

and ye shall find, for there is a hid treasure in the plainest and simplest exhibition of the gospel of Christ. The word preached did not profit ancient Israel because "it was not mixed with faith in them that heard it." It was a stumbling-block to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks, "but unto them which are called both Jews and Greeks" "the power of God and the wisdom of God."

THE death of Rev. David Inglis, D.D., which took place at Brooklyn, N.Y., on Saturday morning, will be deeply regretted throughout the Presbyterian Churches of this continent; but no where is the blow more keenly felt than in this city, and especially by the congregation of Knox Church, who had recently extended to Dr. Inglis a unanimous call to be coadjutor pastor with Dr. Topp. The disease which caused his death is said to have been miasmatic fever, by which the kidneys were fatally affected. Dr. Inglis was born in Greenlaw, Scotland, in 1823, so that he was in the fifty-fourth year of his age when he died. A more extended notice of him will appear next week. Many are the friends throughout Canada who rejoiced at the effort of Knox Church congregation to bring Dr. Inglis, and who now deeply sympathize with them in their disappointment.

STATE OF RELIGION.

THE following circular has been addressed to the clerks of Presbyteries. It is hoped that the means that have been adopted this year will tend to general returns being received from Sessions, Presbyteries and Synods:

MY DEAR SIR,—There has been mailed to your address in common with every minister of the Church, the annual sheet on the State of Religion, containing questions, etc. As much of the efficiency of the Schemes depends on Clerks of Presbyteries bringing the matter before the Court, and securing the necessary action thereon, the Committee would respectfully ask your assistance and kindly co-operation. But for some Clerks taking an interest in the scheme, it is feared there would be whole Presbyteries, some years, unrepresented. Last year every Presbytery in the Church, except Newfoundland in the extreme east and Manitoba in the extreme west, had the matter under consideration, and sent up their reports to their respective synods—numbering upon the whole three hundred and sixty-five congregations, and it is believed that a far greater number of congregations will report this year, and that a much deeper interest will be awakened. Lindsay was the Presbytery that was most distinguished last year in point of reporting congregations, every one within the bounds having sent in its sheet more or less filled up. In most of the Presbyteries a committee is struck to take charge of this scheme with the Clerk for convener, who, receiving the congregational reports, makes up his return for the Synod. Some of the Clerks did excellent service last year in this way, but in those cases where the Clerk cannot be expected to assume this duty, some other has to be appointed in his room.

As the Synod of the Maritime Provinces has already been held, the Clerks of Presbytery belonging to that section of the Church will please make up their reports as last year, and instead of sending them on to me, let them send them on to the Rev. J. W. MITCHELL, OF MITCHELL, ONTARIO, who has kindly consented to make up the annual report this year for the General Assembly, on or before the 1st of May, 1878. Synod Clerks will also be pleased to send their reports to Mr. Mitchell as soon as the Synods are over, so that Mr. Mitchell may have time to complete his work for the General Assembly.

DUNCAN MORRISON, Convener of the General Assembly's Committee on the State of Religion.

Owen Sound, 27 Nov., 1877.

N.B.—Particular attention this year is called to the Question bearing on Family Religion, No. 1.

OPERATIONS OF THE HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

THE following circular from the Convener of the Home Mission Committee for the western district, has been sent to every minister in Ontario. We re-print it, as containing information interesting to every reader and contributor to the fund:

THE NECESSITIES OF THE FUND FOR 1877-78.

The following outline of the Operations and Necessities of the Home Mission Fund for the current year, is respectfully submitted for the information of our congregations. It is desirable in urging the claims of the fund, that reference be made to the facts submitted, as presenting a strong argument for exceptional liberality during the current year.

OPERATIONS. The report submitted at last Assembly contained the names of seventy-eight congregations, or 101 Churches supplemented by the fund from \$50 to \$300 per annum. Also the names of 264 Mission Stations or 115 Mission fields, under charge of the Committee, and receiving aid from \$50 up to (in some few cases sanctioned by the Assembly) \$500.

The families connected with these Supplemented Congregations and Mission Stations number 7,383, the communicants 9,548, and the attendance upon ordinances 24,190.

In addition to these, special mention must be made of Manitoba, with its thirteen groups, or Mission fields, and thirty-three preaching stations, representing 292 Presbyterian families, 250 communicants, and with an attendance of 875. Also the Muskoka district, the Parry Sound district, the Manitoulin Islands, the Hastings Road Mission field, British Columbia, and finally, Prince Albert on the Saskatchewan, transferred at last Assembly from the Foreign to the Home Mission Committee.

In addition to the ministers already laboring in Manitoba, namely, Messrs. Matheson, Scott, Northwick, Donaldson, Bell, Stewart, and Mackellar, assisted by the Professors and students in the college, and the Rev. Dr. Black and Rev. James Robertson, the Home Mission Committee at its last meeting, appointed the Rev. Peter Straith, the Rev. W. R. Ross, and the Rev. Alex. R. Campbell, to proceed at once to the Province. Two additional labourers are urgently needed for the field, and the Committee are hopeful of securing suitable missionaries to meet the urgent demands of the Province before the close of the year.

FINANCE.—At the close of the financial year, 30th April, 1877, the Committee reported to the Assembly an indebtedness of \$2,389.40. On the 1st of October the indebtedness was \$3,440.67, and adding the claims now due for supplemented congregations and mission stations \$9,809.47, makes a total of \$12,250.14 as the debt resting upon the Home Mission Committee at the present date. To this, in estimating the expenditure for the year, must be added the moneys due Mission Stations and Supplemented Congregations next April, the support of such special fields as Muskoka, Parry Sound, the Manitoulin Islands, British Columbia, and our increased staff in Manitoba. There is also, as instructed by the Assembly the sum of \$2,000 to remove the debt upon the Manitoba College, making as nearly as can be estimated a total of \$38,500, which is required to enable the Committee to meet its liabilities at the close of the financial year in 1878.

I add no further remarks. Surely, in view of what has been stated, our congregations will cheerfully respond, in supporting the Home Mission scheme of our Church, by largely increased contributions during the present year.

WM. COCHRANE, Convener of Home Mission Com.
Brantford, December, 1877.

IN MEMORIAM.

On St. Andrew's day, the 30th ult., died James Kirkpatrick, late Treasurer of the county of Wentworth. He was born of a respectable family near Ballymena, Ireland, in the year 1784, and vividly recollected the conflagration of the rebellion of 1788. He chose the profession of a civil engineer; was married in 1813; emigrated to Canada in 1815, and has ever since resided in the county of Wentworth, Ont., where he raised a large family and filled many public positions. He was early employed by the Government, first in laying out numerous townships and then in valuing Indian and Government lands. When about sixty years of age he was appointed Treasurer of Wentworth county, which office he held until the 1st of March last, when the infirmities of age compelled him to resign it. In business he was distinguished for his sterling integrity and self-abnegation. As it was his constant aim to live above suspicion, he avoided those speculations which have enriched mere grasping men in the infancy of this country, and was content with what he honestly earned by his profession. In religion he was a rigid Presbyterian. The church in which the late Rev. Mr. Christie, of Flamboro', completed his lengthened ministry was built on a site granted for the purpose by him. In this unpretending edifice he and his family worshipped until his removal to Hamilton, when he connected himself with St. Andrew's Church of that city, then ministered to by the late Rev. Alex. McKid. In this congregation he continued during the remainder of his life. About the year 1845 he was ordained an elder, and held that office until his death. He was never absent from his pew, no matter what the weather, until prevented by old age. Without making any parade of his religion, he lived a life of faith and prayer, and frequently spoke of the sovereignty of God in that attribute which afforded him comfort and confidence in his sad trials and family bereavements. In private life he was hospitable and genial in his social intercourse. He was never better pleased than when he saw the ministers of religion surrounding his table. He was to all a kind neighbor and a

sincere friend. His heartfelt piety seemed to grow apace as he advanced in life. His disposition sweetened and his demeanor to all was kinder. The secret of this was the fact that he spent a portion of each day in searching the Scriptures and in secret prayer. The morning was his favorite time for this exercise. While his faculties remained he spoke much of dear departed ones who had gone before him into the spirit world, and rejoiced at the near prospect of joining them there. About the last effort he was observed to make was to sing a snatch of a psalm to one of the old church tunes with which he was familiar. Who knows what blessed vision was revealed to him in those dying moments? Then he fell into a gentle sleep, and peacefully passed away.

His mortal remains were buried in the family plot in the Hamilton cemetery, and the funeral was attended by a numerous concourse of old friends and acquaintances, some of whom had come from a great distance. Long will the name of James Kirkpatrick be affectionately remembered and respectfully spoken of by hundreds whom he benefited by his timely counsels. The "Old Treasurer" has passed away, and it will be long ere his equal in all respects be seen again.—COM.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—This court met in Knox Church, Stratford, on the 11th inst. A committee was appointed to visit Burns' Church, East Zorra. A minute in relation to Mr. Musgrave's translation was adopted, setting forth the Presbytery's estimate of his ability, fidelity, and zeal as a minister of Christ. It was agreed to cite the congregations of St. Andrew's, North Easthope and Hamburg to appear for their interests at next meeting, in relation to the discontinuance of ordinances at the latter place. A letter from the office-bearers of Knox Church, Stratford, was read, intimating that they had received a telegram from Mr. McLeod, of Liverpool, communicating the fact of his acceptance of the call from said Church. The Presbytery made provisional arrangement for his induction on the 30th of January next. A circular from the Foreign Mission Committee was read, asking the Presbytery to arrange for persons appointed by them to address the congregations. A committee was appointed to make arrangements as desired, and appoint members of Presbytery at the same time to address the meetings. The consideration of a circular on Sabbath school work was postponed. Mr. Boyd was appointed on the Synod's committee on the state of religion, and to prepare a report on that subject, from returns to be made by the congregations of the bounds, at or before next ordinary meeting. A committee was appointed to ascertain the Presbytery's rights and responsibilities in relation to the Brooksdale church property.

LINDSAY PRESBYTERY.—The Presbytery met at Uxbridge on Tuesday, 27th November—were present ten ministers and six elders. Arrangements were made for the Annual Missionary Meetings, viz.—1. Uxbridge, Leaskdale, Scott, Sonya, Manilla—Rev. E. Cockburn, Convener. 2. Cannington, Wick, Greenbank, Sunderland, and Vroomantion—Rev. J. Campbell, Convener. 3. Beaverton, S. Mara and Longford, North Mara, Balsover, and Carden—Rev. J. McNabb, Convener. 4. Woodville, Eldon, Kirkfield, Victoria, Digby and Head Lake—Rev. J. L. Murray, Convener. 5. Lindsay, Cambray, Glenarm, Fenelon Falls, Somerville, and Cobocunk—Rev. J. Hastie, Convener. The Committee appointed to draft a report for a Sabbath School Convention, reported, "that a Convention of Sabbath School Teachers of the Presbytery be held in the Presbyterian Church, Cannington, on the first Tuesday of February, 1878, at the hour of 10 a.m., to hold three sessions, viz., at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. That the following be provisionally officers to arrange the programme for said meeting—Rev. J. Campbell, Rev. D. Cockburn, Rev. A. Currie, Messrs. J. C. Gilchrist, J. Jamieson, Woodville; and Mr. Scott, Cannington; Rev. J. Campbell, President; Mr. J. C. Gilchrist, Secretary. The Report was received and adopted. Supply was arranged for Mission Stations. Mr. McLeod gave notice that he would move at next meeting that the representatives to the General Assembly have their expenses paid, and the Rev. J. Campbell, that he would move for the reconsideration of the arrangement made, that the Presbytery meetings be held alternately at Lindsay and Woodville. Next meeting of Presbytery, was appointed to be held at Woodville, on Tuesday, 26th February, 1878.—J. R. SCOTT, Pres. Clerk.