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IN consequence of the departure of the Rev. Mr. King to Europe, the Rev. Mr. Macdonnell will act as General Treasurer of the contributions made by the ministers of the Church to reduce the deficit in the Home Mission Fund. *Conveners having remittances to make will take notice of this change.*

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE strike in the Durham coal-mining district has come to an end at last. The dispute between masters and men was submitted to the Judge of the County Court, and his decision was accepted by both parties. Can any one tell why arbitration is not resorted to in such cases at the outset, and so shut out such things as "strikes" and "lock-outs"?

THEY are going to flood the Sahara, of Africa, at least this was the subject of discussion at a recent meeting of the Paris Academy. M. de Lesseps, of Suez Canal fame, thought it practicable. It would be nice to sail over that bed of burning sand, and pluck dates from the trees along the banks, and arrest the progress of the ostrich by a well-aimed shot from the deck of a vessel.

WE inadvertently did injustice to the conveners of two important committees in our remarks on "Reports of Standing Committees." The reports of the committees on Home Missions and French Evangelization are usually in the hands of members of Assembly at an early stage of the proceedings; and if other committees can be induced to take similar action it will be greatly to the advantage of the various schemes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. — On the 25th of April, Rev. Dr. Reid received from "H. K. C.," \$4, which has been appropriated to the Home Mission Fund. He received also from "Jackson," \$5, divided equally between Home Mission and College Fund. Dr. Reid has also to acknowledge receipt of \$2,148, from the executors of the late Rev. George Cheyne, the same to be invested, and the interest divided between the Home and Foreign Missions of the Church—one-third to Home Missions, and two-thirds to Foreign Missions.

THE Congregational Union of Scotland held its annual meetings in Dundee, beginning on the 22nd of April. The chairman this year was Rev. John Tait; next year Rev. James Troup, of Helensburgh, is to occupy the position. In the annual reports it appeared that there had been a decided falling off in the contributions of the churches during the year. Scotch

Congregationalists are trying to secure a chapel-building fund of £10,000. Of this only £3,000 has been obtained as yet. On the evening of the 23rd, a very interesting public meeting was held, at which addresses were delivered by Rev. Wm. Crosbie, Derby, delegate from the English Union, Rev. Dr. Pulsford and Rev. Albert Goodrich.

WE congratulate the authorities at Hamilton for the vigorous way in which they showed their disapproval of that most inhuman and barbarous amusement—cockfighting. The magistrate gave his decision that the two principal offenders should pay \$30 each, and the others (eleven in number), to pay \$10 and \$5 each. This short homily on kindness to animals will be understood by these roughs. The magistrate deserves the thanks of all good men. He has shown himself truly orthodox as "a terror to evil-doers." It is in marked contrast with the slowness of the authorities in relation to that brutal prize-fight.

THE late Peter Ross, of Hopewell, Pictou County, made the following bequests. To the British and Foreign Bible Society, \$500; to the Foreign Mission of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$400, to the Home Mission of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$400, to the French Evangelization Scheme in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$100, to the Theological Hall, Halifax, Endowment Fund, \$200; to the Theological Hall Building Fund, \$100, to Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$100, to the Jewish Mission Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$100; to the congregation of the Union Presbyterian Church of Hopewell, \$100.

THE "N. Y. Methodist" has trouble with would-be poets; and we sympathise with our friend in his deep distress. For we, too, have a large stock of "original" poems we can't publish. Our contemporary says: "One of the most troublesome delusions—to editors—is that which prompts sensible people to attempt to write poetry. The trouble does not arise from the incapacity of editorial waste-baskets, but from the peculiar sensitiveness of the sensible persons who can not write good verse, and think that they can. One of the most sensible men we ever knew once sent us a wretched piece of doggerel, with the information that his friends considered it, etc., etc. Any one can guess what his friends said. Friends do not like to fight such delusions. Now, this brother can write good prose—has, indeed, a rare gift of saying things in prose—but his poetry would produce sea-sickness in a man of average stomach. In this matter editors have to be honest when "friends" are not. Now, we just simply will not print doggerel rhymes; and we have done hiding behind the excuse that we are not judges of the merits of poetical compositions, for we do know bad poetry when we see it."

FROM the annual report of the Toronto Home for Incurables we are glad to find that this useful and estimable charity is pursuing its benevolent course with unabated zeal and success. It is expected that the Provincial Government will shortly provide a permanent building for the accommodation of the patients, a step which will be productive of much benefit to the country. The Board, in the report, acknowledge the grants for the present year of \$454.37 from the Ontario Legislature, and \$500 from the Mayor and City Council of Toronto, with the gift

of \$20 from the Warden of York. The Officers of the Board of Management are Rev. Alex. Topp, D.D., Chairman; Mrs. Cumberland, Secretary; Miss Gilmor, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Mulholland, Treasurer, The Hon. J. McMurrich, Treasurer of Building Fund, Miss Dick, Mrs. Manning and Mrs. Kay, Directors. We commend this institution to the Christian liberality and sympathy of all who have the means wherewith to relieve such as are, in the words of the report, "humanly speaking, incurable, and at the same time have no earthly friends or relatives to attend to them."

THE question whether a collection of Hymns is to be authorized for use in public worship or not, is at present on the tapis in the Irish Presbyterian Church, and was recently the occasion of some discussion in the Belfast Presbytery. Happily with us in Canada this question has been set at rest; all that now remains to be done is to provide a collection of hymns that will be acceptable to the whole Church; and even this is far on its way towards accomplishment. From the tone of the discussions already referred to we gather that the Irish Church will undoubtedly follow in our footsteps, and provide a suitable hymnal. The same necessity for such action exists there as here. Many congregations have already been using hymnals various, and perhaps sometimes a little uncertain in their teachings and the Church has no means of securing purity of doctrine. In these circumstances certainly the sooner authorized hymn books are issued the better on both sides of the Atlantic. Our Irish brethren have, however, got a little ahead of us in that they have discarded Rouse's metrical version of the Psalms, and prepared a version of their own, which will be published immediately. We anxiously expect its appearance, and venture to hope—if it should be with a slight degree of timidity—that it will be an improvement.

AN intelligent contributor to the columns of our esteemed contemporary, the Stratford "Beacon," after quoting our recent remarks on revivals, writes as follows: "I agree with the CANADA PRESBYTERIAN in believing that revivals which are got up are not likely to leave permanent good effects. In reference to Mr. Hammond's work in Brantford, Chatham, Guelph and other places, I know nothing except newspaper reports, which are by no means the most reliable authority, especially in religious matters. He is said to be eccentric, flippant and sensational. I judge, however, that good has been done in those places where he has been supported by the ministers, and where Christians generally have co-operated with him. Indeed, a judicious friend of mine who closely watched the movement in Guelph informed me that the revival in Guelph was to be attributed not so much to Mr. Hammond's labours as to the hearty co-operation and united prayers of the Christians in the city. If so, might not a revival be enjoyed in any place where the same conditions, co-operation and united prayer existed, without the services of a professional revivalist? It might be worth while for the Christian community desirous of seeing such a revival among them to consider this. Mr. Hammond, no doubt, from his long experience, is well-fitted to influence the masses, and to bring ministers and people into closer union for united effort. This is eminently desirable, as without such union and co-operation no permanent good need be expected."