangkamsiye accept the call, and proper arrangements made for his maintenance. The whole matter was referred to the Foreign Mission Committee, with instructions to correspond with the General Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee, send copies of letters, and give any desirable information. Mr. Scott presented the case of the Roseau Indians, and desired that something might be done to send them a teacher at once. There are about 175 of them. This matter too was referred to the Foreign Mission Committee, with Mr. Scott added, with instructions to correspond with the Hon. Mr. Laird, Minister of the Interior, and to endeavour to secure a teacher. Prof. Bryce presented the report of the Sabbath Observance Committee, from which it appeared that the Draft Bill sent to the Legislature proved too stringent, according to the views of some members of that body, and hence was objected to in committee, that the session was too short to counteract this influence, and that the Bill did not become law. It was agreed to revive the Bill at the next session, and to petition the Legislature in its favour. It was reported that three stations had been organized at the Boyne and Pombina Mountain, and that a communion roll had been made up at each place. The number of members in full communion is small, but the number of adherents is very large in proportion. There was a petition presented from Palestine and associated stations, asking that Mr. J. S. Stewart be sent to labour in that field. The petition was laid on the table till next meeting of Presbytery. The present arrangement for the supply of that field was ordered to be carried out till the second Sabbath of April, when Mr. Frazer was instructed to give supply for four consecutive Sabbaths. The people at the Roseau are preparing to build a Church. There is quite a large settlement in that neighbourhood, a decided proportion being Presbyterian families. The Presbytery recommended the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly to re-engage Messrs. Matheson and Donaldson for three years from June next. The Presbytery's Home Mission Committee was instructed to prepare and transmit a report to the General Assembly's Home Mission Committee, and the Committee on the State of Religion the same. The remit on the constitution of the General Assembly was read, and after some discussion referred to a large committee, the Moderator being Convener, to bring in a report at the next meeting of Presbytery. Circular cards were read and sent to the General Assembly for leave to receive the Rev. William Hawthorne, formerly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America; the Rev. Dugald McGregor, late of the Congregational Church, and the Rev. Thos. J. Johnston, late of the American Presbyterian Church, by the Presbyteries of Montreal, Lindsay and Toronto, respectively. It was agreed to hold the next meeting in Knox Church, Winnipeg, on the 17th day of May, at the hour of 10 a.m. At the evening sederunt it was agreed to discuss the subject of pastoral visitation and Mr. Scott and the Clerk were appointed to introduce the same. Session records were ordered to be forwarded to the May meeting to be examined and attested. The evening sederunt was devoted to the subject of Sabbath Schools, the subject being introduced by Prof. Hart and Mr. Scott, and the other members of Presbytery taking part in the discussion.—JAMES ROBERTSON, Pres. Clerk.

LARGE tracts of country were submerged and lives were lost, in the neighbourhood of New Orleans on the 20th inst.

In a few days, England will have incomparably the largest and most powerful man-of-war in the world, the *inferible*. She is to be covered with iron plates varying in thickness from 16 to 24 inches; and is to have four guns of 81 tons each, capable of hurling missiles that will penetrate 20 inch iron plates; at more than a mile distance.

Home Mission Committee.

APPOINTMENTS FOR SUMMER MONTHS.—The Home Mission Committee met in the Deacon's Court Room of Knox Church, Toronto, on Monday, 3rd inst., and is still in session as we go to press. We hope to give a summary of the minutes in next week's issue. Meanwhile we give the list of appointments made for the ensuing summer. The following are the names of the conveners of the respective Presbyteries' Home Mission Committees, with whom students &c., are requested to communicate at once as to their fields of labour:—

QUARTER	Rev. Peter Wright	Quebec
1st	John R. Burnett	Montreal (St. Andrew's)
2nd	Archibald Brown	Lyn (St. Andrew's)
3rd	Joseph White	Windsor (St. Andrew's)
4th	Thos. G. Smith	Kingston (St. Andrew's)
5th	W. Donald	Port Hope (St. Andrew's)
6th	W. R. Ross	Pickering (St. Andrew's)
7th	J. I. Murray	Woodville (St. Andrew's)
8th	J. M. King A.M.	Toronto (St. Andrew's)
9th	John R. Burnett	Collingwood (St. Andrew's)
10th	R. W. Anderson	Newford (St. Andrew's)
11th	Daniel Anderson	Brantford (St. Andrew's)
12th	R. T. Prince	G. G. G. (St. Andrew's)
13th	John I. King A.M.	Dundas (St. Andrew's)
14th	W. G. Gibson, D.D.	Brantford (St. Andrew's)
15th	D. G. Gibson	London (St. Andrew's)
16th	R. H. Anderson	Toronto (St. Andrew's)
17th	Thos. G. Smith	Motherswell (St. Andrew's)
18th	Andrew T. Jones	Fergus (St. Andrew's)
19th	E. McQuarrie	Clinton (St. Andrew's)
20th	James Robertson	Winnipeg (St. Andrew's)

APPOINTMENTS FOR SUMMER MONTHS.

1. QUEBEC:—Messrs. John McKenzie and John Matheson.
2. MONTREAL:—Messrs. M. F. Boudreau, Thos. Bennett, J. R. McLeod, W. D. Russell, and John Mordy.
3. GLENAGARRY:—Messrs. M. McPhee, F. McLennan and John Chisholm.
4. BROCKVILLE:—Messrs. Thomas A. Nelson, J. K. Baillie and G. D. Bayne.
5. OTTAWA:—Messrs. A. Dobson, T. Kenning, A. O. Morton, R. Hyde, R. Hughes, G. C. Patterson, H. J. Borthwick, Jas. Miller, and Jas. Robertson.
6. KINGSTON:—Messrs. J. Allison, J. Penman, G. F. Walker, A. H. Scott, J. G. Stuart, Hugh Taylor, Jas. Cumberland, W. E. D'Argent, and M. Oxley.
7. PETERBORO:—Messrs. John Mowat, Saml. Acheson, and T. S. Glasford.
8. WHITBY:—Mr. F. R. Beattie.
9. LINDSAY:—Messrs. Jas. Smyth, and Hugh McKay.
10. TORONTO:—Messrs. D. Finley, J. H. Ratcliff, Walter Amos, J. R. Gilchrist, Wm. Gallagher, Alex. Leslie, —Warrender, John R. Battersby, and Thos. Johnston.
11. BARRIE:—Messrs. W. P. H. Fishburn, A. Marling, J. B. Galloway, J. C. Tibb, Alex. Nicol, P. C. Goldie, W. J. Smyth, G. McMillan, and Hugh Cameron.
12. OWEN SOUND:—Mr. M. R. Rowse.
13. SAUGHER:—Messrs. A. Wilson, A. F. McKenzie, Alex. MacGillivray, D. McConnell, R. Henderson, and J. E. Lloyd.
14. GUELPH:—Messrs. Angus McKay, E. H. Sawers, S. H. Eastman, A. H. Kippen, John Wilkie, D. Beattie and McCoy.
15. HAMILTON:—Messrs. Jas. R. Johnston, A. A. Scott, and Jno. Geddes.
16. PARIS:—Mr. Jas. Ross.
17. LONDON:—Messrs. D. Ross, D. Tait, Stuart Acheson, Hugh McKay (April); W. A. Wilson; Robt. Nairn, and McFarlane.
18. CHATHAM:—Messrs. Wm. McKinley; T. Atkinson; Don. Currie; Don. G. McKay; A. Allison, and Jno. Cairns.
19. STRATFORD:—Mr. R. P. McKay.
20. BRUCE:—Messrs. T. Colter, and Jno. Ferguson.
21. HURON:—Messrs. F. Rivard and A. McGillivray.

N.B.—These appointments being made just before going to press, and the Committee being still in session, the list may not be quite accurate, and a few changes or additions to the list may yet be made. A revised list will appear in next week's issue, if it should be found necessary.

WM. COCHRANE D.D., ROBT. H. WARDEN, Convener, Secretary.

Mr. Macdonnell's Statement.

The following letter was read at the meeting of the Toronto Presbytery, on Tuesday. We are certain the contents will be gratifying to our readers:—

To the Moderator and Members of the Presbytery of Toronto:—

FATHERS AND BRETHREN.—At a meeting of this Presbytery held on the 4th November, 1875, a resolution was passed requiring me to report as to my agreement with the teachings of the Confession of Faith on the doctrine of future punishment not later than the last regular meeting before the General Assembly. In accordance with the terms of said resolution, I desire now to submit the following:—

1. So far as the language of the Confession of Faith on this point is concerned, I find that it is almost entirely borrowed from Scripture, and I declare my adherence to it, understanding the phrase "eternal torments" to have the same meaning as "everlasting punishment" in Matthew xxv.

2. While I do not consider myself debarred by the teaching of Scripture from hoping that God may in some way put an end to sin and suffering, I am satisfied that it is not a part of the message with which I am entrusted as a minister of the Gospel to hold out any hope of future pardon to those who have in this life rejected Christ. "Now is the accepted time." What God may do hereafter is apparently not among the things revealed, or intended to be known.

I hope that this statement will prove satisfactory. I am, Fathers and Brethren, Yours, respectfully,
(Signed) D. J. MACDONNELL.

Two magnificent Sphinxes with inscriptions have been discovered at Rhameses.

At Charleston, N. C., an extensive fire on the 20th inst., consumed property valued at \$250,000.