

## CANADIAN PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY.

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this Synod, for the purpose of arranging terms of Union, with a like Committee on the part of the Synod of Canada, at the time of their meeting at York in August next.

5. *Resolved*, That the Clerk be instructed to furnish the Clerk of the Synod of Canada with a copy of the foregoing Resolutions, and request his opinion as to whether the Synod of Canada will probably be disposed to appoint a like Committee to meet with the Committee of this Synod to arrange the terms of Union.

In accordance with the spirit of these resolutions, the Committee therein named appeared at York at the meeting of the Synod of Canada, August, 1833, and had a conference with Rev. Messrs. Robert McGill, Alexander Mathieson, Alexander Gale and William Rintoul, a Committee of the latter Synod, the results of which conference will be given in a future article.

NOTE.—I am giving the facts and incidents of the pioneer Presbyterian organization in Canada more at length than I intended, because I have personally been intensely interested in all the details, and because of the probability that many of the old documents and letters now in my possession will soon be scattered or lost, as so many have been before them. I am not writing a history, but only trying to gather up the fragments, and to preserve them for the use of the coming Presbyterian historian when he shall appear. It will require at least one more article to tell "what I know about" THE UNITED SYNOD OF UPPER CANADA; for which, now that my summer vacation is over, I will endeavour to furnish "copy" more promptly than in the past. H. S. M.

## NOTES FROM NIAGARA.

Where the famous river from which it takes its name enters Lake Ontario, and enjoying the fresh breezes from both, stands the good old frontier town of Niagara. Easy of access by land or by water, beautiful and salubrious in situation, rich in historical associations beyond most Canadian towns, and furnished with good hotels, it presents many attractions to those in search of health or recreation. It is therefore pretty well known and requires no lengthened description from me. The tract of country in rear of it, commonly known as the Niagara Peninsula, is celebrated for fruit-growing. Its apples, peaches, quinces, and grapes are generally admitted to be unequalled, and are shipped in large quantities to the eastern sections of the Dominion.

## PRESBYTERIANISM

occupies a prominent position in Niagara. Formerly there were two congregations, but they have been consolidated, and now the Presbyterians of the town and neighbourhood all worship in

## ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

a brick building, well furnished, neatly finished, and rendered very attractive in appearance by a row of massive Corinthian pillars in front. The congregation of St. Andrew's dates from 1794, when services were held by the Rev. John Dunn, who resigned after a pastorate of two years, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Young in 1802. In 1804 a frame church was built, when Rev. Mr. Burns was appointed minister, who when the war broke out resigned, and resumed again in 1815. He died in 1824, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Green, from Ireland, who afterwards joined the English Church. The next minister was the Rev. Mr. Johnston, who was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Fraser, who resigned at the end of one year, making way for the Rev. Robert McGill (afterwards known as Dr. McGill), who was ordained to this charge by the Presbytery of Glasgow. Dr. McGill, having been called to St. Paul's Church, Montreal, resigned in 1845, and was succeeded by the Rev. J. Cruickshank, A.M., who resigned in 1848. The next minister was the Rev. J. B. Mowat (now Professor Mowat, Kingston), who was ordained 2nd May 1850, and resigned in August 1858. Mr. Mowat was succeeded in the pastorate by the Rev. Charles Campbell, who as a scholar and preacher holds a high place. Mr. Campbell resigned in October 1878, and after a very brief vacancy the congregation gave a unanimous call to the Rev. William Cleland of Bradford, who was installed in March of the present year.

On Sabbath last the services were conducted by the pastor, who preached an able discourse from John v. 28, 29, the subject being "The Resurrection" which, the preacher shewed, could not be proved except by revelation. The preacher then at some length dwelt

upon the circumstances attending the resurrection, illustrating a number of important doctrinal points. In the evening Mr. Cleland resumed the subject of the resurrection when he delivered another excellent discourse which was listened to attentively.

It is gratifying to see that in this old town, which in days gone by was the scene of so many stirring events, Presbyterianism is to the front and holds a prominent place among the existing denominations. K.  
20th August, 1879.

## OBITUARY.

At Dalhousie Mills, in the 74th year of his age, Mr. George Munro, long a ruling elder in Knox Church in that village.

The deceased was a native of the Parish of Creich, Sutherlandshire, Scotland, emigrated to Canada about fifty years ago, and took up his residence in the Township of Lancaster, where he died. He was a blacksmith by trade, a craft which he followed for many years; but he retired twenty years ago after having amassed a competence which not only enabled him to educate his family, but to spend the evening of his days in retirement and freed from the cares of life.

If the grace of God were hereditary, Mr. Munro would have inherited the son's portion from both mother and father. His grand-mother was early left a widow; but such was her love and reverence for the good old custom of keeping family worship, that she addressed the father of the subject of this notice, then only nine years old thus, "now Gustavus we must follow the good old way, you will engage in family worship and I will teach you what to say." He instantly obeyed her. This son became, in after years, one of the most eminent laymen in the County of Sutherland. The writer knew him but slightly, having met him but once; but he can testify that he was held in the highest esteem by high and low, and God's people in that eminently religious society of Sutherland mourned when the grave closed but a few years ago over Gustavus Munro, when in his 95th year.

The son whose loss we mourn walked in his father's footsteps, and throughout a long and useful life kept himself unspotted by the world and his garments unpolluted by the flesh. He, like Timothy, knew the Scriptures from his youth; but he called no man his spiritual father, yet he admitted to the writer it was a sermon preached by Dr. McDonald of Fernintosh, that first drove him to a throne of grace in a way he had never before approached the Almighty. The text chosen was "Come thou south wind," etc., and was listened to by the young disciple while bare-headed and bare-footed. The late Dr. Angus McIntosh of Tain, was another of the servants of God whose preaching was evidently blessed to Mr. Munro.

His religious character was decided. Cherishing a becoming reverence for religion, he ever manifested a due regard for sacred things. Animated with a humble faith in the divine Saviour, he paid proper respect to the day of the Lord and the ordinances of the Church of Christ. His services as an elder, both in the more local duties of his office, and as a representative of the Session in the higher Courts of the Church, in which he usually sat from year to year as a member, are worthy of special notice.

His religious character was not of that demonstrative kind which appeals to the public eye and seeks to attract the notice of others—as a thing superadded to other accomplishments. It was rather of that eminently practical sort which quietly and unostentatiously influenced his course of conduct, and enabled him to give to its claims the response of an upright, exemplary, Christian life. He had been the subject of early religious impressions and was enabled to "lay hold of a covenant-keeping God," to use his own words, in a way he could not describe to the world. These impressions grew with his growth and strengthened with his strength into the confirmed habit of a life regulated by the precepts and hopes of the Gospel. Many who will read this brief sketch, will at once admit that we have not done him justice. The writer knew him but a short time. Those who knew him longer may, perhaps, supplement this sketch.

There are few ministers now in Canada, who were formerly connected with the C. P. Church, who did not know Mr. Munro, and many of them shared his hospitality, and enjoyed his edifying conversation.

He was pre-eminently a man of prayer, and to hear him in his native Gaelic address the Almighty was, to those who could understand him, no ordinary treat. His family bid fair to walk in his footsteps, and let us hope that the mantle of sire and grandsire has fallen on the amiable minister of Embro. H. L.

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Rev. J. J. Cameron, M.A., of North Easthope, has accepted the call to St. Andrew's Church, Pickering.

ON Sabbath, the 31st ult., the Rev. Mr. Sym preached in Knox Church, Perth, in the absence of the Rev. Mr. Burns, who was then on a visit to the sea-side.

It was a mistake of ours to say that the Rev. Joseph Elliot, of Cannington, lost his library in the recent fire. Nearly all his books were saved. His loss is still very heavy.

THE services in Cooke's Church, Toronto, on last Sabbath, were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Stewart of Clinton. The sermons were concise expositions of Gospel truth, and were well received by the congregations.

THE Rev. J. B. Edmondson, of Almonte, preached at Columbus (his old charge) to a large congregation last Sabbath week. He occupied the pulpit of St. James' Square Presbyterian Church in this city last Sabbath most acceptably.

THE Rev. Thos. Alexander, of Mount Pleasant, spent his holidays in visiting and officiating in his old spheres of labour, in Cobourg, Coldsprings, Baltimore, Bethesda and Percy. At his request a most interesting meeting was held on the evening of the 4th inst., in the old Presbyterian church, Cobourg, where he had officiated from 1834 to 1847, when he left on a visit to Scotland. For some years past the church has been closed. On the evening referred to, there was a large congregation present. After sermon by Mr. Alexander, one or two of the older members made a few remarks; after which Mr. Ballantine alluded to the peculiar circumstances in which they were met, to the changes that had taken place during the long period of thirty-two years since Mr. Alexander was minister of the church, and the lessons which their present meeting was calculated to teach. To Mr. Alexander himself the meeting was peculiarly solemn and interesting.—COM.

THE Presbytery of Miramichi met on the twentieth day of August, for the induction of the Rev. Peter Lindsay into the pastoral charge of New Richmond. The farmers were busy at this season taking in their abundant crops of hay. Notwithstanding that and the fact that the good people of New Richmond were in the midst of the excitement and enthusiasm caused by the presence of the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess the day previous, the attendance at the services was very fair. An excellent and suitable sermon was preached by Rev. A. I. Russell of Dalhousie, from Matt. xxi. 11: "This is Jesus the Prophet of Nazareth of Galilee." The Rev. T. Nicholson, of Charlo, N.B., then addressed the minister in very suitable terms, after which the Rev. G. Burnfield, M.A., of Brockville, Ont., addressed the people on their duties to their newly inducted pastor. Mr. Lindsay at the close of the service was welcomed by the people as they passed out of the church. Mr. Lindsay enters on his new field of labour with every prospect of abundant success. In his quiet parish, away by the sea, may the Lord bless His servant and people and refresh them with the Holy Spirit. The Presbytery received a kind invitation to dine at the homes of Mr. Hudson Montgomery and Mr. Campbell. We found Mr. Montgomery and his kind-hearted wife making every effort to add to the comfort of all the visitors. Both of them, as well as Mr. Campbell and many others take a deep and Christian interest in the prosperity of the congregation.—COM.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—This Presbytery held an ordinary meeting on the 2nd inst., Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, Moderator. Attention was called to the recent death of Rev. Dr. Willis, ex-Principal of Knox College, and a minute was adopted thereanent, and ordered to be engrossed in the Presbytery Record. Also the Clerk was instructed to send a copy of the same to Mrs. Willis. Mr. David McLaren appeared for examination, with a view to his entering as a theological student of Knox College. A committee was appointed to confer with him, and agreeably to their recommendation, the Clerk was instructed to attest him to the Board of Examiners in said College. A call from Knox Church, Lancaster, addressed to Rev. E. D. McLaren of Cheltenham, etc., was produced and reported on. Rev. M. Macgillivray, of Scarborough, was heard on behalf of the Presbytery