

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The ordinary meeting of the Presbytery of Toronto, was held in the Library of Knox's College, on the 16th ult. Nine ministers and four elders were present.

The Rev. Francis Andrews, an ordained minister from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, produced satisfactory testimonials, and was received into connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada. The names of Messrs. Greer and Andrews were given to Synod's Home Mission Committee.

A deputation from Gwillimbury presented a petition for moderating in a call, to the Rev. J. McLachlan, and praying that in the event of his not being admitted into connection with the Church, until next meeting of Synod, that the congregation may enjoy his ministrations during the winter. Several other applications were made for Mr. McLachlan's services. The Presbytery authorised their Home Mission Committee to make out his appointments.

Dr. Burns, Moderator of the Presbytery, Dr. Willis, and Mr. Burns, elder, were appointed a committee for the examination of students within the bounds of the Presbytery.

On application, the Presbytery authorised an afternoon Sabbath service, in the city, for the benefit of young persons living in the Toronto Academy, and others who may choose to attend, and appointed a committee to obtain a suitable place for the purpose, viz: the Moderator, Dr. Willis, Mr. Gale, Mr. Harris, ministers, and J. Burns, elder.

The name of Dr. Willis was added to the committee for considering the Charter for Knox's College.

After transacting some routine business, hearing reports, and making appointments, the Presbytery adjourned to meet in that same place, on the 13th Nov., at Twelve o'clock, noon.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Since the previous meeting of Presbytery the new Church at Caledonia has been opened and service performed there, and at the 7th concession of Ancaster, to good congregations by a missionary. The Sacrament of the Supper was dispensed at Woolwich by Mr. McGregor of Guelph, and at Port Dover by Mr. McLean of Wellington Square, there was a good attendance at both places. Mr. James Black, the only student within the bounds, who was present, was examined, and a certificate of progress granted to him for the College Committee. Mr. William Forrest and Mr. William McMullen applicants for admission as students to Knox's College, were also examined and certificates granted to them. Mr. Wilson, student, delivered his trial discourses and was examined in Hebrew, the Presbytery having taken a conjoint view of all his trials sustained the same, and the Moderator did, after solemn prayer, license him to preach the Gospel within the bounds. At the request of the Congregations at Port Dover and associated stations, Mr. McLean was appointed to moderate in a call there. The Draft of a Constitution for Knox's College was brought under the consideration of the Presbytery, and approved of, with a few slight alterations. Quarterly financial reports from most of the Congregations were received and remitted to the Financial Committee. Mr. Walker, the Secretary of this Committee, reported that a meeting had been held, when the reports given in at the previous meeting of Presbytery had been considered, and that he had held communication with several Congregations, in accordance with the instructions of the Committee.

A proposal was taken up for endeavouring to form a library of books of reference, and books necessary for the examination of students for the use of the Presbytery—towards which it was agreed to request donations by ministers or others who may have copies of such books to spare, and

may be willing to aid in the object. An unoccupied book case belonging to the Bible Society was kindly put at the disposal of the Presbytery in the meantime, to contain their books and papers. The next ordinary meeting was appointed to take place at Hamilton on the second Wednesday of January 1851. Such is an outline of our proceedings. The meeting was, I believe, felt by all to be a pleasant one, and on the whole the aspect of matters is encouraging, notwithstanding the painful circumstance of three of our principal Congregations being vacant. It is pleasing to find young men of piety and respectable gifts turning their views to the other of the ministry—affording a ground of confidence, that the increasing calls of our Church for labourers will be answered.

M. Y. STARR, P. C.

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The Presbytery met at London on the 9th October, the following is an abstract of the minutes:

A letter was received from John Burns, Esq., enclosing the "Report on the Constitution of Knox's College," and on the course of study to be pursued therein," and requesting the Deliverance of Presbytery thereon. The Presbytery was of opinion that the subject was of too much importance to be decided on immediately, and agreed to postpone coming to a deliverance on the subject till their next ordinary meeting.

A petition from certain inhabitants of the south part of Blenheim, praying to be formed into a congregation, and to have the ordinances of the Gospel dispensed among them, was laid on the table of the Presbytery. A Committee, consisting of Messrs. Allen and Wallace, ministers, and John McKay, elder, was appointed to make an investigation into the state of matters, and to report to the Presbytery at the next ordinary meeting.

A petition from the Church Session, Aldboro', praying that the Presbytery would moderate in a call in favor of Mr. John Ross, probationer, was laid on the table of the Presbytery.

Documents were laid on the table of the Presbytery from the Presbyterian Congregation at Amherstburg, respecting the state of the Congregation, and soliciting a supply of preachers; the Presbytery resolved to apply to the Home Mission Committee for a missionary, and if possible an ordained person, to labor among them for a definite period.

The Presbytery resolved to recognise the members and adherents of the Presbyterian Congregation on the "London Road" as a mission station; and the Rev. L. McPherson was requested to visit them at an early day.

The Clerk was instructed to write to each congregation within the bounds of the Presbytery, requesting that a report on the financial state of each congregation, be submitted to the Presbytery twice a year; and that the first report be submitted at their next ordinary meeting.

The Presbytery having considered the resolutions of the Committee on the Widows' Fund, at their meeting at Hamilton on the 17th September last, cordially approved of the same; and resolutions were passed with the view of carrying them into effect.

A circular from the Presbytery of Toronto, respecting the admission of the Rev. John McLachlan, having been submitted, the Presbytery saw no reason why Mr. McLachlan should not be received under the first clause of the amended act for the admission of ministers.

It was agreed that the last Thursday of October be appointed as a day of Thanksgiving to God, for His goodness in sending an abundant harvest, provided, that, in the intervening period, no other day be appointed by competent authority.

Mr. John Scott, preacher of the Gospel, was on the 10th inst., ordained to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of St. Andrew's Church, London.

The Presbytery took up the case of the Rev. Robert Peden; and it having been satisfactorily established, that he continues to hold and propagate those tenets and doctrines, for the holding and propagating of which he had been suspended by the Synod, the Presbytery felt itself shut up to the painful necessity of proceeding, in accordance with the Deliverance of Synod, to the deposition of the said Mr. Peden from the office of the holy ministry, which, after prayer offered up by the Rev. Mr. Ball, was formally pronounced by the Moderator.

The Presbytery having appointed their next ordinary meeting to be held at London on the second Wednesday of January next, was closed with the benediction.

A. MCCOLL, P. C.

ADDRESS TO THE REV. DAVID M. McALEESE.

AMHERST ISLAND, Oct. 14th, 1850.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

We, the members and adherents of the congregation in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in his place, cannot let you depart from this sphere of your christian labors, for more than two years, without expressing our deep regret at your departure, and our earnest hope that in whatever part of the Lord's vineyard it may please the Great Head of the Church to call you to labor, He will still give you grace to be faithful, and as your day so may your strength be, so that you may ever preach the pure Gospel with efficiency and power, as you have done unto us, to the awakening and watering of souls.

In much tempestuous weather on the raging waters have you risked your person, for the good of our souls; and well may we say, in season and out of season have you labored among us, preaching in the open air and from house to house, you ceased not to declare unto us the whole counsel of God.

When first you came to this place, you found us overlooked, and neglected, wandering and straying as sheep without a shepherd; through your instrumentality, by the blessing of God, we have been collected, and joined together as a congregation—then we had no place in which to meet to worship God—now we have a sanctuary in which to glorify the God of our fathers.

That the Lord, the faithful Judge, may recompense you for all your labor and travail on our behalf—that the good seed of the word sown in our hearts may appear to your account in that day when you shall be called to render an account of your stewardship, and those talents he has committed unto you—that you may be enabled to say Lord here am I and they whom thou hast given me, is the earnest and heartfelt prayer of,

Rev. and dear Sir,

Your devoted servant,

(Signed) JOHN OLIPHANT, Chairman.

REPLY.

MY DEAR CHRISTIAN FRIENDS,—

This expression of your kindness and regard is to me wholly unexpected, but not the less valued on that account.

I feel deeply humbled when I consider how ill I deserve the high encomiums you have been pleased to lavish upon me. But if by laboring among you, I have under the good hand of our Lord, been made instrumental in awakening one sleeping soul, in bringing back one straying sheep, or one wandering lamb to the fold of the Great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, I am amply compensated for all the toils I bore and risks I ran. What though the winds did blow and the waves roar—I was still under the protecting care of Him who slumbers not nor sleeps—who with a word calmed the raging of the stormy sea, and appeased the fury of the roaring hurricane.

It is to me a cause of deep regret that I now must leave you—gladly would I have remained,