

A. H. H. H.

ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,

For the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

"Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation."

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LINES BY MILTON IN HIS OLD AGE.

Lately discovered and first Published in the Recent Oxford Edition of the Poet's Works.

I am old and blind!
Men point at me as smitten by God's frown,
Afflicted and deserted of my mind,—
Yet I am not cast down.

I am weak yet strong—
I murmur not that I no longer see;
Poor, old, and helpless, I the more belong,
Father Supreme, to Thee!

O merciful One!
When men are farthest then Thou art most near;
When friends pass by—my weakness shun—
Thy chariot I hear.

Thy glorious face
Is leaping toward me, and its holy light
Shines in upon my lonely dwelling-place,
And there is no more night.

On my bonded knee
I recognize thy purpose, clearly shown—
My vision thou hast dimmed that I may see
Thyself, Thyself alone.

I have naught to fear:
This darkness is the shadow of thy wing,—
Beneath it I am almost sacred—here
Can come no evil thing.

Oh, I seem to stand
Trembling where foot of mortal ne'er hath been,
Wrapped in the radiance of thy sinless laud,
Which eye hath never seen.

Visions come and go,
Shapes of resplendent beauty round me throng,
From angel lips I seem to hear the flow
Of soft and holy song.

It is nothing now,
When heaven is opening on my sightless eyes,
When airs from Paradise refresh my brow,
The earth in darkness lies.

In a purer clime
My being fills with rapture—waves of thought
Roll in upon my spirit—trains sublime
Break over me unsought.

Give me now my lyre!
I feel the stirrings of a gift divine,
Within this bosom glows unceasingly fire
Lit by no skill of mine.

SYNODICAL COLLECTIONS FOR THE YEAR.

1. For the French Canadian Missionary Society, on the 3rd Sabbath of July.
 2. For the Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, on the 3rd Sabbath of October.
 3. For the Foreign Missions of the Free Church of Scotland, on the 3rd Sabbath of Jan'y
1. For the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, on the 3rd Sabbath of April.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The next ordinary meeting will take place in Toronto, on Wednesday, 22nd February, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

T. WIGHTMAN, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

The Presbytery of Brockville will hold its next ordinary, in Prescott, on the first Tuesday of February, 1854, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

JOHN McMURRAY, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The next meeting of Presbytery is appointed to be held at Cobourg, on the first Tuesday of February, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

J. W. SMITH, Pres. Clerk.

The following Missionary Meetings will be held during the month of February:—

Cobourg, Monday.....	6th February.
Cold Springs, Tuesday.....	7th "
Baltimore, Wednesday.....	8th "
Grafton and Colborne, Thursday.....	9th "
Bowmanville, Monday.....	13th "
Enniskillen, Tuesday.....	14th "
Cartwright, Wednesday.....	15th "
Manvers, Thursday.....	16th "

SCHEME OF MISSIONARY MEETINGS IN THE PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1854.

1ST DIVISION.

Knox's Church Toronto, Monday, 6th February.
Second congregation, do., Tuesday, 7th February.
Fisherville and York Mills, Wednesday, 8th February.
Bradford and W. Gwillimbury Monday 13th Feb.
Innisfil and Barrie, Tuesday, 14th February.
Oro and Orillia, Wednesday, 15th February.
Vaughan and King, Monday, 20th February.
Committee—Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Irvine, Mr. Reid, Mr. Wightman and Mr. Lowrie. Mr. Reid, Convener.

2ND DIVISION.

Oakville, Monday, 6th February
Acton and Boston, Tuesday, 7th February.
Norval and Union, Wednesday, 8th February.
Chingacousy, Thursday, 9th February.
Streetsville, Friday, 10th February.
Caledon and Erin, Tuesday, 14th February.
Committee—Messrs. Uro, Holmes, Alexander, Nisbet, and McLachlan. Mr. Uro, Convener.

3RD DIVISION.

Markham, Monday 6th February.
Brock, Tuesday, 7th February.
Reach, Wednesday, 8th February.
Thorah, Thursday, 9th February.
Eldon, Friday, 10th February.
Whitby, Tuesday, 14th February.
Committee—Messrs. Boyd, Mitchell, and Gray, along with Mr. Meldrum. Mr. Boyd Convener.

The Minister in charge of each particular Congregation will be expected to make the necessary arrangements, as to the hour, the mode of conducting the meeting, &c., and communicate, in due time, with the convener of Committee.

N.B.—Attention is specially called to the changes which it has been found necessary to adopt in the scheme.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

This Presbytery met on the 10th ult. The following matters occupied the attention of the Presbytery. The Rev. Mr. Lindsey, of Ayr, tendered his resignation of the pastoral charge of the congregation at Ayr. The Presbytery appointed a Deputation to visit the Congregation, and to adopt such measures for promoting edification as they might find suitable.