

tee are desirous of getting such exact information, and in such season as may enable them to publish the scheme in the *Magazine* for November. Communications should not be later than 25th October.

R. H. THORSTON, *Convener.*

**THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HYMN BOOK.**—We have been frequently asked what we have got to say about the Hymn Book introduced into the Church in Scotland; and what is to be done in regard to it in this country. In reply to all querists, we deem it necessary to state the following: We can say little about the merits of the collection, neither is it necessary at present to express an opinion on that point, though we may take it for granted, that the volume is suitable, else it would not have been sanctioned by the parent Church. The introduction of it into the Church here, is the point; and on that we may say that it cannot be done constitutionally till sanctioned by our own Synod. We have here a Synod with all the powers of an independent judicatory. No regulations of Synod in Scotland affect us, except we adopt them. Even the formula of procedure did not become ours till, by special action, we adopted it. So in the present case. The Hymn Book was sent down to Presbyteries and Sessions in Scotland for examination, but it was never sent to us. We had no voice in the matter, and could not have. But now we may take action, only Synodically however, as may be determined when the subject comes up. Were we Independents, each minister and congregation might do what seems right in their own eyes; but as Presbyterians, we cannot admit it for public worship without a great violation of one of our first principles of organisation.—Some have told us that they are to introduce it into their congregations immediately. We beg of them to pause, and ask, if, as Presbyterians, they can do so. We may value the Hymn Book, but we value constitutional order more; and for other eight months we are perfectly satisfied to rest contented with the Psalms and Paraphrases, and then take the legitimate course.—Besides, some may not approve of any addition to our psalmody, and to attempt to introduce it unconstitutionally, would not only offend their scruples—which, by a proper course being taken they might yield—but it would be a strong temptation to them to carry their objections further, and maintain them more firmly, than they would otherwise do. We have long wished to see a Hymn Book introduced, but rather than that one should be introduced through strife among brethren, or wide dissatisfaction in congregations, we would have none at all. In the mean time, we think that the Book should be purchased by individuals for private use, and thus its excellence may commend itself ultimately for public adoption; and even those who may be inclined to dislike it now, may be led, by its perusal, to form a favourable opinion, and give their voice for its addition to our Zion's melodies.—“I, Wisdom, dwell with Prudence.”

#### TORONTO PRESBYTERY.

The Toronto Presbytery met on 15th ultimo, Mr. Pringle, Moderator, *pro tem.*

Mr. William Dickson, Preacher, under call by the congregations of Albion and Vaughan, delivered his trials for ordination, which were all cordially approved and sustained; and his ordination was appointed to take place at Albion, on the 30th ult. The Rev. Messrs. Thomas Dickson, Fraser, Pringle, and Dick, were appointed to officiate.

Mr. John Dunbar also delivered part of his trials for license, which were highly approved and sustained. The Presbytery appointed the following subject as a Thesis in addition to his other exercises, viz: “Do the souls of Believers at death immediately pass into glory?” and agreed that this and the remainder of his trials for license, be received at the next regular meeting.

Read a letter from the Rev. Mr. Sinclair, with a certificate in his favour from the Rev. Mr. Grahame, of Perth, N. Y. The Presbytery agreed to delay any further action in this matter until the resolution of Presbytery of date the 4th August, is fully complied with.

Mr. Dick presented vouchers from Mr. R. Sharp, catechist, for the sum of £30, entrusted to the Presbytery by the Synod, for the purpose of aiding in the support of a catechist within the bounds of the Presbytery.

On the 30th ult., the Presbytery met at Albion for the purpose of ordaining Mr. W. Dickson to the pastoral charge of the united congregations of Albion and Vaughan. The Rev. Thomas Dickson preached from 1 Thess. v. 25, “Brothers pray for us.” The Rev. Mr. Fraser put the questions of the formula to the minister and people, which were satisfactorily answered, and Mr. Dickson was then ordained by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. Mr. Fraser then addressed the minister, and Mr. Pringle addressed the people, on their relative duties. At the close of the services the Session was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, and Mr. Dickson introduced as Moderator.

In the evening the Presbytery assembled with the congregation of Vaughan, when the Rev. Mr. Dick preached from 2 Peter, iii. 18, and Mr. Dickson was, in due form, inducted into the Pastoral charge of that congregation.

This settlement is very cordial, and we trust that Mr. Dickson will be long spared to be (as he is well qualified to be) an able and useful minister of the New Testament, and a blessing to the people among whom he is placed.

J. D.

**ORDINATION.**—The U. P. Presbytery of London, met in St. Mary's, Blanchard, on Thursday the 7th inst., for the Ordination of the Rev. William Caven to the pastoral charge of the congregations of St. Mary's and Downie. The Rev. John Logie of Warrenville, preached a very appropriate sermon from John, vii. 46—“Never man spake like this man.” He then narrated the steps which had led so auspiciously to the solemn proceedings of the day, when, after Mr. Caven had given satisfactory answers to the questions of the formula, he was with prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, set apart solemnly to the work of the ministry and the pastoral charge of these congregations. The Rev. James Skinner of London, then addressed, first the young minister, and then the congregation. At the close of the services the large and respectable congregation welcomed their pastor, by a most cordial shake of the hand, as they retired from the place of worship.

Mr. Caven enters on the labours of an extensive and most interesting field, in which it is hoped, by the grace and power of Zion's Lord, he shall be made instrumental in turning many from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins and inheritance among them who are sanctified by faith in Christ Jesus.—*Com.*

In the Statistical Report given last month, the following congregations were left blank: Blandford, Paris, Mount Pleasant, and Brantford, and in a remark appended to the Report, the writer added: “We hope that congregations will make more complete returns to their Presbyteries in future years.” Now, to prevent any misapprehensions in the congregations above mentioned, I have to state, that they all reported their statistics to the Presbytery Clerk. These reports, I believe, could not be procured at the time they were needed, owing to the sudden and lamented death of the Presbytery Clerk, and therefore this seeming reflection cannot have any reference to them. Not to enter into details, I may state, that my own congregation in Brantford, with a membership of 116, raised, during 1851, £209 4s. 8d.

ALEX. A. DRUMMOND.