

Mr. Fraser reported that he had duly cited the session and congregation of St. Gabriel Street Church, to appear for their interests in the case of the proposed translation of the Rev David Inglis to Knox's Church, Hamilton. Parties were called, when Mr Inglis appeared for himself; Mr. Hector Munro for the congregation of St. Gabriel Street Church, to oppose the translation. No appearance was made for the congregation at Hamilton.

Mr. Inglis stated to the Presbytery that he felt it his duty to decline the call addressed to him. On motion made and seconded, it was then resolved to refuse the proposed translation. The members of Presbytery expressed their satisfaction in retaining Mr. Inglis among them. The court then adjourned.

## ORDINARY MEETING.

The ordinary quarterly meeting was held on the 3rd May. Mr. Inglis, Moderator.

Owing to the lateness of the spring, and the difficulty of access to the city, the attendance was not so numerous as usual.

The principal proceedings may be summed up as follows:—

On petition from Cornwall, Mr. Fraser was appointed to visit the congregation there on Tuesday, 23rd inst, and moderate in a call to the Rev. Hugh Campbell.

On Petition from Inverness, Megantic, Mr McConechy of Leeds, was appointed to visit the congregation there, and moderate in a call to the Rev. W. Troup.

Mr. John Anderson, student of Divinity, having completed his college course, underwent a satisfactory examination; and it was agreed to apply to the Synod for leave to take him on trials for license as a preacher. Circular notices to Presbyteries were issued accordingly.

On motion of Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Swinton, an overture to the ensuing Synod, on the subject of Foreign Missions, was unanimously carried, and the mover, with Rev. Mr. Clark of Quebec, and John Redpath, Esq., were appointed to support the overture before the Synod.—The object in view is described in the following extract:—

"That a Committee on Foreign Missions be appointed, whose duty it shall be to seek for one or more ministers, preachers, or students, suitable, and willing to go abroad as missionaries from this Synod. That so soon as one missionary is found for this work, the offerings of the Congregations in this Synod be devoted to his support: it being provided or understood, that any laborers sent by the Synod into fields where the Free Church of Scotland has already established missions, shall be instructed to co-operate with these."

John Redpath, Esq., as Treasurer, submitted a statement of the Presbytery's Home Mission Fund, from which it appeared that the fund was exhausted. It was resolved to call on all congregations and stations within the bounds, to make a collection for this object before 1st July.

The note proposed to be appended to certain passages of the Confession of Faith, as sent down by last Synod, was duly considered. On motion made and second, it was unanimously resolved to report to the ensuing Synod, that this Presbytery approve of the said note, or any note of similar import.

The Moderator explained, that he had been prevented by ill health, from visiting the congregations of Durham and North Georgetown, as appointed at last meeting. It was agreed to hold a special meeting of Presbytery at North Georgetown, to consider the best interests of the four vacant congregations in that district.

The following was moved, seconded, and carried:—

The Presbytery, feeling the importance of ob-

taining a number of suitable ministers and preachers to fill up the vacancies in congregations and stations, and learning that Joseph Mackay, Esq., has exerted himself in obtaining preachers through the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, and has been eminently successful in raising funds for this purpose, and whereas four preachers have already been received from Scotland, who have proved themselves useful missionaries in the province—therefore

Resolved—That this Presbytery do cordially recommend the efforts of Mr. Mackay to the liberality of the friends of the Church, and do express their thankfulness for what has been already done, and hope that this effort may be blessed, in raising up laborers for the whitening harvest fields of Canada.

The Presbytery then adjourned.

Subsequent to the adjournment, a circular to ministers within the bounds has been issued by the Moderator, asking for written reports on the state of religion within their several spheres of labor, to be forwarded to the Presbytery Clerk, and embodied in a Presbyterial report to the Synod.

D. FRASER, Pres. Clerk.

## PRESBYTERY OF COBourg.

The Presbytery of Cobourg held a *pro re nata* meeting at Cobourg, on the 4th April. The meeting was called in consequence of the Presbyterian people of Trenton and Murray having made application for the pastoral services of the Rev. James Tait.

Mr. McPherson appeared, and laid on the table a unanimous call, and requested the Presbytery to use their utmost diligence to forward the matter, and have Mr. Tait settled as soon as possible, as the minister of the congregation of Trenton and Murray. The Presbytery sustained the call, and resolved to meet the wishes of the congregation as far as possible.

The call was sent to Mr. Tait, but as yet he has not been able to discover what is his duty in the matter. We hope the Head of the Church will soon provide to these anxious people the desires of their hearts, a man of God to break among them the bread of life.

J. W. SMITH, Pres. Clerk.

## PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

The ordinary meeting of this Presbytery was held at Carlton place, on the 9th and 10th of May. The only items of any public interest were the following:—

Mr. Forrest and Cuthbertson, the only missionaries allocated to the Presbytery, were appointed to labor, the former in Bristol, and the latter in Dalhousie during the summer months.

Mr. Smith of Ramsay, at the request of the Presbytery, read a very interesting narrative of the origin, progress, and results of the work of grace within his congregation, and in the neighborhood, which he was further instructed to send to the Record for publication.

Mr. Gourlay having accepted of a call to Aylmer and Eardly, in conjunction with Nepean, and the preliminary steps having been gone through, his induction over the newly formed congregations was appointed to take place at Aylmer, on the 31st May. Mr. Gray to preach and preside; Mr. Smith to address the minister, and M. Wardrop the people.

The Presbytery, after lengthened and serious deliberation on the "declaratory note," at a previous meeting, agreed to express, generally, their approbation of the terms thereof.

S. C. FRASER, Pres. Clerk.

## PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON—REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

(Printed by instructions of Presbytery.)

Your Committee feel that they will best discharge the trust reposed in them, by briefly noting what appear to them to be amongst the more prominent sources and symptoms of the low state of vital religion amongst us, and by making a few suggestions, by the practical carrying out of which these may be remedied if not removed.

1.—Your Committee are constrained to notice at the outset that, to a growing extent, the reus of parental discipline are being relaxed, and that in consequence of the want of judicious parental restraint, even amongst professing Christians, a spirit of looseness and insubordination is stealing into the bosoms of our families, which is highly injurious to the best interests of religion amongst them. We are perfectly aware that there is danger in holding the reins too tight—that over-strictness is attended with evils as well as over-laxity, but we are persuaded that here as in other things there is a golden mean, which is quite attainable and, by the attainment of which, domestic peace and prosperity would be largely promoted. The tendency at present is rather to imitate Eli who, when "his sons made themselves rife, restrained them not," than to imitate Abraham who "commanded his household"; or David, who returned from a solemn and sublime celebration to "bless his house"; or Joshua, who nobly resolved, "as for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

As remedial measures your Committee would recommend—1st. That greater prominence be given to *Baptismal vows*. Practically, these are too often lost sight of. With thoughtful parents any afflictions and earnest presentation of them is fitted to have great weight. It is too common to have sealing ordinances dispensed while the relative view of the responsibility involved on the part of the recipients is not sufficiently attended to.

2dly. That a strenuous effort be made to have an altar reared in every family circle, and to have the Morning and Evening Sacrifice regularly offered. It is a source of deep grief that in numerous instances no such altars exist, and that where they do, they are too frequently in a dismantled state, and present the dying embers instead of the live coal. Let ours be amongst the families that call on God's name, not as a mere bodily service, but in spirit and truth, and not only will they escape the fury he has threatened to pour on those that neglect to do so, but such a beloved influence will be diffused, as will help to still the rising elements of domestic discord and to check that spirit of proud independence tending to insubordination which is eating, as doth a canker, into the bosom of many a house.

3dly. The duty of *domestic catechising* should, also, be more frequently insisted on. It was the glory of those lands where Presbyterianism took deep root, in days gone by, to possess dwellings of the righteous, whence issued the melody of joy and praise. In such dwellings, as we all know, catechising was a stated custom. The things which God commanded and which, in a systematic form, have been embodied in our admirable subordinate standards, were taught diligently unto the children and spoken of in the house as well as by the way. This goodly practice has conducted to the rise and progress of religion in many a soul. Such family gatherings have been green spots in the wilderness to which, in after life, the mind has loved to revert; the recollection of them has proved the turning point in the history of many wandering prodigals, and been instrumental in sending them back, from the far country, to their Father's house. And why may we not have the plan in universal operation within our bounds? Ministers would do well to give greater prominence to this in the