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ur friends in Hamilton may find it more convent-nt to pa/Mr. G. than to remit their subscriptions y this olice.

Toronto, 12th March, 1874.

British American Bresbyterian. FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1874.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

" The Local House of Parliament has been going on in its usual undignified fashion. t is, however, doing some useful legislative

The Ashantee expedition has been crowned with complete success. It is to be hoped that matters will henceforth move on more quietly and peacefully in that barbarous and, and that Britain will henceforth keep out of such quarrels.

The only thing that has during the week broken in upon the general monotony in Ontario has been the occurrence of many cases of daring burglary attended in some cases with violence. Evidently we have at present among us a more than usually large number of the "dangerous class."

The famine in India grows every day more formidable. It is to be feared that nspite of all the efforts put forth by the Imperial authorities very many will die of starvation. Such wide spread calamities can only be prevented by an extensive and complete system of irrigation. Much in this way has already been done by the British authorities, but much still remains to be accomplished. Such occurrences will no doubt hasten the work.

On the other side of the lines, the crusade of the ladies against the saloons and general liquor stores proceeds with ever increasing vigor and success. In many of the smaller towns and villages throughout several states, they have closed up almost every place where intoxicating liquors were sold. Their mode of procedure is quite characteristic. They gather round the whiskey seller's door and continue in prayer for, and in remonstrance with him till he gives in, and promise to give up his accursed business. This answers very well in small places, where already the current of public opinion runs strongly in favour of prohibition. In larger places it is differont.

The Marriage Bill at present before our Local Legislature provides for the Banns being proclaimed on only one Sabbath, either before, during, or immed ately after public worship. One of the parties must have previously resided at least fifteen days within the Municipality as at home, and the proclamation must be made in the Church where the minister who is to preside at the marriage usually preaches. Li censes are to be abolished, and instead certificates are to be issued by persons duly authorized by the Lieut. Governor, stating that there is no legal or other reason why the marriege should not be colebrated. One of the parties to be married must give nformation on oath to the issuer of these certificates, and if anything false or misleading is stated of course the informant can be proceeded against for perjury. Every clergyman marrying on the warrant of a certificate to be free from any liability should it turn out that there has been any mistake or misrepresentation. The charge for the certificate is not to exceed \$2, but His Excellency can, if he choose, reduce it at any time to a much lower figure. It is to be hoped that the law about registering all riarriages will be rigidly enforced. It is simply scandalous that any minister should act so dishonestly and illogally as to neglect registering any marriage at which he officiates.

The united congregations of Guthrio Church, Longwood, and Cooko's Church, Caradoc, have called the liev. Alox. Sutherland, Presbytery of Omana, U.S. These ure new charges; but the people have niready purchased a globe of 15 seres upon which there are a manse, stable and barn, for their future pastor. The property is entrally sinused.

PRAYER MEETINGS.

Many complain of the difficulty of keeping up congregational and other prayer meetings. After overything that can bo thought of has been done to m. ke them interesting and profitable, the people dont attend by any great numbers and even those who are found at them don't appear to take any deep interest in the services. The suggestions published on the sixth page, made by Mr. Moody whose services have been so effective in the present revival work in Scotland, may help some who are discouraged at the prayer meeting being so poorly attended and [who yet know of no plan to make things different and better.

REVIVALS.

While there is so much talk about the great work of grace at present going in Scotland, a good many in Canada are auxiously praying for a similar time of refreshing for our Dominion from the presence of the Lord. There are no doubt ever and anon taking place 'revivals' in different parts of Canada, but there has for a long time past been no such extensive and marked a work of Grace, as are taking place in other lands. Why is this? Why is the blessing vouchsafed to others withheld from Canada? We know in whom we are not straitened. The Lord is ready to bless here as elsewhere, and there are those who are humbly and perseveringly praying for that blessing to descend; we hope at no distant day to be able to tell in what way and to what extent these prayers have been answered. With such a rovival as is desired and prayed for many congregational and ministerial difficulties would disappear.

DR. JENNINGS.

We are sorry to see from the report of the last meeting of the Toronto Presbytery that the Rev. Dr. Jennings has been obliged to resign his charge of the congregation with which he has been so long connected. We trust that the rest which the Dr. will now be able to take from continuous labour may, under the blessing of God, tend to the restoration of a good amount of vigour, and that he may be able to do still considerable work for the advancement of that cause with which he has been so long identified. and for which he has laboured so long and so assiduously. Dr. Jennings came to this country in 1888, when Toronto was little more than an insignificant village. He has seen wonderful changes take place both in Church and State, and has the satisfaction, as he looks back, of believing that he has done his part vigorously to make the Canada of to-day, both ecclesiastically and civilly, very different from what it was when he first took up his abode in the quondom "dirty Little York," and not more different than it is superior in every respect. To the men and ministers of the present generation it is difficult to give oven a faint idea of the Canada of 1838, with its dominant and insolent Established Church, its irresponsible Government, and its impoverished and discontented people. Prosbyterian and other ministers could not then and for many years after, celebrate marriage, without first going before a magistrate and taking the oath of allegiance though Roman Catholic Priests, whose loyalty to the English Crown might lie under the gravest doubts, were, along with the English Church clergymen, allow d by virtue of their office, to be free from any such humiliation. Justice was not a thing to be expected by any who were opposed to the Government of the day, and all who did not believe in irresponsible rule and a dominant Church were marked men, and regarded as certainly disloyal to the British Crown. With many a Presbyterian was looked upon as only another word for a robel, and the Government service was a mere asylum for the destitute and incapable members of those families that have long labored under the strange delusion that society owed them a living without receiving anything in return. Dr. Jennings hashved to see all that changed; the Clergy Reserves secularized, the very last fragment of an Established Church removed, Courts of law purified, Education extended and improved; the country rich, populous, and prosperous; and the prospects before its people, both in secular and religious matters, of the very brightest kind. When the Dr. began his labours in Toronto, we question if no ever hoped to see the Presbytorian cause so strong and flourishing in this city. and throughout the country generally, as it is to-day. What will it be thirty-five years hence? No reason at all why the advance should not be as great as in the past. In the nature of things, the Dr. long before that time will be gathered to his Pathers, but we but re-ocho the wish of his many, friends when we say we hope he will be spared to a green old age, to see still greater advancement than even he has witnessed in the sountry and Church with which he has

so faithfully and loved so well.

THE SALARIES OF MINISTERS.

We have taken no part in the discussions going on in our columns in reference to the frequent changes of ministers and the causes of so many vacancies. Of the fact there can be no doubt, whatever may be the cause, numbers of our ministers are leaving our Province, and numbers more are anxious for a change. The inadequate renumeration may not be the only reason, but it certainly is one of them and a very influental one. Nor is it surprising, for it is not possible to live with any measure of comfort on the salaries which are generally current. There is no reason whatever why ministers should suffer a slow martyrdom while they can go elsewhere and have as fair a field for evangelistic labour, and at the same time some protection from the weakening and humiliating influence which an madequate income is generally found to exert on both mind and heart. A priesthood in purple and a people in rags is a very disgusting spectacle, but when something like the converse of that takes place it is not much, if at all, more scomly.

Questions on the State of Religion.

1.-What is the number of Communicants in your congregation? Number re-ceived during the past year? How many by certificate? How many on profession

2.—On what grounds are applicants for admission to communion received, and how are they dealt with in order to their admis-

8.—Is the discipline of the Church faith fully maintained by the Session?

4.—Is family worship generally observed by the members of the Church?

5 .- Are there any prayer meetings connected with the congregation? If so, how conducted? How attended? Any district meetings conducted by the Elders?

6.-Have you a Sabbath School, or Schools? Do the Elders show much interest in Sabbath School work? Are the teachers austained, in any good degree, by the sympathy and co-operat on of the members of the Church? Is the Shorter Catechism used?

7.- Is there any evidence of increasing liberality, in the congregation, in the support of Gospel ordinances among themselves and in contributions to the Schemes of the

8.—How is the Sabbath observed in your community?

9 .- Is intemperance on the decrease, or otherwise? Any special means used in order to its supression?

10.—Can you specify any particular hindrances to the advancement of Christ's cause among you?

11.—Can you specify any hopoful indications of spiritual life among the young, or in the congregation generally?

In the beginning of January, copies of these questions were addressed to all the Kirk Sessions of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Additional copies have since been forwarded to the Clerks of the various Presbyteries for the use of those who may not otherwise have received them, The Committee on the State of Religion would carnestly appeal to all the Sessions. to aid them with material for a full report to be laid before the Assembly in June. Besides such answers as Sessions may be able to give to the foregoing questions, the Committee would gladly receive any information or suggestions that may enable them more efficiently to prosecute their work. If there are any of the questions which Sessions may not be prepared to answer, or which, for any reason they may judge it best not to answer, the Committee hope that they will not, on that account, refrain from an swering the others.

In the circular first sent out. Sessions vere requested to forward answers to the Clorks of their respective Presoyteries on or before the first of March. Those who may find themselves unable to do so, are now requited to forward answers to their

THOMAS WARDROPE

Convener of the Assemly's Committee on the State of Religion.

Guelph, Feb. 18, 1874.

The annual meeting of the congregation of St. Androw's Church, Ottawa, was held in the basement of the new church, Monday evening, E. McGillivray, Esq., President of the Temporal Committee in the chair. The Annual Report of the Temperal Committee, together with the Treasurer's financial statement, and the Report of the Building Committee, were presented, approved, and found .. be satisactory. The new election was then proceeded with for the ensuing year, and resulted as follows: -E. McGillivray, President; C. S. Mo-Nutt, Treasurer; Robert Cassels, jr., Secretary; and the Hon. James Skead, H. F. Bronson, A. Drummond, G. E. Elliott, members of Committee. The following gentlemen were appointed to be associated with the Temporal Committee in all matters relating to be erection of the new Church: -J. M. Currier, M.P., Thomas Patterson, Jolin R. Booth, Robert Skead, James L. Orno, Allan Gilmour, E. C. Mellock, M.D., George P. Drummond, Andrew Mann, McLaod Stawart, T. S. Scott. The congregation very properly ranged the salary of their much esteemed Paster. In \$3,500. This is not any too much, when: the high east of Aring at the Cogstal in taken into seconds. been so long identified, which he hannered

Book Folices.

BRITISH AND FOREIGH EVANGELICAL REVIEW January 1874.

This is a periodical which needs none of our commendation. Its character has been long established for both vigorous and oven elegant writing, and it is not falling off under its present mauagement. Dr. Dykes is in himself a host, and is well supported by a band of able coadjutors. We, are ac. cordingly, not surprised that when a poriodical of such excellence is placed at the low figure for which it is to be had, a very large number of our ministers and the more intelligent among the members of our churches should have become subscribers to the B. & F. E. Review. This January number contains seven very readable articles,-one by the Rev. Dr. Frasor, of London, on the "Anglo-Cathone Movement" particularly so. We have no room for anything like an abstract of Dr. Fraser's paper. Very many, however, will strongly sympathize with the sentiments expressed in the following passage, for which alone we find room :-"But while all this damage has been

done to the character and tone of the English Church, what have the Evangelical mon been doing? If not so numerous as those of the High Church School still the Evangelical clergy have far outnumbered the Tractarians and Ritualists: and with the support of the laity, should have made very stout resistance to the anti-Protestant movement. Alas! they have had enough to do to vindicate their own right to con-tinue as a party within the Church, without assuming to be the representatives of the whole Church. They have signed protests and manifestoes against the new movement, have encouraged inept suits at law to restrain certain practices, have called on the bishops, and shouted to the people to do something vigorous; but they have lost ground year by year, and present the aspect of a baffled and discredited party. Mr. Matthew Arnold has complimented them on what must be, to conscientious men, anything but a source of satisfaction that they are 'of the same confraternity with men who hold that their Scriptural Protestautism is all wrong." But he proceeds to say: "This party is losing the future, and feels that it is losing it. The best part of their own younger generation, the soldiers of their own training are slipping away from them, and he who now looks for the source whence pupular Puritan theology derives power and popularity, will not fix his eyes on the Evangelical clorgy of the Church of England." Such language is heard on every side: It cannot be denied that the Evangelical clergy are still four or five thousand in number and the five thousand in number, and that among then, and the laity of this School are to be found the sweetest illustrations of individual Christian piety: nevertheless, as a party, they have little political influence, no literary prestige, no rising men, and no inspiring hope of victory. Any why is this? Because they have never learned combination, have no competent leaders, have no facility in their Church Constitution for forming opinion, uniting supporters, and carrying measures; but are now appealing to the bishops, now rushing to the courts of law, now agitating through societies, each of which has its own pet policy, and obstructs the others. But the deepest reason of the weakness of the party is, in our judgment, that they have no clear, sound, and well defined platform on which to combine. They have good his torical ground as the successors in theology of the reforming bishops of the sixteenth century and of the Herveys, Romaines and Cocils of more recent times. But, even so they can only claim to be a party in the Church, and cannot allege that the Church of England should be in their sense, and exclusively, Evangelical. They cannot even make out that Evangelicism is the most proper and legitimate outgrowth of their Church system. Reviewing the tone and course, and literature of that Church, from the days of Queen Elizabeth till new, we feel compelled to say that the Evangeheal clergy have not so clear a title as the High Church party, to be considered its faithful exponents. They are Low Church men, not fully exhibiting the spirit with which the Church is fraught. But their rivals are High Churchmen, strong, and unembarrassed, because they are in full accord with the teaching and tendency of a prelatic, half-reformed Church.'

Every one feels that this is literally true of all branches of the Church of England, whether endowed or the reverse. Many will also sympathize with Dr. Fraser when ne adds :--

"The Evangelical clergy claim our sympathy, and it is easy to give it to thom, but not so easy to treat their ecclesiastical position and policy with respect. They do not seem to be aware how much they are prejudiced in the eyes of the most friendly onlookers, by denying baptismal regeneration. and yet affirming it as often as they read the baptismal office: denying elerical priesthood, and yet accepting the name of priests; denying confession to a priest, and yet using and even lauding a prayer book that provides for both. Worse still, the majority of them dread and deprecate agitation for the amendment, in these very particulars, of the Liturgy and Catechism, nd prefer to trust to interpretations of the Prayer Book quite as evasive to the Tractarian interpretation, of the articles. It is on this account that they receive less consideration than their character and their fidelity to Divino truth would otherwise command. They are in an equi cal post tion : and as :llogical and provision... as Eng habmon are in regard to old institutions and parties nothing can prevent an equivo-cal position from involving essential weak nes and serious divolvanings.

Recently the Rev. John Thomson, of Ave, was made the resident of a valuable not at brave, has from the members of this

Ministers and Churches.

Dr. Begg has returned to Scotland, from How Zoland, in excellent health.

The Roy. David Mitchell, Canal street, New York, has been called by the congregation of Calvin Church, St. Johns N. B.

We propose to give occasionally a sermon by some distinguished proacher, many are familiar with the one we give in this issue but many others are not.

It is said the congregation of Erskine Church

Montreal, propose, in the event of Rev. Mr. Gibson declining the call to Chicago, to raise his stipend to \$4,000 per annum. At the Toronto Presbytery meeting, Iast

Tuesday, the Rev. Thomas McPherson, M.A., of Stratford, was unanimously nomi. nated as Moderator of next General Assem. The Rev. Dr. Taylor of the Tabernacle.

Broadway, New York, has been in Canada for the past week. He lectured last eveningin Gould-street Church, on "Books and Reading."

The members of the C. P. congregation. Charles-street Toronto, are about to call the Rev. James Robertson, of Paris, to be their pastor. They are very united and cordial in this movement and have great hopes of being successful. 4

The Student's Missionary Society, connected with Knox College proposes to send two of the third year Student's to labour in Manitoba during the summer, with the understanding that if things should go as anticipated, their brothren will take license and finally settle in the Prarie Province.

On Wednesday, 28th ult., the members and adherents of the I resbyterian congregation, Port Dalhousie, presented a valuable gold watch and chain to Mr. John Denton, for many years elder of the Church, Presentor, and Sabbath School Superin-

A few evenings ago-the students of the Canada Presbyteri in College, in this city. presented an address to the Roy. J. M. Gibson, Professor of Exegesis in that institution, and pastor of Erskine Church, in this city, expressing their high appreciation of his services and regret at his probable removal from Montreal. - Witness.

The Montreal Witness says :- Roy. Mr. McDonald, C. P. Church, Alexandria, Ontario, preached in Cote street Church last Sabbath afternoon in Gaelic, and in the evening in English. He also addressed the Sunday-school Bible class, giving an accountof the reasons which induced him to leave the Roman Catholic Church, in which he was brought up, and become a Protestant He has evidently attained to the very creditable position which he now occupies in the church by means of extraordinary energy and self denial.

The following statement of facts and figures was given by the committee of management the other evening at the social in the Canada Presbyterian Church, Seaforthe The committee announced that for the period of Mr. Goldsmith's pastorate no subscription had been taken for any purpose till this winter; that all the money raised by the church has been contributed by plate collections and pew rents, and that the committee by such voluntary contribut tions have been able to pay all current expenses, (\$2,000 per annum,) and to apply \$5,000 on the capital account of the church in the space of three years and a half. They have now, by a subscription circulated through the congregation, raised an additional sum of \$2,000, for the church debt making in all \$7,000 on capital accounts besides current expenses. So much for the voluntary principle.

The induction of the Rev. Alex. Burn't as pastor of the Presbyterian congregation at Point Edward, took place on Tuesday. the 24th ult, under most favourable anspices. A very successful social meeting was held n the evening, Rev. John Thompson, of Sarnia, ably filled the chair; after teas suitable speeches were delivered by Row Messrs. Cuthbertson, of St. Thomas, Mo-Kinnon, of Belmont, Ross, of Point Edwards and the newly ordained minister, Mr Burr. Quite an novel feature of the entertains ment was an address from Mr. McKinnon. in the Gaelic language, which was the cause of the greatest merriment. He quite won. the hearts of the Gaelie people, and thought quito unintelligable, except at intervals when he spoke in English, to the majority of the aurience, yet he received most profound attention. Mr. Burr, being introduced to the audience, then came forward as the spokesman of the tongregation, and presented Mr. Thompson with an address, thanking him for the interest which he had. always manifested in their spiritual walfare, and praying that the blessing of God might follow him through all his future career. Mr. Thompson replied in suit-ble terms, thanking them for the expression of appropiation which had been tondored him, and expressing his hope that the union which was that they formed between paster and people might rade and to the place of