

scrutable providence of God, have been filled with sorrow for the loss of their natural protectors, or their friends, who have fallen in the contest, and being deeply sensible of and grateful for the inestimable blessings, both civil and religious, which this colony enjoys under Her Majesty's gracious sway, and its connection with the Parent State, strongly recommend to all the Congregations within its bounds, not only as an expression of their gratitude and sympathy but as a solemn duty, at the earliest convenient season, and in the way that to the Minister and Elders seems best, to make contributions to the National Patriotic Fund.

That Hew Ramsay, Esq., Montreal, be appointed to receive from the respective Congregations their several contributions, and transmit them to Wm. Young, Esq., W. S., Edinburgh, who has been appointed to receive the contributions of the Church.

THE HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

In our last we chronicled the transmission of several collections on behalf of these important Schemes to the Treasurer of our Church in Canada, and for the information of our readers insert the minute of his appointment by the Synod, which sat at Toronto in May, 1854:

"The Synod appointed John Mowat, Esq., of Kingston, to act as Treasurer on behalf of the Jewish and Foreign Missions of the Church of Scotland, to receive collections made by congregations in aid of the said missions, and remit the same to the Treasurers of the respective missions in Scotland."

We are pleased that the appointment has been made, and trust that the collections, which many of our congregations have for years been making, will henceforth flow through one channel.

On two several occasions the Synod had previously enunciated its views on this important subject, and commended these Schemes to the support of the people, approving of collections in their behalf. The want of a local Treasurer, however, was much felt, owing to the comparative difficulty of remitting small sums to Scotland. Now, that this has been obviated, we trust that all our congregations generally will avail themselves, even more liberally, of this mode of transmitting their aid to the missionary efforts of the Parent Church.

The missions to the Jews and to India have a strong claim upon us, even if no higher motive than that of gratitude for the benefits, that we ourselves have received from the Colonial Scheme, were to actuate us.

On far higher grounds, however, do the claims of these missions rest—appealing most strongly to our Christian sympathies, and awakening our zeal for the spread of the Redeemer's Kingdom. While relaxing no effort to maintain the efficiency and support of the preached Word at Home, we are called on to do more than this, and, as Christian men, to do what in us lies to

joey the command (which, when rebuking a trifling person, the late Duke of Wellington styled tersely our *marching orders*), "Go ye and teach all nations," and, in so doing, let us look for a blessing to attend our feeble but prayerful efforts, believing that our Master will own them if they be in conformity with His all-wise purposes.

In connection with this subject, we should be glad yet to see the mission of our Church to Palestine bear fruit, and, as lately urged very earnestly by Dr. Aiton, a Presbyterian mission established in the Holy Land, designed to tell the glad tidings to the long-errant wanderers of Israel in their own land.

LAY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held in St. Paul's Church on the evening of Monday, January 8th. In the absence of the Hon. Peter McGill, the President, through indisposition (this being the first Annual Meeting, we believe, on which he has been precluded from presiding since the existence of the Association,) John Greenshields, Esq., was called to the chair. The proceedings were opened with reading of the Scriptures and prayer by the Rev. Robert McGill, D. D.

The Chairman called upon the Recording Secretary to read the Annual Report, which was to the following effect.

REPORT FOR 1854.

The Lay Association of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, is now entering on the 10th year of its labours; and, while in reviewing their results it must be admitted that more earnest exertions on the part of the office-bearers and others might have effected a far larger amount of good, still satisfaction is felt from the reflection that the objects contemplated by the formation of the Association have been to a considerable extent accomplished. It is quite superfluous here to recal to mind the parties, individual or congregational, that have been benefited by the liberal grants of the Association, as these recorded in the Annual Reports have been from time to time brought under the notice of the readers of *The Presbyterian*.

There having been no application for relief from any of our congregations during the past year, the operations of the Association have been almost entirely confined to the *Bursary* and *Publication Schemes*. It may be for the consideration of the Association whether, under the altered circumstances brought about by the secularisation of the Clergy Reserves Fund, there may not be devised some means of aiding the more recently organized congregations of our Church, whose pastors must feel their comfortable maintenance so seriously affected by the passage of the late Act.

BURSARY FUND.

There are at present 3 Students of Divinity of Queen's College receiving aid from our Association. When it is borne in mind how hardly licentiates of the Parent Church can be induced to emigrate to the Colonies, and how much we must consequently rely

upon Queen's College for supplying vacant congregations and those in the state of formation, let us not undervalue the amount of good that may result from this department of our labours, viz: that of affording to promising young men, having a view to the ministry, aid in the prosecution of their studies. In connection with the above it is gratifying to reflect that about 20 alumni of Queen's College have been auspiciously ordained as pastors of congregations, several of whom were aided by this Association.

PUBLICATION FUND.

The receipts for *The Presbyterian* considerably exceed those of last year, but are yet insufficient for rendering it entirely self-supporting. Accounts of arrears, amounting to nearly £100, were enclosed along with the December No. and several parties have since transmitted their dues. Should these be generally transmitted, to judge from a considerable increase in the circulation of the periodical, we may entertain, we think on good grounds, the hope that it may soon defray all the expenses incidental to its publication. The intelligence regarding the Parent Church would have been considerably lessened for several months past in consequence of the unaccountable omission of sending the *Home and Foreign Missionary Record*, had not the deficiency been in a great measure compensated by receiving the *Edinburgh Evening Post* and *Northern Standard*, two sheets whose columns, in advocating the claims of the Church of Scotland, are readily thrown open for the insertion of ecclesiastical intelligence. One leading object of *The Presbyterian* being, that its pages may afford a medium of communication for recording whatever of interest, occurring in individual congregations or presbyteries, might be advantageously brought under the notice of the Church generally, the Publication Committee embrace this opportunity of recording their grateful sense of the important co-operation of those parties, clerical and lay, who have regularly supplied our columns with their contributions.

In conclusion, the office-bearers would earnestly impress on the minds of the members of the Association the urgent necessity that is laid upon them of encouraging their successors in office in their labours by extending to them their cheerful co-operation in forwarding successfully the objects of the Association.

The whole respectfully submitted.

T. A. Gibson, Recording Secr.

It was moved by Thos. Allan, Esq., seconded by Jas. Goudie, Esq.

"That the Report be adopted and published in the ensuing number of *the Presbyterian*."

Hugh Allan, Esq., after a few preliminary remarks, in the course of which he took occasion to express regret that the audience was not far larger, moved, seconded by George McDonald, Esq.

"That this Assemblage, composed of adherents deeply attached to that portion of the Church of Christ with which they are immediately connected: viz; *The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland*, and believing her doctrines to be pure, her form of worship scriptural, and earnestly trusting that under God's guidance she will prove of much benefit to the people of this land, to whose sympathies and feelings her Presbyterian form of worship and Church Government are peculiarly adapted, and farther believing that she will contribute in some measure to the spread of pure and undefiled religion in this Province heartily pledge themselves