

service of all who needed them; such was his obliging disposition, and, as it was well known, so it was largely drawn upon.

Mr. R—— was an elder of the congregation in connection with the Church of Scotland, session-clerk and superintendent of our Sabbath school, and, while faithfully and diligently performing the duties of these offices and teaching daily in his school, with all the other services he found time to render amongst us, such were his orderly habits and calm, equable temper, that he was never in a hurry, and never seemed weary in well-doing. As his minister, the writer of this notice feels grateful to him for his valuable services in the congregation, and not less as the father of a family to the teacher of his children, for it was no small favour from God to have for their instructor, a man who made them love both the school and its exercises, and who deserved and secured both by his own and their affection and respect — *Our thanks to the Presbyterian*

Congregation of Dundas.

PRESENTATION.

On Thursday, the 16th January, the members of St. Andrew's Church waited upon their minister, and through Mr. Robert Maculloch and Dr. Hamilton, two of their number, presented the Reverend gentleman with a handsome purse of money, and an Address.

Congregation of Woolwich.

PRESENTATION.

On the 12th Jany. the people of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church and neighbourhood presented their pastor, the Rev. James Thom, with the following address, expressive of their sentiments of esteem. "We beg of you to accept of us a small memento in our hands, for the valuable services you have conferred on us as our spiritual guide." The above was accompanied with an elegant and substantial cutter, with robes, &c. &c.

Annual Meeting of the Lay Association.

The Annual Meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church on the evening of Thursday, January 17th. After Divine service, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, who delivered an appropriate and eloquent discourse on 1 CORINTH. XIII. 4, the Hon. Peter McGill, President of the Association, took the Chair. After expressing regret, that a larger audience had not availed themselves of the satisfaction of listening to the Rev. Dr. Mathieson's excellent discourse, and referring to some length to the special objects of the Association, he called upon the Recording Secretary to read the Report, which was to the following effect.

REPORT FOR 1855

The Lay Association beg to submit the following summary of their proceedings during the year 1855 —

NURSERY FUND.

This Fund, which in by-gone years has considerably contributed towards aiding, during their attendance at College, meritorious students having a view to the ministry, has been able to receive attention and support,

there being at present three Bursars of the Association prosecuting their studies at Queen's College. It is superfluous to reiterate here, how desirable it is to have a Fund available for the object contemplated by this scheme of the Association; but, in order that our aid in this direction may be increased, it ought to be born in mind that nearly twenty of our youthful pastors, labouring among flourishing congregations, and forming nearly one-fourth of the Synod Roll, were students of Queen's College, and that some of these during their curriculum there received aid from this Fund.

PUBLICATION FUND.

Early in January of 1855 our brethren in Halifax started a periodical, entitled the *Monthly Record*, with the view of accomplishing for Nova Scotia and the adjoining Provinces, the objects contemplated by the publication of the *Presbyterian*. While the appearance of this monthly has had the effect, as we anticipated, of inducing the great majority of our supporters in the Lower Provinces to withdraw their names from our Subscription List, the additional subscribers in Canada during the year nearly counterbalance those that have been thus withdrawn. We sincerely wish for our fellow-labourer a wide circulation within its appropriate limits; we even hope that its moderate cost *only a half dollar a year*, may ensure for it considerable support in this Province.

Although numerous parties to whom a notice of arrears for several by-gone years has been twice transmitted during the past year, have paid up these arrears, as may have been observed by their monthly acknowledgment under the SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED of the *Presbyterian*, we regret to state that nearly as many have disregarded the call; so that, although the receipts have been equivalent to the disbursements, there still remains a balance against the Fund, of about the usual amount, transmitted from former years. On the whole, however, should the remittances more generally in *advance* than during previous years, and should as large an amount of arrears be paid up during the present as during the past year, it is probable that the income hereafter from subscriptions and advertisements, the latter of which have been recently increased, may considerably exceed the current expenses of the periodical, and gradually reduce the debt.

The Publication Committee embrace this opportunity of cordially acknowledging their indebtedness to the individuals of the Clergy and Laity who have in the course of the past year favoured them, with original articles and with communications containing items of local intelligence interesting to the Church at large. The acceptableness and usefulness of the periodical have been greatly enhanced by such contributions; and they earnestly solicit an increase of these during the year on which we have entered. They desire at the same time, to tender their acknowledgement of the very gratifying terms in which many subscribers have been pleased to express approval of their labours and sincere wishes for the success of these.

In connection with this subject it is proper to state, that the Association at its meeting on the 10th of September resolved to issue a *Juvenile Record* to be entitled "The Child's *Presbyterian*," as early in the year as possible, should sufficient encouragement be extended to the enterprise. A prospectus has been issued, and some Clergymen and Super-

intendents of Sabbath Schools have ordered to the amount of upwards of 500. Literary aid in its management has been promised, and it seems proper to announce that it is likely that final arrangements for its publication at an early date may be entered into.

RELIEF FUND

In the month of February the Association gifted the sum of £12 10s. towards aiding the Congregation of St. Louis de Gonzague in the erection of a Manse; and in the month of September they voted £10 towards completing the Church at Beechbridge. In both cases the Association required beforehand, satisfactory proof that the deed of the property is such as to send it to the Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and a guarantee that the congregations would make suitable exertions.

In conclusion the Lay Association, while in reviewing the results of their labours during the past year, they feel conscious that a far larger amount of good might have been effected by more earnest exertions, on the part of the office-bearers and others, derive satisfaction from reflecting that the objects primarily contemplated by the formation of the Association have been to a considerable extent accomplished.

The whole respectfully submitted,

T. A. GIBSON

Recording Secretary

Thereafter the following Resolutions introduced with appropriate remarks by the respective movers, were passed by the meeting:

Moved by Mr. Mack, seconded by Mr. G. D. WATSON—

And Resolved.—That the Report now read be received, adopted, and published in "The *Presbyterian*" for February.

Moved by Mr. HUGH ALLAN, seconded by Mr. JOHN SMITH—

And Resolved.—That in the now altered circumstances of our Church, consequent upon the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, it seems to this meeting most necessary, that united exertions be put forth by all the well-wishers of our Zion in this Province, towards the formation of Branch Associations, having for their chief end the promotion of the objects contemplated by this one, and that in order to the successful carrying-out of these objects, a respectful application be made to the Supreme Court of our Church, soliciting their advice and direction in reference to the formation of a Society, embracing within its agency the entire Province, and thus realizing the hopes of the founders of this Association.

Moved by Mr. JOHN GREENSHIELDS, seconded by Mr. J. M. ROSS—

And Resolved.—That the thanks of this meeting are due, and they are hereby tendered to the Rev. Dr. Mathieson for his excellent discourse, and that he be requested to allow its publication in the *Presbyterian*.

Moved by Mr. G. D. WATSON, seconded by Mr. W. MACFARLAN—

And Resolved.—That the following gentlemen be appointed office-bearers of this Association during the present year. (1856):—

PRESIDENT,

The Hon. PETER MCGILL.

VICE PRESIDENTS:—JOHN GREENSHIELDS, Esq., HUGH ALLAN, Esq., HEW RAMSAY, Esq., JAS. MITCHELL, Esq.,

Treasurer—ALEX. MORRIS, Esq.