

THE STATE OF RELIGION.

The following are the questions addressed to Presbyteries by the Synod's committee on the State of Religion. It is thought that the publication of these may do good, in the way of directing attention to the important points to which the queries refer. Answers should be returned by Presbyteries to the convener of the committee, the Rev. R. Torrance, Guelph, before the 1st May.

1. Does your Presbytery adopt measures by yearly visitation, or any other way, to ascertain the State of Religion in the congregation within its bounds?

2. Have there occurred in any of your congregations, during the present year, any events worthy of notice as indicating a revival or steady increase of an interest in religion? If so, please state them for the information of the Committee, giving as full details as you can.

3. Are prayer-meetings kept up in the different sections of the congregations? How are they attended? Are any of them conducted by the elders and people present without the pastor? Are they producing any apparent effect upon the neighbourhood?

4. Do the young of the households connected with congregations evince an interest in religion by attending the Sabbath School, Bible Class and prayer-meeting, by uniting in full membership with the Church, and co-operating to carry on Mission and other schemes of a religious character?

5. Are the exercises of Family Religion, including religious instruction on the Lord's day, commonly practised, and can the Presbytery say whether ministers and elders endeavour to have them introduced in those households in which they are not observed?

Missionary Intelligence.

INTELLIGENCE FROM REV. J. NISBET.

We have received a letter from Mr. Nisbet, of date 28th December. We subjoin some paragraphs with reference to the Schoolhouse to which Mr. Nisbet has given much attention. It will be seen that some further contributions are still required. We trust that in the course of the winter this object will be borne in mind, especially by the Sabbath Schools throughout the Church.

"The Schoolhouse has been roofed and the windows in for some time. I expected to have had it floored and ceiled before winter fairly set in, but the men on whom I had depended, were obliged to go forty miles off with their cattle to winter quarters. I hope we shall be able to get that much done before spring. I have already paid £140, and would require about £50 more to complete it. We can expect but little of this from the people. The year has been in many respects a very unpropitious one. Great failure in the crops has obliged a good number to expend their little savings in buying flour in St. Cloud, and some had not even that to fall back upon. Sickness, too, has been so prevalent that I know scarcely a family that will not have large bills to pay for medical attendance.

"Our Canada friends who have abundance, and who can purchase flour at somewhere about \$4,00 a barrel, and other provisions in like proportion, should think of the straitened circumstances of their less favoured brethren.

"The letter of Mr. Burns, dated 25th Oct., has been received, and we shall answer it (D. V.) next week."

INDIA—MISSIONS OF THE FREE CHURCH.

DEPARTURE OF MISSIONARIES.—Four missionary labourers have recently sailed for India, viz: Rev. W. Stevenson and Rev. J. McMillan appointed to Madras, and the Rev. J. Dawson and Mr. Dalziel, missionary teacher, ap-