

THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD



Presbyterian Church of Canada.

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

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PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The next ordinary meeting will be held in London, on the second Wednesday of October, (8th) at 10 o'clock, A.M.

WM. S. BALL, P. C.

COMMISSION OF SYNOD.

The Commission of Synod will meet in the Library of Knox's College, on the third Wednesday of October, at 12 o'clock, noon.

JOHN BURNS, one of the Clerks of Synod.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

This Committee will meet in the Library of Knox's College, on the third Wednesday of October, (15th) at 7 o'clock, P. M.

ALEX. GALE, Convener.

LAMENT FOR ISRAEL.

Thou art a Christian, and has cast thy load
Of guilt on him, the Lamb of God;
His surety, righteousness, it shields thee well,
But weep, oh, weep for Israel!
There is no blood upon her door for sin,
And wild the dying wail is heard within.
Oh, weep for her! who 'mid the day spring bright,
Sees not one beam of living light,
School'd, but not taught,—chastis'd, but not sub-
du'd,
Unwon, though long by mercy woo'd,
Lov'd, and yet lost,—pitied, yet unforgiven,—
Without a home on earth, or hope in heaven!
Yes, till the glorious year of thy release—
Till all thy woes and wanderings cease—
Till from the willow trees thy harp be taken,
And thou no more be termed "Forsaken"—
Till thy light come, and kings thy glory see,
O Israel! our tears shall flow for thee.
—Pencilings in Palestine.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG—ORDINA- TION OF REV. JOHN SMITH, AT BOWMANVILLE, &c.

The Presbytery of Cobourg met in the church at Bowmanville, on Monday, the first day of September, and was constituted—the place of meeting being chosen with a special reference to the ordination of the Rev. John Smith.

The "draft of the proposed declaratory enactment, respecting the Doctrine of Christ's Headship over nations, and certain expressions in the Westminster Confession, bearing on said doctrine," being now, by appointment of Synod, under consideration in the various Presbyteries of the Church. The following questions, based on said proposed declaratory enactment, having been proposed to Mr. Smith on a previous occasion, were now answered by him in writing, before the Presbytery, as hereinafter specified:—

"1. Do you acknowledge that Christ is appointed by God the Father, to be Head and King of all nations or communities of men, and that all nations or communities of men, under the light of the gospel, are bound to honor and serve him as their Head and King, by acknowledging openly and fully the authority of his word, both in framing and carrying into effect the public laws which govern human society?"

"2. In particular: Do you acknowledge it to be the duty of all nations and communities of men, under the light of the gospel, to provide for the suppression of sins against the first table of the Divine Law, when these assume the form of open offences against society: that, in the fulfilment of this duty, they should honour the law of the Sabbath as of Divine authority, and protect it from open violation: that they should take care, that education, as provided by them, be pervaded by sound religious principles that they should extend a full protection to religious liberty, and countenance and favour true religion as the best security for national order, prosperity, and happiness?"

"3. In accordance with your professed belief, that Christ is King and Head over all things, do you acknowledge it to be the duty of nations or communities of men, to contribute, when need be, out of the national resources to the support and advancement of true religion; and that the Church may warrantably receive and apply such national or public support when it can be done consistently with the maintenance of the Church's spiritual welfare and liberties, and without compromise of the interests of truth, and without doing injury to the rights or privileges of other religious denominations?"

"4. In respect of certain expressions contained in the 29th chapter, section 4, of the Westminster

Confession, do you hold, with this Church, that these and similar expressions are manifestly limited by other statements in the same chapter and elsewhere; and do you accordingly repudiate, with this Church, as alike contrary to the word of God and the true meaning of the Confession, any interpretation of such expressions as would sanction or countenance persecution for conscience sake, or any attempt to promote Christianity by forcible means, or the acknowledgment of any right in civil communities, or their rulers to dictate in matters purely religious?"

Mr. Smith answered, in writing, these questions affirmatively—acknowledging that the doctrines contended for in each and all of these questions, "are in accordance with the word of God." The Presbytery therefore felt themselves warranted to proceed to the business preliminary to Mr. Smith's ordination.

Mr. Smith then delivered his prescribed trial discourse, and was again examined on his knowledge of the Hebrew language and of Moral Philosophy. In each department of knowledge Mr. Smith acquitted himself to the satisfaction of the Presbytery; and the Presbytery having taken a conjunct view of the whole of Mr. Smith's trial, agreed to proceed with his ordination, at Bowmanville, next day at eleven o'clock, A. M.

Next day, the Presbytery met at the appointed time and place to ordain Mr. Smith to the Pastorate of the United Congregations of Bowmanville and Ennisville. The Rev. Mr. Andrews, of Keene, preached an excellent discourse from Acts xiv 7—"There they preached the Gospel." The Rev. D. McLeod of Cobourg presided; and Mr. Smith, having answered the usual questions in a satisfactory manner, was ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry, by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. Mr. Smith having been received in due form as a member of Presbytery, the Rev. D. McLeod addressed the young pastor, in the most solemn and affectionate manner, on the duties and responsibilities of the pastoral office. The whole proceedings of the day (interesting as themselves) were enlivened and rendered still more interesting by the presence of the Rev. Dr. Burns, who, with his wonted zeal for all that concerns the general welfare of the Church, took an active part in the proceedings; he, on behalf of the Presbytery, addressed the congregation in that felicitous manner peculiar to himself on such occasions.

We cannot but congratulate the congregations of Bowmanville and Ennisville on the settlement of Mr. Smith among them, and we hope and pray that "the fruit of all may be unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."

The Presbytery had various other matters of a