

nally important. We therefore conclude that the office in the Church of Christ next to its great Head and King, is the office of the Teaching Elder, of him who "labours in word and doctrine."

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

This Presbytery met at Peterboro', on the 9th of November.

In consequence of the Moderator having gone on a visit to Scotland, Mr. Douglass was appointed to act till his return.

The Rev. W. Reid brought before the Presbytery the necessity of a special effort for the support of Knox's College. Messrs. J. Smith, Blain and Duncan were appointed a committee to examine the returns of the different congregations, and to bring this matter before them as they see proper; Mr. Smith, Convener.

It was agreed to recommend to sessions to appoint a day of humiliation and thanksgiving.

JAMES BOWIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

NEXT MEETING OF PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The next ordinary meeting of this Presbytery will be held at Cobourg, on the second Tuesday of January, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

Half yearly financial reports; and also the reports on session records not yet received, will be called for.

JAMES BOWIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The Presbytery of Montreal met, on the 10th November, at Montreal, there was large attendance of ministers. The following are the chief items of business:—

Mr. McKay probationer was appointed to Richmond, Mr. McKerracher, to Osnabrock and North Williamsburg and Mr. Patterson was transferred to the Presbytery of Brockville.

It was agreed to ask Mr. Chambers from the Presbytery of Ottawa, for the Kennebec district.

Two appeals from decisions of the Session of Lancaster were heard and considered. In both cases the appeals were dismissed and, the sentence of the Session confirmed with instructions as to the first.

A petition from the congregation at Lingwick, requesting the moderation in a call to Mr. Milloy, was read and granted. Mr. McLean was appointed to moderate on said call, on the 28th November.

Mr. MacQueen's trials for ordination were appointed to be heard at the adjourned meeting on the 25th inst.

The following petition from the Church in Boston, was given in and read:—

To the Reverend, the Presbytery of Montreal, &c. The petition of the members and adherents of the Knox Church Boston; respectfully sheweth:—

That whereas, the distance of this congregation from the ecclesiastical courts of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, has been found by experience to be subject to various disadvantages: And whereas, the openings which are now occurring in South Boston and other parts of New England, for the extension of Presbyterianism, demand a larger supply of ministers than the Presbyterian Church of Canada can reasonably be expected to divert from the great work which lies more immediately before her: And whereas, at the present stage of our progress we believe that in this city two churches are urgently required, for

the erection of which an amount of aid is needed, which we could not expect to receive from the Canadian Church, whose resources are so fully absorbed in her own immediate field: And whereas, recent ecclesiastical changes in this city hold out the prospect of the speedy formation of a Presbytery with which this congregation could unite:

That, therefore, while this congregation would express its gratitude for the interest ever evinced in its welfare by the Presbytery of Montreal, and will ever retain a lasting sense of the benefits derived from the past connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada: This congregation would now, in view of the altered circumstances in which it is placed, and that it may more effectually promote the great ends for which it has been constituted, respectfully petition the Reverend the Presbytery of Montreal to be permitted to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, that a connection may be formed with the Presbyterian Church in the United States. (O. S.)

In name and on behalf of the members and adherents of the Knox Church, Boston, (signed,) D. D. Morrison, Chairman; A. Henderson, Secretary; J. W. Smith & W. Callender, Committee.

Mr. McLaren, minister of the church, being present, was heard in explanation of said petition, and pointed out the advantages which would accrue to the general interests of the Presbyterian Church in Boston, by the change contemplated in the relations of Knox Church.

After mature consideration, it was moved by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Clark, and unanimously agreed to:—

That the Presbytery, having received and considered the petition from Knox's Church, Boston, and heard Mr. McLaren on the case, agree, in consideration of all the circumstances set forth in the said petition, to grant its prayer, and to permit the congregation to withdraw from its present ecclesiastical connection, in the hope that this action will conduce to the best interests of the congregation desiring it; and in the belief that this step, though unusual, is not forbidden by any law of the Church, and is required by a due regard to the cause of Christ, and the establishment of Presbyterianism on a firm basis in Boston. This act to take effect from the 1st December, 1858.

Mr. McLaren now begged leave to resign the ministerial charge of Knox's Church, Boston, on the ground that, although approving of the act of the congregation he yet did not in the circumstance feel called upon to sever his connection with the church of Canada. Mr. McLaren having been heard after prayerful consideration, it was moved by Mr. Clark and seconded by Mr. McArthur: That the Presbytery feel constrained in the peculiar circumstances of the Boston Church and on account of the decided conviction of duty now expressed by Mr. McLaren, to accept of his resignation and to relieve him from the charge of Knox's Church, Boston. The Presbytery cannot however conclude this step without expressing their cordial esteem and affection for their brother, and regret at the loss of his fellowship and counsel; agree further to record their high sense of Mr. McLaren's faithfulness in the discharge of his ministerial functions, while in connection with this Presbytery and pray that he may be directed by the Great Head of the Church, to some other important field of usefulness in the Church of Canada.

This act to take effect from the 1st December 1858.

Mr. Clark engaged in prayer, after which the motion, was put and unanimously carried.

A petition from the congregation of Roxboro requesting to be separated from Indian Lands and

recognized as a separate station, was remitted to a subsequent meeting of Presbytery to consider and determine.

Mr. Kemp as representing the College Committee and by its appointment, brought the subject of the financial condition of the College before the Court. He pointed out the urgent necessity of systematic plans being adopted by congregations, to secure an adequate revenue for its maintenance. After consideration it was agreed to issue a circular to all the congregations within the bounds, drawing their attention to the necessity of organized efforts on behalf of the College along with the Home Mission Funds of the Presbytery, and to request returns as to their diligence in these departments of Christian duty.

The Presbytery sermon was preached in the evening in Cote St. Church, by the Rev. P. Currie.

The Presbytery agreed to hold an adjourned meeting at Montreal, on the 25th November, and that the next ordinary meeting be held at Montreal on the fourth Wednesday of January 1859.

Corner for the Young.

THE BIBLE A COMFORTER.

You have all heard about Lucknow, that famous city in Hindostan, which was lately captured by British troops. On taking it, they rescued two ladies and a little girl, who had been kept in prison by the rebels. For nine months they were locked up in a dark and dingy room, and daily threatened with death. They could hear the songs of the birds, singing cheerfully in the fields, but they were closely confined. They were allowed no books, or the smallest piece of paper of any kind. To add to their sorrows, the child became very ill; and, from having no doctor to attend to her, was in danger of dying. At last, after many entreaties, a native doctor is sent to look at the child. He left, and promised to send a powder. It was accordingly brought, wrapped in a piece of paper about three inches square. On looking at it, they were glad to see that it was a piece of a Bible, of large print: and the words on the torn leaf were so suitable to their case, that they thought God must have sent them. On one side of the torn leaf were the 11th, 12th, 13th & 14th verses of the 51st chapter of Isaiah, and on the other side were the 22nd & 23rd verses of the same chapter.

Now take your Bibles, my young readers, turn up and read those verses. Think of the two poor ladies and the little child, captives in a dungeon, and in the power of enemies ready to kill them, and you will see how very suitable the words were. No wonder that they were now their Bible, and that they read them over again and again. Had God written them specially for the suffering captives of Lucknow, they could not have been more appropriate. They were more precious to them than thousands of gold and silver.

And, my young friends, you too are prisoners through sin. Your great enemies are the lost angels, and your gaoler, who is thirsting to destroy you, is the devil. And into your dungeon God sends, not a piece of the leaf of a Bible, but a whole Bible, which tells you how you may be saved from the wrath to come. And is it to you a very precious book? Do you read it over and over again, so that you can tell a great deal about it? Do you count it the most precious thing which you possess? Have you taken for your Saviour that Redeemer whom it offers to you? Ah! we fear that many a heathen child who has only a bit of the Word, will enter heaven; while thousands,