

GENERAL PRESBYTERIAN COUNCIL. Preparations are being made for the first meeting of the Council, to commence at Edinburgh on the 14th July next. Our attention has been directed to a circular issued by Dr. W. G. Blaikie of Edinburgh, requesting the conveners of Local Committees to take steps for explaining the objects of the Council, and calling forth an interest in it in their respective localities. It is important that our Church be well represented at the meeting. Dr. Snodgrass of Kingston is convener of the Canadian Committee, and will be glad to receive suggestions from any of the brethren in relation thereto. The principal points on which he would like to have information are, (1) the suggesting of the names of ministers or elders who might be nominated by the General Assembly as representative members, and (2) the names of gentlemen who may be asked to write or speak on some branch or branches of the topics proposed for discussion. It is obviously important that this should be done as soon as possible. The subjects provisionally agreed upon for consideration are as follows,—

1. PRESBYTERIANISM.—Its Spiritual authority and principles—History, Statistics, and present condition of the Presbyterian Churches—Harmony of their Confessions, etc.
2. PRESBYTERIAN ORGANISATION AND MACHINERY.—Its Adaptation to work of the Church at Home.
3. ADAPTATION TO FOREIGN WORK.—Evangelization of the World.
4. ADAPTATION TO PROMOTE SPIRITUAL LIFE.—(Including the Family, the Sabbath, Instruction of the Young, Revival, etc.)
5. ANTAGONISTIC FORCES.—(Scepticism and Popery—Intemperance and other Social Evils.)
6. EDUCATIONAL AND LITERARY APPLIANCES.—Training of the Ministry, etc.—Theological and Popular Literature—Use of the Press.

It is expected that all Deputies will be entertained at Edinburgh free of charge, and that the Committee will be prepared to pay the travelling expenses of continental members, and of others whose presence they may specially invite. Con-

tributions towards the Expense Fund will be received by Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, Queen's College, Kingston, Ont.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

INDUCTIONS. The Rev. Mr. Baikie, to Port Stanley, on the 28th December. Rev. J. Allister Murray, formerly of Lindsay, to St. Andrew's Church, London, Ont., on the 29th December. Rev. Adam McKay, late of Cape Breton, to Knox Church, Ripley, on 30th November.

The Rev. Charles J. Cameron, for some time a missionary in India, and afterwards in Australia, since his arrival in this country, has been the best "called" minister in the Dominion. His name has been published in connection with places too numerous to mention. The *last call* is reported to have emanated from the newly organized congregation at New Edinburgh, a suburb of Ottawa. We trust that this time, the answer will be, "here am I," and that a successful pastorate will result.

If the times are hard, and the weather "variable," it is a subject of common remark that an unusual number of our ministers are coming out this winter in costly and comfortable fur coats. Enquiry as to how it has come about invariably elicits the explanation,—“a gift from the ladies of the congregation.” Rev. Mr. Baxter, of Stanley St. Church, and Rev. Robt. Laing, Assistant minister of St. Paul's Church, Montreal, Rev. John S. Lochead, of Elgin, and Rev. P. S. Livingstone, of Russeltown, have to our own knowledge been treated in this way by the ladies of their respective congregations.

SOIREEs and "socials" and surprise parties, and Literary entertainments with the usual accompaniments, and time-honoured "donation parties," are rife just now. In number and variety they exceed our powers of enumeration. We find many of our contemporaries deprecating the tendency to overdo this sort