

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A PRESBYTERIAN," so far as we understand, complains of the action of the Ontario Presbytery in reference to the station or congregation of Kental. We should be very happy to insert his communication, but as he has not made the facts very plain either as to the wishes of the people or the conduct of the Presbytery, we do not see that in its present shape it would do any good.

P. C. T.—We acknowledge there is a great deal of force in what he says, but we doubt that the discussion in our columns of the mysteries and absurdities of women's dress would do much or any good. Good sense and a proper estimate of what is becoming in women professing godliness will alone supply the proper remedy, and neither ridicule nor scolding will have any effect.

GENERAL AGENT FOR THE BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, REV. A. MILNE, M.A. P. O. Address: 27 Box 550, TORONTO, Ont. Can.

British American Presbyterian FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1873.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

Through letters from the Missionaries of the Canada Presbyterian Churches, who are laboring in the newer sections of our country, do not come in such abundance as we could like, yet they are gradually increasing. A very interesting one from Mr. McPherson appears this morning, and we have the promise of others from different quarters in a short time.

CORRUPTION IN HIGH PLACES.

There can now be no further ground for doubting that the ministers of the Crown at Ottawa sold themselves and their country for upwards of three hundred thousand dollars to Sir Hugh Allan and his associates, in order to have the funds wherewithal to corrupt the constituencies during the general election in 1872.

We must acknowledge, however, that the evidence adduced leaves us no alternative. We may still be willing to "reserve our judgment," and for the credit of Canada we are anxious that the accused may clear themselves. But we frankly say we cannot see how this is possible. The telegrams and letters of ministers, which are acknowledged to be authentic, put this in our estimate, beyond all question.

We sincerely hope that this most deplorable occurrence will read both political parties a lesson not soon to be forgotten. That both parties have more or less resorted

to bribery in a good many of the elections of '72, as well as in those of '67, is beyond all doubt. It is utter nonsense to say that with the one side was all the purity and honour, and with the other all the corruption and baseness. It was not so. Will not then the honourable men of both parties see in this the legitimate consequences of their proceedings and vow that henceforth, let the result be what it may, they will never again spend a cent in bribing. Even the less scrupulous partisans may perhaps get their eyes opened to the folly and wickedness of what they have hitherto looked upon as legitimate party tactics.

PRESBYTERIANISM IN MANITOBA.

We this week give with pleasure another letter from Mr. Wm. Cochrane, and at the same time announce that the deputation of which he was a member reached Winnipeg on the 14th inst., all well. It is not intended that these gentlemen should go to the Mission Station, of Prince Albert, Mr. Moore's recent visit to that station having accomplished all that was needed. We observe from a Winnipeg paper that, on the 20th of this month, Mr. Cochrane preached in Knox Church of that place, in the morning, and Mr. Ure in the evening; and that a meeting of welcome was to be held in the church on the following Monday.

We are fully convinced that there is a great fortune in store for our prairie Province, as well as the North West generally, and that if the Presbyterians of Canada do their duty Presbyterianism will occupy a very influential portion in all that vast country. We have lost ground in the past by not being on the alert to occupy the ground in the old Hudson Bay time, when almost all the settlers were either Roman Catholics or Presbyterians.

proceeding to Manitoba could not do better than correspond with some of the members of that Committee, who evidently mean business, as we observe they have caused a placard to be put up in the Great Western Station, Toronto, mentioning the fact and giving all their names. The same thing we suppose has been done at all the chief stations.

It will be a pity if Presbyterians should, either from ignorance or from a mistaken idea of superior temporal advantages, remove themselves entirely from the society of their co-religionists and the advantages of Church and School. Besides in Manitoba there is no need for doing this,—as yet, at any rate. Plenty of the best land can still be had on the most favourable terms in the immediate neighborhood of Presbyterian centres, and for the spiritual and temporal interests both of themselves and their children, Presbyterians going to Manitoba should bear this in mind.

For the convenience of intending emigrants to the North West, we again give the names of this advisory committee.—G. McMicken, Ass. Receiver General; D. MacArthur, Manager Merchants Bank; A. McMicken, Banker; the Rev. Professor Bryce; John Emslie, Custom House; Duncan Sinclair, Surveyor; D. U. Campbell, Agent; A. McArthur & Co.; H. McDougal, Telegraph Manager; H. Swinford, Agent Kittson's line.

ORDINATION AT PARKHILL.

On Wednesday, the 23rd inst., the Rev. D. F. Sage was ordained and inducted as pastor of the congregations of Parkhill and McGillivray, in the Presbytery of London. Notwithstanding the busy season and pressing claims of the harvest fields a large and deeply interested audience was present. An excellent sermon was preached by Rev. J. McAlpine, of Widder, from Mal. ii. 7: "The priests' lips should keep knowledge," &c. The charge to the minister was given by Rev. J. Rennie of Carlisle, and to the people by Rev. R. Scott, of Plympton.

At a meeting, regularly announced, held in the Rev. A. McColl's Church, Chatham, on the 8th ult., for the purpose of deciding whether or not an organ should be introduced to assist in the praises of God, the motion for its introduction was carried by a majority of 9 to 6.

On Sabbath last the Rev. A. Milne preached his farewell sermon at Wellington Square and Waterdon to very large and attentive congregations. During the two years he has lived amongst us he has won the affections of all in both churches, and also of a large circle of friends outside of our own denomination.

Ministers and Churches.

A unanimous call has been given to the Rev. Hugh Cameron, of Ross and West-  
morland, to be minister of Kippen congregation.

The General Assembly of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists was held this year at Dolgelly. The meeting was a very pleasant one.

The Rev. T. B. Taylor was on the 23rd July ordained and inducted to the congregation at Lucknow in connection with the Church of Scotland. Rev. J. Wilkins, Stratford, preached an impressive sermon from 2 Cor. vi. 1. Rev. J. Liveright addressed the minister, and Rev. H. Gibson the people. The Town Hall was well filled by a numerous and attentive audience, who seemed deeply interested in the solemn services.

We forgot to mention last week, says the Essex Record, that a very pleasant affair happened at the residence of the Rev. J. Gray, Presbyterian minister of Windsor, on the evening of the 11th inst. A number of the congregation assembled at his house, and the ladies, through William McGregor, Esq., presented him with a purse of \$112 as a mark of the esteem in which he is held.

A Commission appointed by the Montreal Presbytery, at its last meeting, to visit the Indian Lands' Congregation for the purpose of enquiring into its state and prospects, met there on the 23rd inst., and found the congregation in a very healthy and prosperous state, enjoying much peace and harmony. Much of this is owing, under God, to the exertions, tact, and prudence of their Moderator, to whom they owe a lasting debt of gratitude.

The Presbytery of London, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church, met at Delaware on Tuesday, 22nd inst., for the purpose of inducting the Rev. Jas. R. Hays into the pastoral charge of the church in that village.

The present manse in Petrolia being judged unsuitable for accommodation for the pastor, Rev. J. McRobbie, it was agreed at a recent meeting of the congregation to sell it, and erect forthwith a new one in its stead.

The Nonconformist newspaper, of which Mr. Edward Miall is Editor, states that Presbyterianism has made greater progress in England of late than any other denomination. The Union of the English section of the United Presbyterian Church with the Presbyterian Church of England is expected to make this progress still more noticeable.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE IN THE CHURCH.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN. Sir,—In your issue of the 1st July, the Rev. Prof. McLaren is reported to have said in an address at Ottawa: "I desire to say some words on the relation of the church to temperance. . . . I cannot make total abstinence a term of communion in the church, because I find no law in Scripture which so treats it. The short cut is not always the safe one, I am reminded of what I have read in Pilgrim's Progress. Great Heart and his band once came to a place where their road divided. They were uncertain which path to follow. One looked much cleaner and more promising than the other. But Great Heart struck a light and examined his roll, and he discovered that the path which seemed the cleaner of the two, ended in a pit of mire no one knows how deep."

I am reminded of Mrs. Prosser's fable of a number of race-horses in agitated conversation over the fact that another horse had just come out ahead of them all and won the prize. Each saw overwhelming reasons why himself, and not the actual winner, could fairly win the prize plate.

Great branches of the Church of Christ have tried the experiment of requiring abstinence from the ordinary use of intoxicating liquors as a condition of communion with the church. The experiment has had not a few years to show its results. It was entered upon not simply as a human experiment, but because the principles of the commands of Christ, in their opinion, made it a duty.

Whately says, "A crude theory, in the language of some men, means one which (being new) has not occurred to themselves." And, no doubt, the practice of the church absolutely refusing the sanction and countenance of her communion to the ordinary using and dealing in strong drinks, having had its origin, growth and honor in another connection and not in the Presbyterian church, makes it wear, to certain eyes, the appearance of crudeness and heterodoxy.

It is with sincere and deep sorrow that I learn that so excellent a divine and temperance man as Mr. McLaren sees it his duty to teach the coming pastors of the Lord's flock as he announces. In the old slavery times in the U. States, infidels and scoffers rejoiced that the O. S. Presbyterian church said and maintained that the Bible was on the side of slavery.

A MINISTER OF THE C. P. CHURCH.

Rev. D. J. McInnes, of Allenford, was lately waited on by many warm friends of all denominations in Anabel and Derby, and presented him with the sum of \$114 on the occasion of leaving his present field of labor.