

Social at Alton, C.W.—On the evening of the 14th inst. the young people of the Congregational Church, Alton, gave a Social on behalf of the Sustentation Fund, when the chapel was well filled. The pastor and some of the lay brethren addressed the audience. The proceeds amounted to the handsome sum of \$31 20, which was handed over to our worthy pastor (Rev. H. Denny), who expressed his gratitude for the respect shown him. As nearly half of the provisions were left, the committee kindly proposed another social on the following evening, on behalf of the Sabbath School, which came off accordingly, realizing the sum of \$5 50, to procure books for the library. T. R.

A Good Time.—Thursday evening, February 28th, the Congregational Society of Batavia gave a donation party for the benefit of their pastor, the Rev. G. A. Rawson. The lecture room of the church was full, and all were happy. The evening passed very pleasantly, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, while Mr. R. D. Smith and the ladies dealt out the ice cream and cake with liberal hands. We all said, as we gathered around the piano at the close to sing "Old Hundred," "It has been good to be here." The receipts were \$150 cash, and good things \$30 more, making total \$180. But while our pastor and family have received a rich gift, we, his people, feel that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," and we are far the richer for the gift. And when our pastor publicly thanked his people the following Sabbath for their generous gift, we thought he deserved it all, and with it our love and prayers for his faithfulness to us his people.—*Cor. Aurora (Ill.) Beacon.*

"The Globe" on Ministerial Stipends.—The *Toronto Globe*, in noticing the recent settlement of a Canada Presbyterian minister at Ayr, C.W., says:—"The Ayr congregation have lately made large additions to the stipends of their ministers, and now pay \$850 each, with a comfortable manse and glebe, in one case, in addition. They have but consulted their own prosperity and comfort in doing so. The sooner people get cut of the idea that the *model minister* must be a 'poor Levite' dressed in rusty black, and living in pinched shabby gentility, as a higher kind of pauper, so much the better for them and him too." It is pleasant to find the secular press taking up this subject, which is one of undoubted public importance, as much to the laity as to the clergy.

French Canadian Missionary Society.—We are glad to note, from the Annual Report of this important organization, for 1866, that its work prospers and its resources increase. The year began with a considerable debt, but closed with a surplus. The Report is full of interesting particulars of the mission field.

A Church Organ.—The last and largest of several recent meetings of "Churchmen"—lay and clerical—was held yesterday in the Church Society rooms, to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a Church newspaper. It would seem that the promoters of the scheme had indulged in a hope of giving a tone to their organ that would not ruffle the sensibilities of either high or low in the ranks of Episcopacy. Both these parties in the Church had representatives at the meeting to superintend the incubation of the ecclesiastical egg. Proceedings were remarkably harmonious during the discussion of preliminaries, although there existed grave doubts in the minds of many whether such a paper was absolutely necessary, or only desirable. This point was decided against those who considered it a necessity. Before the meeting would be committed to any sanction of details, however, there was a very natural eagerness on the part of not a few to hear then and there some declaration of principles. Why should a Church organ be without principles, when all others were at liberty to provide themselves therewith? It was suggested that if one side would only define principles, it might be that all would agree. This proposal found no favour when applied to either side, so it was ultimately left in the hands of a committee—half lay, half clerical—to come to an understanding about the paper's principles.—*Globe.*