

PRESBYTERY OF PARIS.

Three calls were sustained at the meeting of the Presbytery of Paris on the 8th instant. Knox Church, Woodstock, presented through Dr. McMullen, a largely-signed call to Rev. R. B. Cochrane. This was accepted, and the ordination and induction fixed for the 22nd inst. the moderator, Mr. Booth, to preside, Mr. Scott, of Mount Pleasant, to preach, Mr. Thompson, of Ayr, to address the minister, and Mr. MacBeth, of Paris, to address the people.

Mr. MacBeth presented a call from Stanley Street Church, Ayr, to Rev. D. I. Ellison, of Talts Corners. This was forwarded to the Presbytery of London.

Mr. Brown, of Tilsonburg, presented a call from Verschoyle and Culloden to Rev. W. S. Wright. This will be forwarded to Mr. Wright.

There was a very important discussion on Church Union which showed that the speakers were not in favor of the organic union proposed. Rev. W. A. J. Martin, of Branford, said that he was on the Union Committee, but had his own decided views on the subject. It was time to speak out plainly. The Presbyterian Church had not committed itself to the desirability of organic union, and no one had a right to say that she had. In his opinion organic union might be feasible in some way, but it was not desirable. Co-operative federation might do some good.

At the noon hour the ladies of the Paris congregation entertained the members of the Presbytery and others to dinner in the dining hall of the Church. This is now a regular and much enjoyed feature of the meeting, of this Presbytery.

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Referring to anniversary services in Kildonan church conducted by Rev. Alexander Matheson, The Free Press re-examines Matheson. The Free Press re-examines Matheson, having been born and largely educated there, having taught the first day school and having done his life work here. He is now in his 79th year, has retired from pastoral work and is living in Kildonan.

Mr. Matheson is known to many of our readers in the East. He is a graduate of Knox College, taught school while a student at Brampton, was for several years a pastor in Glengarry, in which historic district he secured his wife.—Editor

At the annual meeting of the Ladies' Aid of St. Andrew's church, Winnipeg, Mrs. Campbell took the chair. The reports for the year showed that nine hundred dollars had been collected by the society during the year, of which amount \$383 was handed over to the board of management to help pay for the extensive repairs and improvements to the church. The ladies have still a balance on hand. The officers elected were: President, Mrs. Cameron; 1st vice-president, Mrs. J. B. Russell; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. Anley; treasurer, Mrs. Purvis; secretary, Mrs. Norman Neil. The delegates to the Travellers' Aid society, Mrs. Audrie Macdonald and Mrs. Macmillan, were re-elected, Mrs. Black being also appointed delegate to the Y.W.C.A.

To restore Dundee city churches to their original architectural features is estimated to cost \$7,500 and it is proposed to appeal to the public for funds.

Ireland has now her own trade mark. The design consists of the reproduction of an old Irish ornament with the words "Dánta I Éirinn" (made in Ireland).

LETTERS FROM INDIA.

The following letters have been received by Rev. C. W. Gordon. They are written by the Rev. James S. Mackay, a graduate of Manitoba College, at present working as a missionary in India and supported by the congregation of St. Stephen's, in this city. Mr. Mackay is a young man from the township of Zorra, in Oxford county, so justly famous for the prowess of its stalwart Highlanders as for its remarkable contribution to the intellectual life of the Province of Ontario. The Mackays of Zorra are a large and influential clan that is worthily represented both at home and abroad in the ranks of ministers and missionaries of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Mackay was born on a farm where he wrought until he was grown into young manhood. But the Scotch thirst for learning sent him to school and his Scotch independence made him pay his own way till he graduated three years ago with his degrees in arts and theology. In India he has given proof that his is no recalcitrant blood and that he is worthy of the best traditions of his clan.

WORK IN CASHMERE.

The following letter may be of interest as describing some of the results of the C.M.S. mission in Cashmere:

Srinagar, June 21, 1906.

"Dear Mr. Gordon and St. Stephen's Friends: You will probably have heard that, on the return of Dr. Buchanan last March, I was transferred to Mhow to assist for the present in orphanage work there. Three of our men went home on furlough this spring, which has left us quite short-handed for the amount of work undertaken. It is very difficult to arrange men and work here, as constant changes are taking place owing to some going home from time to time, and because of this it is possible another change may take place in my appointment soon. As I have only been in the orphanage work for a short time, possibly at a later date I can describe it to you better, and for the present I shall attempt to tell you something of the C. M. S. work being done in North India, as I have come, in the company of five others, to Kashmir for a much-needed rest. The journey in is quite difficult, but once here one feels amply repaid for the struggle, as the beautiful scenery and lovely cool air soon revive the body wearied and worn by the great heat of the plains.

"Forty years ago the state authorities and people here were so much opposed to Christianity that the first missionaries to visit the place were stoned, and those who would rent a house to them were threatened with being skinned alive. One man who dared to make some casual inquiries re Christianity was terribly beaten and thrown into prison, with great blocks of wood tied to his feet. In 1865 Dr. Elmslie succeeded in getting into the country for a few months, but for some years he was not allowed to become a permanent resident of the place. His person, his work and his message could not be resisted, however, and in 1875 the first mission hospital was founded. Other helpers came and the work grew steadily and rapidly until now, under the able management of the Neve brothers, they have the finest mission hospital in the world, last year having treated some forty-two thousand patients, over fourteen hundred of whom were in-patients. The state officials, who at first were so strongly opposed, now not only recognize the merits of the work done, but in many instances give liberal contributions for the upkeep of it.

"What is true of medical work is also in a large measure true of educational work. It was with the greatest difficulty that missionaries first gained permission

to begin school work among the common people, and even yet anything that has the least appearance of an innovation is treated with great suspicion by many.

"Srinagar, with a population of about one hundred and twenty thousand, is the centre of missionary effort. A number of schools have for some time past been working with splendid results. You will naturally ask regarding results, what can be tabulated as to the number of converts? But this, as at home, is a very difficult, if not an impossible thing to do. Of those who have renounced their horrid past and come out as open followers of Jesus Christ, the number is very small, even after forty years of splendid, persistent effort, and yet even a casual observer cannot fail to see much, very much, to encourage. The early antipathy toward Christianity has very largely disappeared. Christian schools are both tolerated and very largely attended. North, south, east and west, wherever one goes through the country, young men are met with who are proud to say they have attended mission schools, and in like manner those are everywhere met with who sing the praises of the hospital authorities for the kindness and help received from them. It is true, the real harvest time here, as all over India, seems long delayed, but the confidence and hope of workers here is very inspiring. Earnest minded men and women are giving out life's energy in praying and toiling and waiting for the coming of the Kingdom. True and faithful work has long been done in the name of Jesus Christ, and here as well as at home there shall be a day in which its fruitage will be revealed and the promises of God fulfilled. With kindest regards, I am, yours faithfully,

"J. S. MACKAY."

"Neemuch, Nov. 19, 1906.

"Plague is subsiding here and our mission school opened to-day after being closed for some six weeks or so. I still continue to go out to the villages about three mornings per week, but it is hard to reach the poor ignorant creatures even with the greatest message of man.

"You asked about my language, whether change of location would affect it, etc. No, it is the same language we attempt to speak, viz. Hindi, though, of course, there is nearly always a local jargon in any part of India that is very difficult to understand. I am now giving my spare time to the study of Urdu, which is a companion language to Hindi, though the characters are very different. People say I am making fine progress in language, so I am encouraged to struggle away."

The income of the United Kingdom from foreign investments is calculated at 66 millions yearly.

During the Russo-Japanese War the amount disbursed by the Red Cross organization was, it is stated, nearly 3,000,000 pounds sterling.

With a wealth per capita of \$80 South Australia claims a place in the first ranks of prosperity throughout the world.

Railways of the United Kingdom carry over 450,000,000 tons of goods yearly. Of this amount Ireland's share is only 6,000,000 tons.

The scene of Thomas Campbell's "Lord Ullin's Daughter" lies on the west side of the island of Mull, being separated by a 90-foot sound of water.

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