

THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,

For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

"Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation."

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PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

A meeting of this Presbytery will be held at Peterboro', on the second Tuesday of November, at 11 A. M.

JAMES BOWIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

TO CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.

To the Editor of the Record.

MY DEAR SIR,—I find in the printed minutes of the proceedings of last Synod, a serious error, in the "Overture anent the Licensing of Students," to which I beg through the "Record" to call the attention of Presbytery Clerks

In the second line from the bottom of page 26 after the word "Government" the following particulars have been omitted.—

"(3) On personal religion. He shall also read before the Presbytery (1) A Latin Exegesis, (2) A Greek critical exercise."

This error has not arisen by any fault of our accurate and pains-taking Synod Clerk, but was a *lapsus penna* of the undersigned in transcribing the overture from his pencilled notes.

I am yours &c.,

ALEX. F. KEMP.

Montreal, Oct., 13 1858.

Notices of Recent Publications.

Lectures delivered before the young men's Christian Association in Exeter Hall from Nov. 1857 to Feb. 1858. New York: R. Carter and Bros. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton, J. C. Geikie Toronto, and other Booksellers.

We always welcome the lectures annually delivered to the young men in London in Exeter Hall. The present volume is quite equal in interest and ability to its predecessors. There is of course great variety in the subjects selected and in the style and mode of illustration, but there is a freshness and interest about them all which cannot but render them popular. The following is a list of the subjects and authors. The Social influence of Christianity, by W. K. Baxter Esq M. P.;—Manliness, by Rev. H. S. Brown;—Social Responsibilities, by J. B. Gough;—The silence of Scripture, by Rev. J. C. Miller D. D.;—The lessons of the Street, by Rev. W. Landels;—Hugh Miller's "Testimony of the Rocks"—God in His work and in His works, by the Very Rev. the Dean of Carlisle; The Church, its influence, duties, and hopes in the present age, by Rev. S. Coley;—Pulpit Eloquence of the 17th Century, by the Very Rev. the Dean of Canterbury;—Varieties of Spiritual Life, by the Rev. J. Stoughton;—Progress—Life of Geo. Stevenson, by E. Cordey Esq;—A Life Story, with characters, and comments, by Rev. Norman McLeod.

The Two Paths, and other Stories. By A. L. O. E. New York; R. Carter and Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

This is an interesting and instructing little volume for young persons from the pen of a pleasing and popular writer.

Lecture on the question:—"Ought Converts from Romanism, when admitted to the communion of Evangelical Churches, to be baptized?" By Rev. A. Wilson.

We had neither time nor space to notice this Lecture when it first appeared. The author, after a statement of the question, which, according to his view, resolves itself into the inquiry: Ought the Romish Church to be regarded as a section of the visible Church of Christ? proceeds to bring forward the arguments which bear upon this point. His inquiries with reference to the Church of Rome, are the following, viz: 1. Does she hold and teach the essential doctrines of the Gospel? 2. Is she united for the worship of God as required in His Word? 3. Has her conduct as a Society, on the whole, been in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Gospel? After bringing forward a large amount of evidence, the answer to each of these queries is in the negative. Mr. Wilson concludes in the following terms:—

"Tested, then, by these characteristics of a Christian Church—holding and teaching the essential doctrines of the Gospel, united for the worship of God as required in his word, and conduct, on the whole, in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Gospel, the Church of Rome is found to be altogether lacking—lacking to such an extent as that she ought not any longer to be regarded as a section of Christ's visible Church, or her people as having been recognized by, or received into the Communion of Christ's visible Church. Therefore, converts from Romanism when admitted into Christ's visible Church, ought to be admitted to her Communion and recognized as her members in the way appointed by Christ—*by Baptism.*

"To hold any other view would be to condemn all missions to Romanists as a system of a proselytism. For if she be a section of the visible Church of Christ, and if her ordinances are to be regarded as Christian ordinances, then Protestant Churches are bound by the law of Christian charity to deport themselves towards her as such, though she be their *errant sister*, and not endeavour systematically to bring over members of one section of the Christian Church to another because they may think them to be astray, even on many points. If missions are to be instituted to one section of Christ's visible Church on