

is possible that even yet the ominous clouds may scatter. It is equally possible that they may explode involving the nations in the miseries and desolations inseparable from a great war.

### THE REV. SIR HENRY WELLWOOD MONCRIEFF.

ANOTHER of the disruption worthies of the Free Church of Scotland has passed away. The Rev. Sir Henry Wellwood Moncrieff died at Edinburgh on the morning of Sabbath, the fourth of November. He had attained a ripe old age. He occupied a place of honour and influence in the Free Church and was much respected far beyond his own ecclesiastical communion.

Sir Henry began his ministry in the Parish of Baldernoch in 1836. Next year he was settled in the pastorate of East Kilbride, where men who have risen to distinction in the ranks of the ministry began their labours. Taking a deep interest in the burning questions that led to the disruption of 1843 he cast in his lot with the Free Church. In 1852 Sir Henry accepted a call to Free St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, in which city he remained till the close of his life. His intimate acquaintance with all questions of Church constitutional law was widely recognized and led to his appointment in 1869 as clerk of the Assembly which office he held at the time of his death.

The Rev. Sir Henry Moncrieff possessed a singularly clear and logical mind. He was distinguished by a spirit of great fairness and impartiality. He had but little sympathy with the younger progressive school of the Free Church. When the negotiations for union with the United Presbyterian Church were in progress Sir Henry took an active part in the interesting discussions that characterized the union movement. Since its failure he has acted cordially with the more conservative section of the Free Church, working in pretty close harmony with Dr. Begg. The movement in the direction of disestablishment did not commend itself to his mind, and it met with his consistent though temperate opposition.

In the death of Sir Henry Wellwood Moncrieff the Free Church has lost one of its most distinguished and worthy sons. His life and attainments were devoted to its services, but his fine Christian sympathies were not confined by denominational restrictions. His Christianity was large-hearted, catholic and evangelical, and his name will be associated with Chalmers, Cunningham, Candlish, Guthrie and Begg in the history of the Free Church of Scotland.

### KNOX COLLEGE METAPHYSICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY.

The forty ninth public meeting of the Knox College Metaphysical and Literary Society was held on Friday evening, Nov. 9th, in Convocation hall. The attendance, as usual, was very large, the hall being completely filled by an intelligent and appreciative audience. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Dr. Proudfoot, who, after devotional exercises, called upon the Glee Club to open the programme with the selection, "Onward to Battle" which was well received by the audience.

Mr. J. S. McKay, M.A., President of the society, read his inaugural address, the subject being "The Secret of Success in Study." The address, which was characterized both by clearness of thought, and beauty of expression, pointed out that the aim of a student might be either study for its own sake or study with a view of preparing himself for life. Having shown that the latter was the highest, and only true motive, he dwelt briefly on the uncertainty of the class lists, as the list of a student's success in after life. He then proceeded to show that success consisted simply in doing our best, in whatever circumstances we are placed. The address concluded by showing that success could be attained, only by systematic hard work, which was better than natural ability, or great genius. The reading of Mr. J. A. Jaffray, B.A., "Coming and Going," was rendered with good taste, and received with applause by the audience. The second selection of the Glee Club, "Moon Light on the Lake," brought forth an encore, to which they responded by giving "The Sleigh-riders' Serenade," which was also highly appreciated. The subject of debate for the evening was: "Resolved, that Mohammedanism has done more good than evil in the world." The affirmative was supported by Messrs. Alex. Hamilton, and J. S. Campbell, B.A., in speeches showing close-

ness of reasoning, and a comprehensive grasp of the subject; while the negative was upheld with equal spirit and ability by Messrs. W. S. H. Rowand, B.A., and Arch. Blair, B.A. The chairman after summing up the arguments with care, decided in favour of the negative. Dr. Gregg then pronounced the benediction and the meeting was closed.

The next, the jubilee meeting of the society, will be held on the evening of Friday, December 7th. The Rev. R. M. Croll, of Simcoe, the first president of the society will occupy the chair. The subject of debate will be "Resolved, that the denominational divisions of the Church are opposed to the progress of Christianity." The remaining part of the programme will present unusually interesting and varied attractions.

THE Presbyteries of Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Guelph, Hamilton and Huron had been visited and addressed by deputies from the committee on Augmentation of Stipends. The reception of the deputies has been very hearty, and there is good reason to expect a successful prosecution of the work by the committees which have been appointed in the several Presbyteries. The remaining Presbyteries in Ontario and Quebec will be visited at their earliest meetings. The result of Rev. A. B. Mackay's visit to Knox Church and St. James' Square Church, Toronto, is that in each of them it is thought that \$2,000 can be raised for this fund for the current year, and \$2,000 for 1884. Upwards of \$1,200 have already been subscribed by members of Knox Church, for 1883. Mr. Mackay waited also on a few of the members of Old St. Andrew's, Central and Charles Street Churches with very satisfactory results. St. Andrew's, Toronto, has been appropriating one fifth of each Sunday collection since 1st July to this object, and special contributions will be added for the present year in order to help in the successful launching of the scheme. Central Church, Hamilton, which was visited by Mr. Macdonnell on the 18th inst, will probably give at the rate of \$2,000 a year, and MacNab Street, Hamilton, it is hoped, at the rate of \$1,000. Thus the work goes bravely on, and while the stronger city congregations are taking the lead in devising liberal things in this matter, it is earnestly hoped that many of our large country congregations will follow not very far behind.

PRESBYTERY OF HURON.—This Presbytery held a regular meeting in Clinton, on the 13th of November. In considering the financial returns of congregations it was discovered that difference of opinion prevailed as to whether families who call themselves Presbyterians, but who seldom or never attend Church, should be returned in the statistics to the Assembly as Presbyterian families. The matter was remitted to a committee to consider and bring in a report thereon at next meeting. Dr. Cochrane of Brantford was heard in support of the scheme for the Augmentation of Stipends, setting forth in detail said scheme and the necessity for it. The following is the deliverance of the Presbytery on the matter: "Having heard Dr. Cochrane, the representative of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee, on the Scheme for the Augmentation of Stipends, the Presbytery record their great satisfaction with the manner in which Dr. Cochrane discharges his duty in this matter, express their entire sympathy with the plan proposed and resolve to take action in the matter forthwith. It was agreed to defer consideration of the remits till next meeting. Mr. Paterson resigned his charge at Bayfield. The resignation was accepted, the congregation being notified, the pulpits of Bayfield and Bethany to be declared vacant on the 25th inst., Mr. Turnbull to be moderator, of session. A committee was appointed to draft a suitable minute anent this resignation. A call from the congregation of Summerstown in the Presbytery of Glengarry to Rev. Hugh Cameron, of Kippen, was taken up, when it was agreed to hold a special meeting in the church at Kippen on the first Tuesday of December, at eleven a.m., to dispose of the call, all parties to be cited to appear at the aforesaid meeting for their interest. It was agreed to hold a Sabbath School Convention on the third Wednesday of January in Union Church, Brucefield. A committee consisting of Messrs. Turnbull, Stewart, Musgrave, and R. Y. Thompson, ministers; J. R. Miller, Wilson, Clark, and Scott (Hensall), elders, was appointed to carry out the resolution of Presbytery in the augmentation of stipends. The Presbytery adjourned to hold the next regular meeting in Union Church, Brucefield, on the third Tuesday of January, at half-past ten, a.m.—A. McLEAN, Pres. Clerk.

### BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

ASTRUM ALBERTI. (Belleville. Printed by E. Chisholm.)—The students of Albert University have a very creditable college journal. It is conducted with ability and good taste. Its get up reflects credit on all who are associated with its production.

THE PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE JOURNAL. (Montreal: The Alma Mater Society.)—The "College Journal" comes out in new and improved style. Artistically the new cover is a decided improvement upon the old one. The contents of the November number do honour to the gentlemen who conduct the "Journal." Its varied contents include a French Department which will be interesting and linguistically instructive to many of its readers.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE JOURNAL. (Kingston. British Whig Printing House.)—The November number of "Queen's College Journal" is the second of the eleventh volume. It has obtained a vigorous and robust development. A genial sprightliness characterizes much of the writing that finds its way into the pages of the "Journal." There is also a due proportion of solid and vigorous thinking in several of the contributions appearing in the present number. The paper, printing and general arrangement of the "Journal" are of the best.

OUTLINES OF SERMONS TO CHILDREN, WITH NUMEROUS ANECDOTES. (New York. A. C. Armstrong & Son.)—To speak effectively with interest and instructiveness to children is a rare and precious ministerial gift. There is a vast difference between being childish and childlike. The former repels, the latter attracts. This publication, another volume of The Clerical Library, contains ninety-seven outlines of sermons to children on a wide variety of topics. They are by men of acknowledged eminence in possessing the happy faculty of preaching interestingly to the young. As an evidence of this as well as of the character of the teaching it is only necessary to mention such names as those of William Arnot, the Bonars, Principal Cairns, John Edmond, D.D. Drs. Oswald, Dykes, and J. Marshall Lang, besides many others.

ANCIENT EGYPT IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN DISCOVERIES. By Professor H. S. Osborn, LL.D. (Cincinnati: Robert Clark & Co.)—This work is, perhaps, the most comprehensive, accurate and recent epitome, of any work in the English Language, on the subject of which it treats. The author has had in view, the putting of the whole subject into the hands of those who wish to be introduced to the true state and advance of Egyptology in a critical, but popular light. The great result will be, to present the value of this branch of historic science, as it bears upon the earlier Scriptures, the books of the Pentateuch, and of the prophets. Although not written from the theological standpoint, but from a truly scientific and unbiased one, it shows, incontestably, the true historic value of those earlier and later works. An excellent map of Egypt and Ethiopia accompanies the book.

INDEX of Presbyterian Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, with reference to the pages in which their names are found in its records and minutes from 1706 to 1882. Compiled by the Rev. W. J. Beecher, D.D., assisted by Mary A. Beecher. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication. Toronto: James Bain & Son.)—This is a goodly volume of 600 pages, the compilation of which must have entailed on the author an incalculable amount of patient and continual labour. The volume contains all names of ministers found on the records from 1706 to the organization of the General Assembly in 1788, and the names of all ministers found in the minutes of the Assembly from 1789 to 1881. To those who have copies of the minutes the volume will be a most valuable companion, and it will be very useful to those who have not full copies of the minutes, but who may wish to look up the history of individual ministers.

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