

News of the Week.

CANADIAN.

The names of Dr. Agnew and Mr. Charles Fisher are mentioned as intending candidates for the position of Water Works Commissioners under the new Act.

The traffic of the Great Western Railway is increasing. The steamer Great Western, used to carry cars across the river between Detroit and Windsor, made 10,003 trips last year, carrying 111,680 freight cars, besides passenger coaches and engines.

We have much pleasure in recording a most fitting and magnificent act, on the part of that veteran in Geological Science, Sir William E. Logan, in supplementing, by the handsome gift of \$18,000, the sum of \$2,000 given by him and his brother, Mr. Hart Logan, last year towards the endowment of the chair of Geology in McGill University.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Each fresh fact, the London Telegraph says, confirms its "original judgment that the murder of Lord Mayo by Sher Ali was political as much as personal."

An interesting experiment is being made by some of the great banking and assurance companies of London in the employment of a special class of lady clerks.

It is proposed that the honorary freedom of the city of London should be conferred on the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, with the thanks of the city for the transfer of the Columbia Market.

It is stated that, by order of the Pope, several distinguished priests have been entrusted with the duty of attending Protestant meetings in Paris to discuss doctrinal points with the ministers.

Captain the Duke of Edinburgh, R.N., will, it is understood, very shortly join the gunnery training ship Excellent, at Portsmouth, for a course of studies in gunnery.

The total number of messages forwarded from postal telegraph stations in the United Kingdom last week was 246,852, being an increase of 59,917 over the corresponding period of last year.

Prince Bismarck, it is said, is resolved to resign unless the Emperor gives him permission to nominate a sufficient number of members of the Upper House to carry the law on the inspection of schools in that chamber.

Great activity prevails at Woolwich Arsenal, in the manufacture of heavy cannon for naval service and coast defences, and other material of war. The colonies and out-stations are being supplied with new guns, and experiments are being made by night with torpedoes.

John Bright has written a letter to the Anti-Income Tax Association, declaring that only in a reduction of the Government expenditures can he see a chance for the abolition of the odious tax.

On Wednesday, Feb. 7th, Mr. Evelyn Demson publicly announced his retirement from the Speakership; on Friday Mr. Brand was unanimously elected his successor. The retiring Speaker received well-earned compliments from both sides of the House on quitting his important post after fifteen years of service; and Mr. Brand's twenty years of Parliamentary life were mentioned by Sir Roundell Palmer as among his qualifications for appearing in a capacity which requires experience as well as dignity and ability.

LETTER FROM REV. G. L. MACKAY.

The Editor of the Home and Foreign Record has received the following letter from Mr. McKay:—

MY DEAR SIR,—I address you this note before leaving for Swatow, Amoy, and Formosa, to let you know of my safe arrival here. We left San Francisco on the 1st of November, and did not see land until the 26th. We remained until the 28th at Yokohama, and then set sail again for China, and on Tuesday we arrived safely. The voyage on the whole was pleasant; and though occasionally unwell on account of seasickness, yet I was up every day, and was enabled to read and study considerably.

When at Yokohama, I called on two of the missionaries, and learned that teaching in English is nearly all they can do at present, on account of the Japanese Government; but they are expecting great changes soon. The people are anxious to learn, especially English; but they dread the officials. Surely followers of Jesus in Christian lands are pleading with God for His own cause there; for Jesus must reign amongst that people, and every barrier must be removed for the entrance of the everlasting Gospel of God's Dear Son.

I have visited Canton already, and will leave shortly for Swatow.

I will write to you again from the particular field of my future labours, if God will still preserve and bring me in safety there. Thus far He has led me, though weak and helpless; thus far He has comforted me by His grace. I do rejoice that He has brought me to this dark heathen land to labour for Jesus.

That God may abundantly bless you in all your labours for His cause in my dear native land, is the earnest prayer of your humble servant, G. L. MACKAY.

Hong Kong, Dec. 8th, 1871.

Ecclesiastical.

ORDINATION AND INDUCTION.

On Wednesday 28th ult., a meeting of the Presbytery of Colborne was held in the riding village of Halliburton, the occasion of the meeting being the ordination of the Rev. Wm. Reeve and his induction into the pastorate of the Presbyterian charge there. The examination of the pastor elect being sustained, the solemn services were proceeded with. Rev. W. Donald, of Port Hope, preached an impressive sermon from Isaiah vi.—8. After the usual questions were asked of minister and congregation, Mr. Reeve was set apart to the sacred office of the ministry by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. The Rev. Mr. Donald then addressed the minister, and the Rev. J. L. Murray, of Baltimore, the people. The benediction being pronounced the Rev. Mr. Murray conducted the newly ordained pastor to the door, where he received the right hand of welcome from his congregation.

In the evening, a pleasant social tea meeting was held in the town hall which was in every sense a success. The hall was elegantly hung with banners and other drapery, the tables were tastily and beautifully spread, and the company representing many denominations were as orderly and decorous as the most fastidious could desire. The substantial being disposed of, and the tables being removed, the remainder of the evening was devoted to intellectual enjoyment. Mr. D. McFarlane was called to the chair, in which he presided with his usual affable and gentlemanly manner. He read the 133rd Psalm which the whole audience sung with zest. He then made some remarks indicating the rapid growth of the village and settlement, and the progress of Presbyterianism in the place within the past year. Speeches were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Donald, Auld, Murray and the ordained pastor, Rev. Mr. Reeve—the proceedings being interspersed with some choice pieces of music, furnished by an amateur choir of the village. The audience highly delighted with the entertainment and pronouncing it the best of its kind ever held in Halliburton, dispersed—

"And each took of his several way Resolved to meet some other day."

Mr. Reeve enters upon his duties with every encouragement, and is by no means a stranger to the field. He has laboured in the capacity of a missionary in the Minden and Halliburton districts for four years with such marked success, that a scattered unorganised handful, with difficulty paying a couple of dollars per Sabbath with the missionary's board (the balance being paid from the H. M. Fund) has developed into two regular congregations ready for settlement. The hearty, enthusiastic call extended to Mr. Reeve, after such long experience of his labours, and such close intimacy with him personally, is good evidence that he is the right man in the right place. May the smiles of the Saviour rest upon the union between the pastor and his flock.—Com.

ONTARIO PRESBYTERY.—At a recent meeting the Presbytery of Ontario resolved to meet at Lindsay on Tuesday, 26th of March, in Peel Street Church, for the purpose of ordaining Mr. Hoskins to the pastorate of the congregation.—Com.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

The Rev. Dr. Waters, of St. Marys, has been lecturing on "Samuel Johnson and his times" before the Young Men's Christian Association, Woodstock; and the Sentinel remarks:—"The treatment of the subject was to our mind admirable, being calculated to please not less than to edify and instruct, and will, we venture to predict, secure for the lecturer, the Rev. Dr. Waters, of St. Marys—hitherto a stranger—a cordial welcome when he again meets with a Woodstock audience."

INDUCTION AT CROMARTY.—On Tuesday of last week the Rev. P. Scott was inducted at Cromarty into the pastoral charge of the Cromarty and Fullarton congregations by the Presbytery of Stratford. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, and the bad state of the roads, the attendance was much larger than was anticipated. The Rev. Dr. Waters preached an impressive discourse from the text, Matt. x. 1—5; after which the Rev. Mr. Hall addressed the minister, and Rev. Mr. Mitchell the people; and the new pastor was formally inducted. A soiree took place in the evening, which was well attended, the storm having abated considerably. Revs. Messrs. Hall and Finlay having addressed the meeting, refreshments were served and more more addresses were delivered by Revs. Messrs. Mitchell, Hislop, Potheringham, Gracey and Dr. Waters. Excellent music was rendered at intervals by a choir from Fullarton, under the leadership of Mr. E. Moore. After tendering the usual votes of thanks the congregation dispersed.

ANNUAL REPORT ERSKINE CHURCH, MONTREAL.—We are in receipt of the admirable annual report of the Committee of Managers of Erskine Church, Montreal, for the year 1871, just published, from which we glean the following particulars respecting this flourishing congregation. The ministers are Rev. Wm. Taylor, D. D., and Rev. J. M. Gibson, M. A. On the communion there are 483 names. The amount collected for the Poor Fund during the year was \$257.49, including a donation of \$5, expended during the same period \$218.14. The sum of \$550 was collected for the building fund; and \$100 were appropriated from the Ordinary Revenue towards the Sinking Fund. The total receipts—Ordinary Revenue—including balance from previous year—were \$6,783.74; total expenditure \$5,452.61; showing a balance in hands of Treasurer, of \$331.61. For missionary and benevolent purposes were raised, including balance on hand from last audit, the magnificent sum of \$5,207.49, all of which was expended excepting \$1,863.25.

At the annual missionary meeting it was moved by Mr. [unclear], seconded by Mr. Paradis, and resolved: that the special donations and collections be supplemented so as to make the amount of \$900 to the Foreign, \$660 to the Home Missions, \$160 to the Sabbath School Association, \$141 to the Montreal College, \$150 to the St. Joseph Street debt, and \$150 to French Evangelization.

At a meeting of the session and congregation of Moss, lately held, the session laid before the congregation the remit of the General Assembly on the subject of union. The Moderator read and explained the resolutions and articles proposed as a basis of union, and the decisions of the General Assembly at the adjourned meeting in Toronto, 7th to 10th November, 1871.

After a lengthened discussion, it was moved by Rowland H. Shields, and seconded by James McPhail, that, "Owing to the unsatisfactory understanding between the negotiating Churches in the matter of collegiate education, and especially in reference to the adoption of the University of Queen's College by the United Church as it now stands in relation to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the changes proposed to be made in regard to the tutorial work relating to the literary and scientific studies of students for the ministry, this congregation cannot approve of the Canada Presbyterian Church entering into the proposed union on the decisions come to by the Assembly."

It was moved in amendment by Donald Chisholm, and seconded by Wm. Gow, "That this congregation approve of the proposed basis of union as amended by the General Assembly at the adjourned meeting in Toronto, and leave the arrangement of collegiate education for the future legislation of the Church."

A vote being taken, the motion was carried almost unanimously—only the mover and seconder voting for the amendment.—Com.

THE LATE DR. BOYD.

We find the following obituary notice of the late lamented Dr. Boyd, who departed his life on the 28th ult., in the last issue of the Prescott Telegraph:

There were few men in the community better known or more deservedly respected than Dr. Boyd. At a time when the country was little better than a wilderness, he laboured in season and out of season in every good work, seeking to promote both the spiritual and temporal welfare of the people. He was always a warm advocate of popular Education, and lent his active assistance to promote it.

In the great struggle for civil and religious liberty, which raged in Canada for so many years, Dr. Boyd was always found on the side of popular rights, contending manfully for the reform of abuses in Church and State, and thereby braving persecution at the hands of the parties in power who were never very scrupulous in their treatment of those who had the courage to oppose their tyranny and injustice. But he lived to see the glorious principles and reforms for which he had contended, securely established and the people rendered happy, contented and prosperous under the mild administration of just laws, which secure to all religious denominations equal rights and privileges.

Like the pioneer ministers of the country, generally, Dr. Boyd was by no means exempt from privation during the earlier years of his ministry. Poverty and want had to be battled with, as well as popular sin and ignorance, and oppression and injustice in high places. But he was blessed with a strong constitution and a brave heart, which shrunk from no hardships, but bore them all cheerfully and uncomplainingly, believing that He whom he served would one day give him the promised reward. It is gratifying to know that his declining years were rendered free from anxiety in respect to his temporal wants, by a well earned and carefully husbanded competence.

Dr. Boyd's funeral sermon was preached on Sunday last by his old friend and co-labourer, Rev. Mr. Smart, and to that sermon we are mainly indebted for the particulars contained in this notice. Dr. Boyd was a native of Craigh, County of Antrim, Ireland. He was born in 1791, of religious parents. He received his collegiate education at the University of Glasgow, where he took his degree as Master of Arts. Licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Ballantrae, he emigrated to this country in 1821, and was afterwards ordained by the United Presbytery of Upper Canada. On his arrival in this country he commenced his labours in Prescott. Mr. Smart was already preaching here, his field of labour extending from Gananoque to Williamsburg, and as far north as South Gower and the adjacent localities. Mr. Smart gladly welcomed Mr. Boyd to share with him this extensive field of Christian enterprise. From that time Dr. Boyd took Prescott and the rest of Mr. Smart's district eastward and northward, while the latter confined his subsequent labours to the remaining territory. Thus commenced a friendship which endured unbroken for upwards of half a century.

During the pastorate of Dr. Boyd the present handsome and substantial church was built at Prescott, and is an enduring monument of his perseverance and zeal. He also established and organized congregations and aided in building churches in Edwardsburgh, South Gower, Augusta, and Oxford. Besides this, he and another minister had resting on them the care of all the churches in the Presbyterian connection in the Province for many years, and that, too, during the most trying and perplexing times in the country's history.

For many years previous to his death, Dr. Boyd's health was very feeble, and his last illness was attended with much suffering. But he bore it with that calm and pious resignation, which comes from an unflinching trust in God and unquestioning submission to His holy will. The remains of the venerable deceased were

followed to their last resting place in Sandy Hill burying ground on Monday last, by a large concourse of friends including the clergyman of the town, the members of the Presbytery and prominent citizens. The members of session acted as pall-bearers. The Rev. Mr. Haastie, pastor of the congregation, was assisted in the religious exercises at the funeral by the Rev. Mr. Smart, Rev. Mr. Loughhead, Rev. Mr. Bennet and the Rev. Mr. Traver. These exercises were of a very solemn and impressive character. A violent snow storm raged at the time of the funeral which doubtless prevented many from being present, but notwithstanding the attendance was large and of a character to show the high estimate entertained of the deceased by his fellow townsmen.

We might add that the pulpit of the church was draped with mourning, out of respect to the memory of him who had so often proclaimed from it the glad tidings of the gospel, and it was most fitting that the solemn occasion should be improved by his aged friend, Mr. Smart, it may be proper to mention here, is in the 84th year of his age and the 62nd of his ministry and is truly a wonderful man for his years, both physically and mentally. He preached from Daniel, xxi.—3, and his sermon was listened to throughout with the utmost attention. In the evening, an excellent sermon was also preached by the Rev. Mr. Melville, who also made many touching allusions to the solemn circumstances of the congregation.

KNOX CHURCH, TORONTO.

The annual meeting of the congregation of Knox Church was held on Wednesday evening, and was well attended by members and adherents of the congregation. The meeting was preceded by a social tea in the basement. After this the congregation assembled in the body of the church, Rev. Dr. Topp presiding. The meeting was opened by the singing of the 100th Psalm. Rev. Dr. Topp offered a few remarks by way of introduction to the presentation of the reports. He remarked upon the prosperous state of the congregation and the spirit of harmony and brotherly love which prevailed among the members.

Mr. John Kerr, Secretary of the congregation, read the minutes of the last annual meeting, which were approved.

Hon. John McMurrie moved that the affairs of the congregation in future be regulated, as at present, by trustees elected by the congregation; which was carried. This arrangement had been adopted in 1867 as an experiment, and had worked successfully. Mr. Kerr then read the report of the trustees.

The treasurer's statement showed that the disbursements for the year amounted to \$8,942 90; and the receipts, \$8,853 82, balance due the treasurer, \$89 08. Deducting amount paid for the Duchess street Mission School-house (\$1,736 73), the net revenue was \$7,117 09, as against \$6,565 77 in the previous year, an increase of \$551 32, and an expenditure of \$7,001 03, as against \$6,919. The increase in revenue may be set down to the rise in ground-rents, the other items being nearly similar in amount to the previous year. Another payment of \$1,000 had been made upon the mortgage debt, now reduced to \$6,000. The Duchess street Mission School-house having been completed, had been handed over to the trustees, as forming part of the Church property, and the trustees remark that it will be matter for congratulation if the next year's report contains a similar statement with regard to the proposed new Sabbath school-room and vestry in rear of the church.

Mr. Wm. Galbraith, Treasurer, read his report, the substance of which was embodied in the Trustees' report. In addition to the ordinary receipts, \$8,942 90, there were contributions to Church schemes, \$1,798 36; Sabbath school collections, \$224; Bible and singing classes' collections, \$113 75; making the total contributions for the year \$11,079 01; of this amount \$3,036 58 was for seat rents; \$2,328 10 from ordinary collections, \$1,057 74, extraordinary collections, and \$1,235 69 from ground rents.

On motion of Mr. Cowan, seconded by Mr. Burns, the reports were adopted.

On motion of Mr. Searth, seconded by Mr. Taggart, the retiring trustees were re-elected.

Mr. Wm. McMurrie read the report of the Deacons' Court. The report spoke of the establishment of Duchess street mission school, which now had an average attendance of 76 children. The contributions to the schemes of the Church had not fallen off, notwithstanding the large contributions to the Home Missions. The Sabbath school was in a flourishing condition. The average attendance for the past year was: boys, 118; girls, 139; 42 classes in all. It was proposed to build a new Sabbath school-house in rear of the church, and certain plans therefor had been adopted. The building will be two storeys high, and of the same style of architecture as the church. The number of communicants in the congregation was 670, being an increase of 42 over the previous year. 90 persons had joined the congregation during the year, and 57 left it. "The total number of the congregation was 1,896."

Mr. McMurrie also read the report of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, and concluded by moving the adoption of these reports, which was carried.

There being a sum of \$680 of unappropriated donations for the missionary schemes of the church, it was agreed to divide it as follows:—Home Mission Fund, \$218 50, making a total of \$486 10; Foreign Mission Fund, \$72 35, making a total of \$22 (to which was to be added from the Sunday School children—\$50 for the Saskatchewan Mission, and \$50 for the Chinese Mission, increasing the contribution to the Foreign Mission Fund to \$320); Knox Collection, \$164 10, making a total of \$131. Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, \$11 80, making altogether \$183 10; Sabbath School, \$143 91; and to the East End church \$10. This distribution of the surplus was agreed to.

The Union question was taken up, Dr. Topp giving a sketch of the negotiations and the result arrived at by the General Assembly. He also spoke of the advantages of the union, and pointed out some of the difficulties in the way, which, however, he thought could be overcome if approached in a proper spirit. With regard to Queen's College, he remarked that the condition of union was that that institution should be fully endowed so that it would not be a burden to the United Church.

Prof. Inglis moved—That the congregation, having considered the deliverance of the General Assembly on the subject of union between the Presbyterian Churches in the Province of British North America, approve of such union if it can be accomplished on a sound and Scriptural basis; approve also of the basis of union in its four articles agreed to by the General Assembly in November last; further, are of opinion that it will be highly desirable, and at the same time

sufficient for the wants of the Church, to have only three theological halls fully equipped, namely, two in Ontario and Quebec, and one in the Lower Provinces; and as to the whole matter of collegiate education, recommend that negotiations be still carried on, with the view and in the hope of arriving at a settlement satisfactory to the Churches concerned.

Hon. John McMurrie seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

It was agreed to fix the salary of the preacher at \$500.

SOURCES AND ANNIVERSARIES.

The Sabbath School Association of the Township of Chinguacousy held its Semi annual meeting in the Presbyterian Church, Cheltenham, on Friday of last week. Arthur Norris, President of the Association, conducted the proceedings, and the meeting discussed, among other things, "How to retain the older scholars in the Sabbath School?" "How may we bring in those not attending any school?" A public meeting was held in the evening. Mr. J. C. Snell, President of the County Association, was called to the chair. Rev. W. A. Mackay, Mr. A. Norris, Mr. W. N. Hossie, Secretary of the County Association, and Rev. W. W. Carson, of Brampton, each addressed the meeting on different phases of the Sabbath School work. The next meeting is to be held in Zion Church, Centre Road, on Queen's Birthday, 24th May.

LITERARY NOTES.

We have great pleasure in noticing the steady development of publishing enterprise in Canada. The progress made in this department within these few years has been as surprising as it is gratifying. No doubt a considerable number of foolish ephemeral brochures have appeared in a Canadian dress, but a large proportion of the volumes that have been either printed for the first time or reprinted in different parts of our Dominion have been of a healthful, respectable character, while even those of them which may best deserve the character of light, could scarcely be called vicious.

In Toronto, especially, there has been, and is very commendable activity in this line, so that in a very short time we may hope to see book printing and publishing carried on in the capital of Ontario on a very extensive scale. Different publishing firms are running a friendly race with each other, and are really turning out volumes, which, as far as the mechanical execution goes, would do no discredit to Paternoster Row.

We make no invidious comparisons, and where all are doing so well, we not even hint at any one as notably superior to the others, so that if we in the course of our editorial labours have to notice more of the publications of the Messrs. Campbell, than of others, it will simply be from those gentlemen issuing more of such publications as specially solicit attention in a Presbyterian newspaper.

It is rather too late in the day to call attention to the volume of the PRESBYTERIAN PULPIT, that was issued some time ago. We are gratified to see that its success has exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its projectors and the third edition is now issued, and likely to be soon all disposed of. This we have no doubt will lead to the publication of a good many volumes of a like character, as promised when the prospectus was issued; and with, we should hope, equally gratifying results.

Another volume lately issued by the Messrs. Campbell deserves a much more lengthened notice than we can at present spare to it. We refer to Mr. Stewart's work entitled SCURRY AND FOUL OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Stewart is one of the young ministers of the Canada Presbyterian Church, having been settled, but for comparatively a few years, originally, we believe, in the Lower Provinces, and latterly at Owen Sound. The work he has produced is particularly seasonable. It is to be feared that a very large number of Presbyterians are not sufficiently acquainted with what can be said in favour of the Presbyterian Form of Church Government as founded on and in accordance with the Word of God. In many cases all that is taken for granted, so that many would find themselves sorely put out if asked why they were Presbyterians rather than Episcopalians or Independents.

This is especially the case with too many of the younger class of Canadian Presbyterians, and therefore, we with special warmth welcome such a volume as that of Mr. Stewart's, written as it is, in a clear matter of fact style, within short compass, with no affectation of originality, and yet with abundant evidence that in its composition the writer has thought for himself, and gives us his conclusions in his own way. We don't endorse all that is advanced in it, but we say it is exceedingly convenient and useful to have such a "handy" little book to which very many Presbyterians who have neither time nor inclination to turn to other publications on the subject, can betake themselves so as to learn within short compass what can be said in favour of their form of Church government, and how they can be enabled to give an intelligent answer to those who may ask them why they hold by that form rather than some other.

WE NOTICE AT PRESENT ONLY ANOTHER PUBLICATION issued in Montreal, from the well-known press of John Lovell. We refer to the PRESBYTERIAN, the monthly organ of our sister Presbyterian Church in the two Provinces formerly constituting Old Canada.

The Presbyterian was at New Year taken under the management of a Committee of Synod, and its price was reduced from a dollar to a quarter per annum. It is really a marvel of neatness and cheapness, and in every way reflects great credit upon its conductors and printer. Already, we are glad to learn, it has reached a monthly circulation of upwards of 8,000, and as payment is rigidly required in advance, it is financially already a complete success.

Even Mr. Lovell, enterprising as he is, was rather staggered at the idea of issuing a twenty-four page periodical once a month for twenty-five cents a year; but the result has shown that the projectors of the change were justified in their confidence, and they certainly can with all freedom look their supporters in the face and claim that they give them full value for their money.

The Presbyterian is carefully edited, the information given is varied and interesting, and such as is calculated to awaken and sustain a living interest in the prosperity of the denomination which it represents, without confining the attention of its readers unduly or exclusively to their "Own Kirk."