

On accepting of the resignation of Mr. Lawrence of the pastoral charge of the congregation of Clarke, the Presbytery agreed to record the following expression of their feelings on the occasion:—

“The Presbytery record their deep, heartfelt regret for the necessity which has separated their esteemed friend and brother, Mr. Lawrence, from his congregation. They tender to him and to them their warm sympathy in the circumstances in which God in his providence has placed them, and they express their heartfelt thankfulness in that, when thus called on to quit his place as Pastor and member of Presbytery, he, after such a lengthened period of ministerial service, parts without abatement of that unqualified esteem and affection which from the first they entertained towards him. From his clear, warm statement of divine truth, his unobtrusive but ever readily bestowed counsel and assistance, his gentlemanly, kindly bearing, and his calm, judicious consideration of the questions submitted to him, the Presbytery feel that the blank is one that cannot be easily filled up to the congregation and Presbytery, and they hope and pray that, though laid aside from regular duty, he may be long spared to aid by his counsel and prayers the progress of the work of the Lord.

On proceeding to elect members for the General Assembly, it was unanimously agreed to select one half of the ministers according to rotation, and the other half by vote. Accordingly, those in rotation were Dr. Thornton, J. McTavish, and W. C. Windell, Mr. Kennedy having declined the appointment, and Messrs. J. R. Scott, John Smith and Jas. Douglas were elected by the vote of Presbytery.

Reports were given in of the missionary meetings held throughout the bounds, which had been generally successful, and several quite encouraging.

A deputation consisting of Jas. R. Scott, and J. B. Edmondson, also reported a visit to all the stations in the Presbyterian Mission field. This is the second time within a few months that the large, interesting, and very destitute territory has been visited by special deputations. The report was full of interest and encouragement, but the field would require a vastly larger outlay of labour than the Presbytery can yet afford. It was unanimously resolved that, instead of the one Missionary now located at Kirkfield, *two Students* should, if possible, be secured for the summer work, and active operations carried on throughout the district. Rev. Mr. Scott, of Cambay, was also appointed Superintendent of the field, to take some direction of the operations therein, and occasionally to visit such portions as he could reach, and in co-operation with the Missionaries employed therein.

The Presbytery was for a considerable time engaged with the consideration of a matter which had been once and again before them at previous meetings, and which can now be alluded to only generally, and in few words. A largely signed petition asking for supply of sermon, was presented some months ago, from parties in and around Williamsburgh, which is in the vicinity of Cartwright Church, (Rev. W. C. Windell's.) A Committee was appointed to inquire into the causes which had given rise to the petition, from whose Report, along with representations of the Petitioners, it was obvious to the Presbytery that the parties could not be expected, in the circumstances, to profit from Mr. Windell's ministry; the Petitioners were accordingly recommended to connect themselves with Enniskillen Congregation, leaving the minister about to be inducted there to give such attention to them as might seem suitable. Mr. Thom, after his induction, accordingly, and by the concurrence of the Session and Congregation of Enniskillen, proceeded to give supply at Williamsburgh; Mr. Windell also proceeded to preach at Enniskillen, at the same hour as Mr. Thom's evening meeting. The Presbytery have not yet been able to get rid of the serious complications which have arisen. The matter may probably come before the Toronto Synod at the first meeting.

On the 10th March, the Presbytery met at Beaverton, when Rev. D. Cameron was inducted into his new charge. The day was very stormy, and prevented the members of the Presbytery at a distance from attending. Rev. H. Currie, of