

## Presbytery of Pictou.

THE PRESBYTERY OF PICTOU met in the hall of James Church, New Glasgow, Messrs. Bowman of St. Andrew's Church, and J. A. Forbes of Glace Bay, were present as corresponding members. It was decided to erect the Sunny Brae and St. Paul's sections of the East River Congregation with a separate congregation. Mr. S. A. Frasse was appointed *interim* Moderator of the new session. The clerk intimated since the last meeting of Presbytery he had received from the clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney a call to Mr. J. F. Forbes, Durham, from St. Andrew's Sydney, and had called the congregation of West River and Green Hill to appear for their interests at this meeting of Presbytery. The call is signed by 108 communicants, and 204 adherents and is unanimous. Messrs. A. MacLean, New Glasgow, J. A. Forbes, Glace Bay, A. Matheson and McKinnon were present as commissioners to prosecute the call. Messrs. Kennedy, Porter and Falconer, who represented West River and Green Hill, opposed the translation of Mr. Forbes. They spoke of the earnest desire of the congregation to retain Mr. Forbes and of the success of his labours. Mr. Forbes intimated his acceptance by the call. He has accepted by the call. He has spent twenty-seven years in this Presbytery, first at Union Centre and latterly at Durham and the brethren part with him regretfully. Their prayers and good wishes follow him to his new field of labour. Mr. Henderson was appointed to declare the pulpit vacant on the 18th of February. Mr. Cumming was appointed *interim* moderator of session. Messrs. J. R. Douglas and A. B. McKay were recommended to the Home Mission Committee for employment during the next summer. An application was received from Mr. Maxwell, Sherbrooke, for leave to retire and be placed on the retired list. It was agreed to take the usual steps necessary to Mr. Maxwell's request. Mr. Laird's resignation of his appointment to Ferrona was regretfully accepted. He leaves a field in which he has done excellent service, owing to bad health. Mr. Grant was appointed *interim* moderator of session of Ferrona. Mr. MacFurlan was appointed *interim* moderator of the session of Caledonia. Presbytery adjourned to meet in James church on Tuesday, the 8th day of March at 2:30. p.m.

## St. Andrew's Church, Lindsay.

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's church, Lindsay, was held on Wednesday evening, 17th inst., Rev. Robt. Johnston, B.A., pastor of the church, presided. The pastor read the address of the session, expressing gratitude to God for all that has been accomplished in the past, hopefulness for the future and urging renewed consecration to the work of the Lord. Reports were presented and read from the Board of Managers, the Sunday School, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Mission Band, Visiting Committee, Ladies' Aid Association and Y.P.S.C.E., all of which showed that active and successful work had been done during the past year. A significant fact respecting the Sunday School is that the attendance has quite outgrown the accommodation in the school-room, it having become necessary to teach seven classes in the church. The membership of the congregation is now 498. The amount raised during the year 1893, for all purposes, was \$6,925. Included in this amount is 1,242 for missions and benevolent objects, \$845 being contributed by the congregation generally, \$268 by the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, \$51 by the Mission Band, and \$79 by the Sunday school. Of the revenue \$2,000 was for the reduction of the debt. When all subscriptions have been paid, the liabilities will be reduced to \$8,000, a most gratifying condition of affairs, when is remembered, as was stated, that within the past eight years, \$29,000 has been expended for land, buildings and furnishings. Messrs. A. Campbell, John McArthur and R. J. McIntyre were elected managers to fill the places on the board vacated by rotation. Mr. J. R. McNeillie was appointed secretary-treasurer; and Messrs. John Head and J. N. McLennan, auditors.

## Our Christian Endeavor Corner.

PRAYER MEETING TONIC JAN. XVIII:2.—“God's promises and their proofs.” Heb. vi. 9-20. It is interesting to note in making up our prayer-meeting topic's the connection between them and the Sunday-School lessons. For instance to the one before us at present, an interesting comment is found in the lesson for the day, “God's Covenant with Noah.” God confirmed His promise by the rainbow, of which Rev. R.F.Y. Pierce says in the Sunday-School Lesson Illustration:—“The radiant bow for the Christian believer is composed of many precious promises; Pardon, Remembrance, Ownership, Mercy, Instruction, Salvation, Eternal life, (P-R-O-M-I-S-E.)”

Reference passages:—Josh. xxiii. 14. Psalms xxxvi. 6. lxxxix. Acts. xxxiii. 32-33. 2 Cor. i. 20. 90. Heb. x. 23. 2 Pet. iii. 9. STARTING:—The following are but suggestions of lines of thought in connection with our topics which might be followed out.

The best proof of God's promises is to be gained by a personal test.

Many people trust God for *eternity* who seem afraid to trust Him for *time*.

Receiving the promise is conditional on doing the will of God. Heb. x. 36.

As if specific promises were not enough God has given us one that covers all. It is a blank check on the bank of Heaven, Phil. iv. 19.

INTERESTING ITEMS. There are to-day 28,741 Christian Endeavour societies in the world.—Eighty new members were recently received at a single Christian Endeavour meeting in Godalming, England. There are fifty-nine young peoples' and thirteen junior societies in Toronto now. The active membership numbers 2,548, and the associate 910. The Pastor of a certain city church says that he attended his first Christian Endeavour Meeting in Montreal some years ago, bitterly prejudiced against the whole thing; but he left it conquered and submissive, a gladder and a wiser man.

## North American Life Assurance Company.

There are certain corporations in whose welfare a large number of the people are interested. Among those are banking, insurance, and other monetary institutions. Permanence, profit, and progress appear to characterize the workings of this successful Home Institution; the striking features of its operations for 1893 (its most successful year) are as follows:—

(1) A handsome increase in new business, showing the efficiency of the Agency Staff.

(2) A continuance of its favourable mortality, an evidence of the care and skill of its Medical Staff.

(3) A substantial increase in interest receipts, which, coupled with prompt payment, is a strong proof, especially in such a year as 1893, of the skill and sound judgment displayed by those in charge of its financial department.

The interest receipts for the year were more than sufficient to pay all claims under its policies, including both life and endowment.

(4) The unexcelled addition to its assets (or in other words, the put by for the year) of over 68 per cent. of its income, after having met all expenses and payments to its policy-holders, thereby greatly increasing its ability to meet all obligations as they mature, an essential requisite to wise and provident management.

(5) The largest addition yet made to its surplus to policy-holders, now aggregating the relatively large sum of \$297,062, a fact which should be particularly gratifying to its policy-holders.

The annual meeting of the company takes place on the 25th inst., when a full statement of its affairs will be presented.

## Brain Workers.

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