

# The Presbyterian;

## A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION OF MONTREAL.

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After mature deliberation, and at the request of many of the Clergy throughout the Province, the Committee of the Lay Association, entrusted with the publication of "The Presbyterian," have determined on reducing the price to 2s. 6d. per annum. Ministers and others, on remitting 10s., will be supplied with five copies.

The Committee again earnestly call upon their friends to give their best efforts to obtain subscribers, and thus promote the circulation of a periodical among the Members of the Church, which, it is hoped, may be considered of incalculable service in advancing their highest interests. With this view they urgently solicit from all well-wishers communications detailing the progress of the good cause, and from Presbyteries, clerks documents on points of general interest.

All letters to be post-paid, and addressed "Editor of the Presbyterian," Montreal, not later than the 25th of each month.

The Treasurer of the French Mission Fund will publish a list of contributions in the next number of the *Presbyterian*.

### The Presbyterian.

#### THE CHURCH IN CANADA.

##### FRENCH PROTESTANT MISSION.

Since the printing of the last General Report, the principal Agent of the French Protestant Mission of the Synod, in connection with the Church of Scotland, has been a great part of the time employed in collecting contributions, and awakening an interest in behalf of this important work, in the United States, Great Britain, and France. It has been deemed expedient not to issue a General Report for 1846 and 1847 till his return, as he is daily expected, and as no systematized view of the work could be well given, till the Special Mission, on which he has gone, shall be accomplished. The Committee, appointed to conduct the Mission, had been induced to purchase a lot of ground with a small house erected on it, which was fitted up as a temporary chapel. The cost altogether was upwards of £400. At the time of the late secession, a large portion of this sum

remained unpaid: and, as it was considered necessary to erect a larger place of worship, which would require at least £600 more, the Synod in 1845 "instructed the Committee to take all prudent steps to raise a fund sufficient to pay off the debt on the French Church property in the city of Montreal, and in particular to depute the Missionary, the Rev. E. Lapelletrie, to solicit contributions towards this object in the United States."

M. L. went on this Mission with a general letter of recommendation to evangelical Ministers of every denomination. He met with the warmest hospitality from all those he visited. They felt the deepest interest in his work, and contributed liberally to the Funds of the Mission. More was obtained than was sufficient to pay off the debt remaining on the property, but not nearly sufficient to erect a Church.

The Committee, considering it of the utmost importance, that a connection of correspondence with influential Ministers of the Gospel should be established as extensive as possible, and that the knowledge of their operations should be circulated widely, came to the determination of sending M. L. to Scotland and France. But the views of the Committee will be best learned from the following extracts from a letter of instructions to himself, and commendatory letter to the Churches:—

"Two more Missionaries are required—a Missionary for Quebec, and one to assist you in your charge, for it is now clear that your time will henceforward be mostly taken up as an Agent, or on Missionary excursions into the country. With respect to your proceedings in Scotland, you must take your instructions from the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly. Some of the members will give you letters to their correspondents on the continent; and all I would impress upon you at present is that you be extremely cautious what sort of men you send out. If you can obtain for the present two active, pious, zealous men, it will be enough, till we consolidate the work here. It is better to create a want, and find a supply adequate to it, than to work without a definite object in view. Whom you do send, see that they be fit persons. Better none, than men inadequate to the work before them. Just in propor-

tion to its difficulty and extent, and these are enormous, I would say they must be men of zeal—men of high talents—men of God. The Jesuits are establishing themselves in every part of the Province, and engrossing the education of the Roman Catholic youth. From such a mental preparation as they are receiving, when the contest between the truths of the Bible and the doctrines of men will come, and it will; I am persuaded, come very soon, the collision will be tremendous. It will be no weak advocate of Gospel truths that will stand against such opponents as will take the field. What you must therefore keep in view before every thing else in your present mission, is not only to engage the sympathies of the people of Scotland in your work, but to establish a connection of correspondence and aid with Protestant Ministers of zeal and eminence on the Continent, and, if possible,—with Protestant Churches." "I will write to you again on this subject, and in the mean time only enclose a recommendatory letter to the Colonial Committee. Write often. Unless you do so, we will be utterly at a loss what to do here, or what advice to give you."

Montreal, 28th April, 1846.

The Presbytery of Montreal, as a Committee appointed by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland to conduct the French Protestant Mission in Canada East, beg leave to commend to their brethren of the Church of Scotland, and particularly to the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly and Colonial Churches, the Rev. E. Lapelletrie, and request that they will favour him with their aid and best advice for the successful accomplishment of his important Mission.

The Presbytery leave it to Mr. Lapelletrie to give such details of the history and prospects of the Mission as may be interesting to those who are friendly to the general object they have in view, or are calculated to forward the special purposes for which, as their Agent, he now proceeds to Europe; simply stating that these objects are. 1st. To receive the contributions of those, who are friendly to the Mission, towards erecting a Chapel in Montreal for the worship of God in the French language, and after the forms of the Presbyterian Church. 2d. To procure one or two well qualified Missionaries to labour in Montreal, Quebec, and neighbourhood. 3d. To establish, in so far as he is able, a connection of correspondence and aid between this Committee and individual Members and Churches in Britain, France, Switzerland, and other places, with a view to give unity, consistency, and strength to the important work in which this Committee are engaged.

The Presbytery further beg leave to state that from five years' experience of the faithfulness and zeal with which Mr. Lapelletrie has conducted the work committed to him, they can with all confi-