

tation. They cannot sufficiently express their gratitude to the members of other denominations of Christians, who purchased liberally at their sales.

They rejoice that they have been made the honored instruments of doing something for the extension of Messiah's kingdom on earth, and taking courage from the past, they desire to go on in the good work, looking for a blessing from the Lord of the vineyard, who has thus owned their humble endeavours, and permitted them to be fellow-workers with Him.

There is also a Juvenile Society, consisting of a few very young girls, who devote the afternoon of every Wednesday to Missionary work.—The following statement will show the result of their industry and perseverance:—

They have had four sales and a Juvenile Soiree.	
Oct., 1848,	43 14 0
June, 1849,	3 9 10
Nov., 1849, proceeds of Sale & Soiree,	8 2 7
March, 1850,	5 16 0

Total proceeds,.....£31 2 5

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE ABOVE.

To Bursary Fund, Knox's College,.....	45 10 0
To the Jewish Mission,.....	7 10 0
To the African Mission,.....	5 0 0
For Materials, &c.,.....	3 2 5

£21 2 5

NOTES—MONTREAL PRESBYTERY.

The following communication was not put into our hands until after the 20th March, consequently, was too late for the April number:—

To the Editor of the Record.

MY DEAR SIR,—

A few notes of my recent journeyings in Canada East may not be unacceptable to your readers, as, indeed, some have expressed a wish that I should give some account of them in the columns of the *Record*; and so, I sit down to recollect, and to note some things of a promiscuous kind, connected with my visit to that part of the Province.

As, from the changes recently made in Knox's College, my services, like those of others of my brethren heretofore connected with that institution, were not required by the College Committee, I thought that I might best serve the cause of the Church by devoting a portion of the winter to Canada East. Presuming on permanent supply having been provided for St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, I was hopeful that I might, by an exchange with the minister there, have been enabled to afford supply for two or three months to the Congregation of St. John's Church, Quebec; however, as, after my arrival in Quebec, none could be found to exchange with me, or to relieve me until the arrival of Mr. Scott, I felt constrained to protract my stay there, from the middle of November, until the commencement of February. I am happy to say that this congregation, notwithstanding the lengthened vacancy and somewhat casual nature of the supply which it has received, is nevertheless in a very promising state. The attendance on ordinances is good, and subscriptions were commenced during my stay among them, for the erection of a Church more suitable as to size, comfort, and site to the present circumstances of the congregation, than is the building in which they at present assemble for worship.

Quebec, as a station for our Church, is not surpassed in importance by any other in Canada.—And there are those connected with St. John's Congregation who know this, and as they are determined to exert themselves to make it a centre of evangelical influence to the city at large and the surrounding country, we would hope and pray that they may be blessed and prospered by the Great Head of the Church. When in Quebec, I preached several times on the evenings of week days at one of the Coves, and at Pointe Levi. John Gilmour, Esq., though adhering to the Scottish Estab-

lishment, very kindly threw open for our meetings, at what is known as Gilmour's Cove, the large school-house which is connected with the extensive building-yard, over which he presides, and with his lady attended the meetings. I have no doubt they will be kept up by the missionaries, or ministers who may be supplying in St. John's Church, and from the spirit of hearing which was evinced, good results may be anticipated. Some of the family of James Gibb, Esq., with one or two active members of St. John's Church, have, for some time past, maintained a Sabbath School in Mr. Gibb's Cove, and latterly, Mr. Gilmour has had a Sabbath School opened in the School-house above referred to,—all which things are hopeful for the culture of the long neglected spiritual waste, which is to be found in what are called the Coves of Quebec. Along these Coves, one continuous row of houses runs for six or seven miles from the city. The population consists chiefly of French or Irish Romanists, with a considerable intermixture of Protestants of all denominations. And, if these latter were happily brought to know in its power the truth which they profess, we cannot doubt that their ignorant and benighted neighbours would soon profit from intercourse with them.

The Rev. A. Mackintosh, who has been a missionary and a pioneer of our Presbyterian Missions, from Mens, on the Gulf of the St. Lawrence to the west-most township on Lake Huron, and the waters that issue from it, has been recently in Quebec, and in his explorations in the neighbourhood, he found that no Presbyterian minister had ever preached in Pointe Levi, near to Quebec though it be. Here a considerable number of Presbyterian families are found, but as they can attend on public ordinances in Quebec, only by the steam Ferry boat in summer, or the less comfortable and somewhat more perilous mode of conveyance, a canoe, or it may be, an ice bridge in winter, it could not be expected that many of these should be found worshipping there. The neglect with which they have heretofore been treated, must have been most injurious to them. Mr. Mackintosh's valuable services were much appreciated at Pointe Levi, and I visited it twice and preached to numerous, and apparently deeply interested audiences. I am happy to say that the Presbyterians here, who have hitherto been connected with the Established Church, expressed to me their resolution to erect a place of worship, and I have no doubt that if they do so, they will take good care to have the deed so worded, that they will not be prevented from taking a minister from us, if we can supply them with one. They appeared to be much interested in the account which I gave them, at the close of one of my sermons, of our College, and the promise it holds out of an abundant supply of spiritual labourers. And I promised to use my endeavours to have a well qualified catechist sent to them for the ensuing summer.

The winter in Canada East had been very severe, though more remarkable for the great quantity of snow that fell, than from the intensity of the cold. The St. Lawrence, immediately opposite to Quebec, was open up to the beginning of February, and it is not every winter that it freezes there. The passage across by a canoe has something in it of the picturesque, if not the perilous. The traveller may, if he greatly desires it, be taken on board in the street in the Lower town. When leaving Quebec for the eastern townships, I was accompanied for several days on my journey, by one of the members of St. John's congregation, who was truly a succourer of myself, as he has been of other ministers of the word, in similar journeys. The Canoe received our baggage at the door in the Lower town, and as the tide was half ebb, and the current strong, it was dragged and pushed along, partly by the boatmen, over the snow in the streets, for well nigh a mile, by the side of the river in the direction against the current, that we might not be carried below the point of debarkation, on the

opposite side. When the Canoe was supposed to be high enough up for launching into the stream, the passengers were seated squat on a buffalo skin, in the bottom of the canoe. The rowers, including the steersman, were nineteen in number then pushed her rapidly over the *batture*, as the rough ice which fills the bays and shallows by the edge of the river, is called; this in some places extends out a considerable way, and is never covered with the tide, but rises with it; come to the water-edge, the canoe is propelled into the stream, each rower in his turn springing into her. They then seize their paddles, and work their way, guided by the steersman, to clear places, or through channels, between the floating ice, as his judgment directs. The floating masses of ice are often of such great extent, that the boatmen sprang out on them, drag the canoe out of the water, and push her across, as they do on the *battures*, by the sides of the river, to launch again into the stream. We crossed two islands in this way, and the latter of these brought us to the fixed ice on the Pointe Levi side—it was rushing past at a rapid rate, crushing and grinding its own edges and those of the *battures*. The boatmen allowed themselves to be borne on by it, until they came to a convenient part of the *batture* for pulling up their canoe, they then sprang out in a moment, and by their united strength, soon had the canoe out, at least, on *glaciers firma*. A few minutes more, and we were pushed across the *batture*, and up to the very door of kind friends in Pointe Levi. I greatly admired the dexterity and agility of the boatmen. It seemed to me as though the physical energies of *Canadians* could not be seen in any other employment to more advantage. They have many very amiable traits of character, as all acknowledge who have had any intercourse with them, I now greatly to be desired is it, that their minds may be enlightened with divine truth, and they brought to know the dignity and blessedness of being actuated by the motives, and of living for the end, which the gospel inspires and inculcates. And in order to this a change in the spiritual condition of the community, great as that which the summer's sun causes on the snow covered fields and the ice-bound waters of their winter, must be effected. May the Lord hasten it in his own time. From Pointe Levi our course was to East Frampton. The direct distance we had to travel was about thirty miles, but as our cariole driver mistook the way, he took us a few miles round, besides occasioning us to walk a considerable way through a road very partially beaten: and as the snow was very deep, and the load for one horse somewhat heavy we were the whole day and until a late hour at night on the journey. The cold was most intense this day and the day following,* but with fur coats and other suitable habiliments, we suffered no inconvenience from it.

I preached in East Frampton on the following day. The congregation was respectable. At the close of the discourse, as I was addressing them on the duty of exerting themselves to maintain public meetings for worship on the Lord's days, and for the instruction of children, and shewed them how our Presbyterian polity, by means of the eldership, made an admirable provision for the maintenance of the public profession of religion, even when ministers might not for a season be enjoyed, and illustrated this by mentioning cases in which this state of things was found—some of the hearers appeared to be much affected with the consideration that these privileges had not been enjoyed by themselves. There is an Episcopal minister in the township, but his church has just been burned down, and that, as was believed in the neighborhood, by some malignant individuals of his own congregation. At night, as we entered Frampton, we passed the remains of the structure—a few blackened logs—the more

*At Port Neuf, fourteen miles below Quebec, on the morning of Wednesday, the 6th of February the Thermometer indicated 58° below zero!