

Items of Intelligence.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARIES IN COLUMBIA.—A recent number of the *Christian Guardian* contains a letter from Rev. E. White, one of the Missionaries who lately left Canada for British Columbia. The letter is dated Queensborough, 3rd April. Mr. White stated that Queensborough, was to be the future capital of British Columbia, while Vancouver would continue a separate Colony, with Victoria for its capital. The Hudson Bay Company had given an excellent site for Church, Parsonage and Garden, in Victoria.

SUSTENTATION FUND OF FREE CHURCH.—We are glad to observe that up to the 15th April there is an increase in the Fund as compared with last year to the extent of £1,143. 9s. 3d.

DR. LEE'S INNOVATIONS IN PUBLIC WORSHIP.—At a special meeting of the Established Presbytery of Edinburgh, the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the alleged innovations in Grey Friars Church was considered. By a vote of 23 to 20, it was agreed to enjoin Dr. Lee to discontinue the innovations, and to conform to the order and form of worship as practised in the Church. Several members protested against the decision. This decision has been sustained by the Synod.

PROTESTANT ALLIANCE.—THE ELECTION IN BRITAIN.—An Address has been issued by the Protestant Alliance, in view of the Parliamentary election. While disclaiming all interference in party politics, the Alliance directs public attention to Maynooth, and to the large grants annually voted for Popish purposes.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.—At the Anniversary of the American Tract Society there was a good deal of discussion connected with the subject of Slavery. Several Resolutions in favour of publishing against the evils of Slavery, were voted down. After these Resolutions had been negatived, one by the Rev. Dr. Spring, was adopted, viz:—That in laying the previous motions on the table, the Society had not come to such conclusion from any doubt in relation to the sin of the African Slave Trade, and the great wickedness of renewing that iniquitous traffic in any way.

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.—The Anniversary of the Upper Canada Bible Society was held on the 11th ult. The Hon. G. W. Allan, was elected President, in room of the Hon. R. Baldwin, C. B. deceased. The Society has been well sustained, notwithstanding the pecuniary difficulties experienced during the year. While the amount received from sales had fallen off, there had been an increase in the free contributions for the general purposes of the Bible Society.

Communications, &c.

STATE AND PROSPECTS OF PRESBYTERIANISM IN THE NORTH.

Communications from our northern county have lately occupied but a small space of your *Record*. Our being in a transition state may account for our silence, but as this wide and much neglected field is assuming ecclesiastically a more organised aspect, it may not perhaps be deemed uninteresting to some of your readers to 'hear from one on the spot' of the progress already made, and of our prospects in regard to the future.

A glance at the map will at once shew that our leading thoroughfare, the Garafraxa road, should naturally form the basis of operation in any well laid plan for meeting the spiritual necessities of the district. In accordance with this idea, Churches have been built, and congregations have been formed from Owen Sound

to the southern limits of the county. Starting from Owen Sound a drive of nine miles through an improving district, brings the traveller to the point where the Toronto road strikes off from the Garafraxa. At the junction of these roads, and on a conspicuous spot in a newly surveyed village, may be seen a commodious frame church, well finished and neatly painted, the first in the series. Proceeding onwards, nine other miles bring the traveller to a thriving settlement with its substantial church, already seated and supplied with its pulpit. These two churches constitute the places of worship of the congregation, over which Mr. James Cameron has been recently settled, to which settlement we shall allude again. Other five miles, and a church not yet quite finished appears on an eminence on the right; and still onwards, a distance of four miles lands our traveller in the prettily situated Village of Durham, where is the next church, large, and recently finished inside, in a manner which reflects credit on the Presbyterians of Durham. Fourteen miles, and Mount Forest, on the southern limits of the county, is reached with its newly built church, the last of the series, not including the projected church of Minto.

Having enumerated the churches, let us now return northward, and briefly refer to the prospect of the congregations worshipping in these respectively. Minto, a numerous congregation, is working energetically towards the position of a pastoral charge. Calls from Mount Forest and Durham are in course of transmission to two men, whom we have every reason to believe to be fitted for much usefulness in these districts, should they see it their duty, as we hope they will, to respond. A petition has been forwarded to the Home Mission Committee of our Presbytery for the missionary services, with a view ultimately to a call, of a man whom we know and of whom we can testify, that he stands approved to pious minds as a man of deep toned piety, profound experience, and solid theology. The *Record* has already announced the settlement of Mr. James Cameron over the congregation alluded to as the first in the series from Owen Sound. We may state that these places of worship are all but free of debt, all obligations to the Home Mission fund for Missionary supply have been discharged, all have good prospects of a Manse being built this summer, and a salary of £150, has been promised. These are facts which seem to speak well of a people so lately collected into a congregation.

The Presbyterians at this end of the Garafraxa road hail the presence of Mr. Cameron among them, and his settlement over the fore-stated congregation yields them no small degree of gratification. The settlement was unanimous and cordial; and promises to be productive of beneficial results to the presbyterian cause here, as well, as to be instrumental for the spiritual good of immortal souls. It was, we believe, the prospect afforded of being thus useful to the cause of God in such a desirable country, that induced Mr. Cameron to choose this locality as a field of labour in preference to localities which might seem more eligible.

The facts that the promising and organised state which the people, who worship in one of the churches present, is the fruit of Mr. Cameron's labours, and that the attachment which presently subsists between them is the result of personal acquaintance, forbid the suspicion, that the warm expressions of feelings which are now manifested shall prove evanescent; but that these will rather assume the stability of a principle which shall be strengthening as years revolve, a principle which will not only exhibit personal regard, but which will also produce tangible fruits. We indeed appreciate the kind feelings of the people and recognise their pledges; but it is when we shall realize the

legitimate fruits of these in the actual discharge of all obligatory engagements, that we will proclaim on the house-tops their praises. We hope, that the people over which Mr. Cameron is settled will not only manifest a promptness in discharging their present obligations to him, and thus verify the characteristics ascribed to them by their friends; but that the traveller will ere long rest his vision on a comfortable Manse erected near their fair-looking church. There is an incident which links itself with Mr. Cameron's settlement, which we should not let pass unnoticed, and which evinces the warm feelings and best wishes of his friends in Toronto; we refer to the gift of a handsome pulpit Bible and a psalm book.

The field of labour which Mr. Cameron has chosen is a contrast to that which some untried and young ministers would seem to prefer. Some of the class we refer to are so learned and so highly gifted, that a country charge is far beneath their notice. In the north we want men who will follow the Lamb whithersoever he leadeth, though it would be unto the thickest of the bush;—who will value the soul of a countryman as highly as that of a citizen;—who will pray, labour and toil for the salvation of the souls of men, whether they are Natives, Irish, Scotch, or English. We will not be satisfied with any that will not manifest less or more of these characteristics, for time is on the wing, and we shall all soon enter the portals of the invisible world.

We will wind up our rather lengthy remarks by affirming, that Grey promises at present to be one of the most presbyterian counties in Canada; and if unanimity and good will shall be maintained, and if people, pastors, and presbytery co-operate in discharging the duties incumbent on them respectively, we doubt not, but, in due time, that result will be realised.

A. G.

Owen Sound.

Missionary Intelligence.

MISSIONS OF FREE CHURCH—INDIA

From Home and Foreign Record.

The following letter from the Rev. Dr. Wilson to Dr. Tweedie gives various items, all interesting, regarding the work at Bombay. India was lost, but is found again. We trust the Church will not forget the lesson this teaches, or neglect the duty it imposes.

ARRIVALS AND WORKMEN.

Mr. Aitken arrived in Bombay on the 4th of February; and he is now giving us very substantial assistance in the work of the Institution, and in English services of the mission, and the English congregation of the Free Church.

Our venerable and excellent friend, Mr. Molesworth, returned to India on the 30th January. His desideratum formerly was "Bombay work and a Dakhan climate." He is now zealously giving us "Bombay work" in all the departments of the mission, reserving the "Dakhan climate" for the rains. We attribute very much importance to his disinterested co-operation. He is mighty in the Scriptures; and his labours promise, with the Divine blessing, to be useful in no common degree to our convert students preparing for our evangelistic agency.

THE NATURAL AND SPIRITUAL HARVEST.

On the 20th January, I was privileged to baptize a girl, (Maina Gopal,) belonging to our mission schools. She was originally instructed in our Ambrosie day-schools; but some time ago she was transferred to our boarding-school. Though young in years, she is, in a sense, old