

Presbytery of Montreal.

The Presbytery met again at three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, 27th ult. The call from the congregation of Kenyon to the Rev. Adam McKay, of Middle River, N.S., signed by 93 members and 150 adherents, was received and directed to be transmitted to the Presbytery of Victoria and Richmond, for presentation to Mr. McKay. Dr. Hugh McLeod, of Sydney, was appointed to present the call in the interests of the congregation of Kenyon. The call from Fort Massey Church, Halifax, to Dr. Burns, of this city, was then considered. The call is signed by 133 members, and 63 adherents; the salary promised is \$2,000 per annum. Rev. Mr. Smith, who appeared on behalf of the Fort Massey Church, stated that it was a new church organized two years ago, and located in the most wealthy quarter of Halifax, the people composing the congregation being in general wealthy, and some of them among the leading active Christian men in the Lower Provinces. The amount contributed for all religious purposes, last year, was \$120 per family, and he doubted if there was another church in the Dominion that could show so large contributions. Mr. Smith dwelt on the great influence for good which the minister of Fort Massey church would exercise in the various questions of Home and Foreign Missions, also on common school education, as well as on Dalhousie College, and stated that owing to the peculiar circumstances of the people, it would be injurious to the church were they left for a long time without a pastor, and that a man from a distance would be more acceptable than from nearer home. Messrs. David Morrice, John Sterling, Archibald Ferguson, Mooney, Hugh Watson, and Dr. MacVicar, were heard on behalf of Cote street congregation against the removal of their pastor, Dr. Burns. It was stated that there are now four vacant congregations in the city, which has lately become a market where people from a distance come to get their pastors, and it was time this sort of thing was stopped. The amount contributed for religious purposes by Cote street congregation was increasing; in 1870 it amounted altogether to \$11,400; in 1873 it was \$19,600. The membership was about 500. The speakers expressed their high esteem of Dr. Burns, and expressed the hope that he would not be removed from them, as there was danger of division in the congregation should he leave, it being probable that the portion of the congregation that wish to remove westward, would separate and organize a new church. The call being placed in Dr. Burns' hands, he asked until Thursday to decide what answer to make, which was granted. The call from Nazareth street church to Rev. E. F. Torrance was declined by the latter, and ordered to be set aside. A petition was received from the people of Lancaster congregation, asking for half of the services of Rev. Kenneth McDonald, of Alexandria, and promising to pay half of his salary, or \$500 per annum. The petition was received and its consideration deferred until the call from Indian Lands congregation had been considered. The call from the congregation of Indian Lands to Rev. Kenneth McDonald, of Alexandria, signed by 127 members and 182 adherents of the congregation was then taken up. The salary promised is \$800 per annum, with free manse and glebe of 27 acres. The call being sustained, Mr. Charles McDonald was heard on behalf of the congregation of Indian Lands, and Messrs. Robert Wilson and John Simpson on behalf of the people of Alexandria. The Presbytery was highly delighted with the natural eloquence exhibited by these old Highland Scotchmen from Glenangry. Mr. C. McDonald urged on behalf of the proposed removal of Mr. McDonald that he would have the same opportunity of carrying on his mission work among the Scotch Roman Catholics of Glenangry who he is residing in Indian Lands, as if he continued in Alexandria, and as it was difficult to secure a Gaelic speaking pastor for Indian Lands, it would be a serious loss to that congregation if they had failed in securing the minister they wanted, as they had already been disappointed four times, this being the fifth call that had been given unsuccessfully since the congregation became vacant. Messrs. Wilson and Simpson urged strongly on behalf of the Alexandria congregation, the great injury which the Scotch Roman Catholics in Glenangry would sustain were Mr. McDonald removed. Reference was also made to the successful temperance work performed by Rev. Mr. McDonald. The call was put into Mr. McDonald's hands, and that gentleman stated that as he was a missionary appointed by the Presbytery, he would leave the matter to the decision of that body. It being six o'clock the Presbytery adjourned.

THIRD SIDERUNT.

The Presbytery met again on Thursday at 10 a.m. Rev. Mr. J. McEwen, of Pembroke, being present, was asked to sit as a corresponding member. The clerk was ordered to instruct the different Kirk Sessions to have the answers to questions on the state of religion filled up and returned to him by the last of March. Rev. Mr. Scrimger was authorized, in case the Rev. Mr. Baxter, of Dundee, refused to entertain the call from Stanley street church, to moderate in a second call from that church to a pastor. Rev. Dr. Burns in a lengthy speech gave his reasons for accepting the call from Fort Massey Church, Halifax. It was then resolved that he be relieved from his present charge in Cote street. Dr. MacVicar was appointed to preach in Cote street church on the last Sabbath of February, and declare the church vacant; he was also appointed moderator of the Session of Knox Church, instead of Dr. Burns. Rev. Messrs. Black, N. Paterson, D. Paterson, J. Watson, J. Wellwood, K. McDonald, and Dr. MacVicar expressed their high esteem of Dr. Burns, and their regret at his removal. Rev. Mr. Grant of Vankleek Hill wished to be relieved of the moderatorship of the Session of Kenyon, and Rev. Mr. Moss, of Lochiel, appointed in his stead.—Agreed. In reference to the call to Rev. K. McDonald, from the congregation of Indian Lands, Mr. R. Wilson moved, and Rev. Mr. McKenzie seconded, that Mr. K. McDonald be retained in his present mission. Rev. A. Young moved in amendment, seconded by Rev. J. Watson, that Mr. McDonald be removed

from his present charge to that of Indian Lands. Mr. McDonald having left the question to the decision of the Presbytery a lively discussion followed, till the Presbytery adjourned to meet again at 8 o'clock p.m.

FOURTH SIDERUNT.

The Presbytery met again at 8 o'clock, p.m. The report of the Home Mission Committee was considered, and the present appointments continued. The Committee was further instructed to make arrangements for sending an ordained missionary who can speak the French language to the New Glasgow congregation. The Convener of the Committee submitted to the Presbytery the claim set up by Rev. Mr. Leishman for payment for services which he neglected to perform. It was moved, seconded, and carried, "that inasmuch as the Rev. Mr. Leishman has refused to do the work assigned to him, he has no claim to receive any payment from the Mission Fund." Rev. Mr. McLeod, of Hampton, was received as a minister of this church. Rev. John McKay gave an account of the visit of the deputation appointed to visit Leeds. The salary of the pastor, Rev. James McConcey, has been increased by the addition of \$100 per annum. Rev. J. S. Black gave in the report of the committee appointed to draft a resolution regarding the removal of Dr. Burns. It read as follows:—"Resolved that in releasing the Rev. Dr. Burns, D.D., from the pastorate of Cote street church, this Presbytery expresses its deep sense of the loss which it sustains, and desires to put upon record that nothing except Dr. Burns' expressed desire and intention could have moved it to consent to this translation. That during his five years' residence in Montreal, our brother has won the affection and esteem of his own people and of the general public, and also of this Court, by his social qualities, eminent abilities, and Christian graces. He has been the servant of God and the friend of man in much self-sacrificing and willingness. He carries with him the prayers and good wishes of every member of the Presbytery, and we heartily commend him to the God of all grace, wishing him length of days and increased usefulness."—"Resolved—Also that the foregoing be entered on the record of the Presbytery and the clerk be instructed to furnish Dr. Burns with a copy." The call from Indian Lands in favor of Rev. K. McDonald was ordered to be set aside. The petition from Lancaster for half of the services of Rev. K. McDonald, of Alexandria, was referred to a committee of Rev. Messrs. Black, Scrimger, Watson, and N. Paterson, who are to visit the localities and report to next meeting of Presbytery. The next meeting of Presbytery was ordered to be held in the College building on the first Wednesday in April, at 10 o'clock, forenoon. The Presbytery then adjourned.

Presbytery of Chatham.

This Presbytery met in Wellington Street Church, Chatham, on the 5th of January. Among other items of business were the following:—A report was received from Mr. C. Chumney, who had been appointed to preach the Chicago pulpit vacant, to the effect that he was denied admission to the Church, and had preached in a public hall in the vicinity, where he read the edict of the Presbytery. Further action in the matter was postponed till next regular meeting. The committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's books presented a report which was adopted, and the thanks of the Presbytery were tendered to Mr. K. U. Gahart, the Treasurer, for the accurate manner in which the books were kept, and for his kindness in gratuitously discharging the duties of the office. Messrs. Becket and Stainforth were appointed a committee to secure the immediate payment of arrears due the Presbytery Fund, to report at next meeting. The Presbytery Fund for 1875 was allocated among the congregations within the bounds. Wallaceburg was separated from Dresden and united to the Sydneyham station of the Sombra group; this change, however, not to take effect till April next. Mr. D. McKerracher declined the call to Florence, and a new moderation was granted to this congregation. A moderation in call was also granted to Bothwell if required before next meeting of Presbytery. Missionary meetings were appointed to be held within the bounds, as follows:—

SECTION NO. I.

Deputation—Messrs. King, Forrest and Smith.
Buxton, Monday, 8th February
Tilbury East, Tuesday, 9th "
Tilbury West, Wednesday 10th "
Morse, Thursday, 11th "
Amberburg, Friday, 12th "
Maidstone, Monday, 15th "
Raleigh, Tuesday, 16th "

SECTION NO. II.

Deputation—Messrs. Gray, Milligan, McColl and Walker.
Windsor, Monday, 15th February
Detroit, Tuesday, 16th "
Chatham, A. St. Wednesday 17th "
Scotch Settlement Thursday, 18th "
Dover, Friday, 19th "
Chatham, W. St. Friday, 19th "

SECTION NO. III.

Deputation—Messrs. Waddell and Currie.
Blenheim, Monday, 8th February
Hagar's, Tuesday, 9th "
Ridge Road, Wednesday 10th "
Ridgeway, Thursday, 11th "
Duart, Friday, 12th "

SECTION NO. IV.

Deputation—Messrs. Becket, Waddell and Savers.
Thamesville, Monday, 15th February
Florence, Tuesday, 16th "
Dawn, Wednesday 17th "
Suth, Cerners, Thursday, 18th "
Bothwell, Friday, 19th "
Reserve, Monday, 22nd "
Botany, Tuesday, 23rd "

Each meeting to begin at 7 p.m., except Dover, which commences at 11 a.m. The first name on each Deputation is the Convener thereof. Messrs. King and Forrest were appointed a committee to organize a congregation in Raleigh, to be worked along with Buxton. It was agreed to hold

the next regular meeting of Presbytery in Adelaide Street Church, Chatham, on Tuesday, 9th March next, at 11 a.m. It was also agreed to hold a Conference on the State of Religion on the evening of that day, and Messrs. McColl, Walker, K. U. Gahart and J. McKerracher were appointed a committee to make arrangements therefor. The Missionary deputation to Tilbury West were instructed to arrange as to the payment of the Missionary there and to Morsea, &c. Messrs. Gray and Bartlett were appointed a committee to stimulate the managers of the St. Anne's Mission to support ordinances there.—R. H. WARDEN, Pres. Clerk.

Presbytery of Simcoe.

This Presbytery met at Barrie, on Tuesday, 2nd inst. Present twelve ministers and four elders. Among other transactions of the meeting were the following:—Various reports of the Mission and its meetings recently held were presented, and led to discussion. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Rogers, Gray and Cameron, was appointed to prepare a plan for the Missionary meetings to be held next winter. The committee was directed to present its report at a regular meeting not later than the end of September. An application was made by the stations of Tay and Medonte for regular services during the summer, and six dollars per Sabbath, promised for supply. The application was granted. A communication was read from Mr. Murples, Missionary in Muskoka, intimating his intention to leave the field on the expiration of his engagement, and setting forth a "scheme of church finance," to which he requested the attention of the Presbytery. The communication was laid on the table till next regular meeting, which Mr. Murples is invited to attend. Mr. Hugh Gray, licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast, of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, on Aug. 6th, 1850, appeared, and put himself in the hands of the court for such duty as it might assign to him. He was empowered to conduct public worship within the bounds, whenever his services may be required. Arrangements were made for the induction of Mr. John McLean, late of the Presbytery of Montreal, into the pastoral charge of Knox Church, Oro, on Wednesday, 17th ult. Mr. Gray to preside and address the minister, Mr. Cameron to preach and address the people, in Gaelic, and Mr. Fairbairn to address the people in English. Intimation was made by a telegram that the Presbytery of Toronto had sustained a call from Charles street congregation to Mr. R. D. Fraser, M.A. Accordingly it was agreed that the Presbytery meet at Barrie, on Tuesday, 16th inst., at 11 a.m., to deal with the matter, and that the usual steps be taken to notify the congregations of Cookstown, Townline Essa and Joy to appear for their interest. The committee formed about two years ago for putting bibles with psalms and paraphrases at low prices, within easy reach of our people, was directed to close its operations as soon as possible, with a view to its being discharged. At the same time another committee was formed to consider whether the object aimed at, in the appointment of the former, may not be secured by means which will not involve the Presbytery in the work. It was unanimously agreed to transmit to F. W. Cumberland, Esq., General Manager of the Northern Railway, the thanks of the Presbytery for his kindness, and that of the Company, in issuing clergymen's certificates for the present year, and thus continuing a privilege which the members of Presbytery have enjoyed for some time past. Sessions were directed to send in replies to the Assembly's questions on State of Religion, at the next ordinary meeting, to be held on Monday, 5th of March, at Barrie. The proposed modification of the Constitution of the General Assembly was approved. It was remitted to Messrs. Rogers, Fairbairn, and Mr. Fraser to make arrangements for holding a Convention on Sabbath schools, as recommended by the Assembly. On motion of Mr. W. Fraser, it was unanimously agreed that Principal Cavan, of Knox College, Toronto, be nominated Moderator of next General Assembly.—ROBERT MURPLES, Pres. Clerk.

The Late Mrs. Boyd, of Aberdeen.

Our obituary of to-day contains a notice of the death of an old lady, well known in the Free Church of Scotland, and also to many ministers of our own Church. Mrs. Boyd, daughter of Dr. James Tower, of Logie, of H. M. S., and sister-in-law of the late Rev. Dr. Duncan, of the Free College, Edinburgh, on her return from Ceylon, where she buried her husband within the Garrison Chapel at Point de Galle, took up her residence in Aberdeen, and her home was well known to all these friends of her Saviour. She took a deep interest in the Free Church at the disruption, and while spending the summer months at Ballater, one of the persecuted parishes at that time, might often have been seen sitting beneath a shepherd's plaid stretched on four poles, on the open moorland, defending the minister's head with her umbrella while he preached. Her chief work for the Master was as treasurer of Sheriff Watson's Industrial School; but to this she added treasurerships of missions to the Jews, to the remote highlands and islands, and several other schemes. Seated in the front gallery of the Free East Church, her every Sabbath pleasure was to watch and speak of the presence of members of poor families who had visited during the week. She was a true Deaconess of the Church, and a true deaconess, as many articles and bales of clothing, issuing from committees of ladies meeting in her house could testify. Two of her sons were also well known, George Hay, who intended to be a medical missionary to India, and the Rev. Robt. A. Boyd, both of whom, however, died in early life. Her latter end was peace. She rests from her labours, and her works certainly do follow her.

A Roman telegram says that a very important discovery has been made on the Esquiline Hill, consisting of seven statues in fine preservation. There is a remarkable bust of Commodus, several heads, and many fragments. All these have been found in one room not yet entirely excavated. There are indications of the presence of other objects.

Temperance Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Temperance Reformation Society was held last week in the Division Room, Temperance Hall. Mr. Luke Sharp, the President, occupied the chair. There was a good attendance, and quite a number of new names added to the roll of membership. The Secretary submitted the nineteenth annual report, which gave just cause for rejoicing in looking at the effects of the persistent efforts put forth to diminish the number of licensed houses for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this city. The conflict that has been going on during the past year has brought this question prominently before the public, and many have been convinced that temperance is the cause of right, liberty, and humanity. The report contained an outline of the year's work, embracing the many appeals made to the licensing authorities. It is a noteworthy fact that the late candidate for the mayoralty in the interests of the Temperance cause polled a larger vote than any previously elected mayor ever received. Extensive improvements have been made in the building. The following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:

For President—Mr. L. Sharp was elected by acclamation.

Mr. Thompson, 1st Vice-President by acclamation.

Rev. Mr. Cameron, 2nd Vice President.

Mr. Nasmith, Secretary, by acclamation.

Mr. Beckett, as Treasurer, by acclamation.

Mr. Innis, Corresponding Secretary.

Board of Managers:—D. Miller, W. H. Rodden, James Forster, W. S. Finch, J. B. Marshall, Geo. Finst, C. W. Watch, J. S. Spence, Geo. Strathern, E. M. Morphy, L. Wood, and Jas. Colville.

It was moved and seconded that the Secretary be authorized to send a letter of condolence to the family of the late Rev. Mr. Trask, Pittsburg, Massachusetts. Mr. Thompson addressed the meeting, urging the members to united action, and giving suggestions, and instancing many measures of examples in other cities, showing the necessity of following in their footsteps. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers, and the meeting came to a close.—The Liberal.

St. Paul's Church Hamilton.

On Friday evening last Rev. W. H. Remondson, M.A., Knox Church, conducted the usual service in this church preparatory to the holy communion, preaching on the occasion an admirable and suggestive discourse on the "Secret of Christian Stedfastness." At the close of the service the pastor, the Rev. J. C. Smith, M.A., requested the congregation to remain a few minutes, when a handsome and costly communion service was uncovered and presented to the congregation, the gift of the Ladies' Association. The service consisted of eight pieces neatly encaused in a polished mahogany chest, for safe keeping, and was, we understand, imported direct from England, costing \$237. The pastor invited those present to come up to the platform and examine the service.

In making the presentation Matthew Leggat, Esq., spoke on behalf of the Association as follows:

I have been requested by the Ladies' Association of this church to perform a very agreeable office this evening. Most of you are aware that on former occasions when the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper has been dispensed to us, we have been under the necessity of borrowing the Communion Plate from a sister church—and I embrace this opportunity to express to the Rev. Mr. McColl and his Session our grateful sense of their Christian courtesy and kindness in having accommodated us with the use of theirs whenever it has been asked. Now, through the liberality of the ladies, we have been placed in the possession of a service of Communion Plate of our own, and an inspection of these sacred vessels before me will satisfy you that they have dispensed their liberality with a most generous hand. The duty which has been assigned to me this evening is to present to you, sir, and to the Kirk Session and congregation of St. Paul's Church, in the name of the ladies, this elegant and beautiful service of Communion Plate, for the use of this congregation, accompanied with the prayer that when we

"Of the sacred into ours we
Which brings His wondrous love to ours."
He whose dying love I hope we shall often be privileged to commemorate, may so sanctify this solemn ordinance to all of us, that in our pilgrimage through life we may ever strive to imitate His example, and to practice the precepts which He has taught. I have now great pleasure in committing this treasure into your hands.

THE PASTORS REPLY.

In accepting this elegant gift, permit me as the spokesman of your fellow-worshippers to assure you, sir, and those whom you represent, that they most heartily appreciate this kindly act. The want of a Communion Service has been increasingly felt on each successive sacramental occasion, and would have been more severely felt but for the Christian courtesy and friendliness of our Canadian Presbyterian brethren, who generously came to our aid. Upon the gift now presented, which is at once chaste and valuable, the congregation, I am sure, will ever look with feelings of the liveliest gratitude, and will deem themselves indebted to the characteristic thoughtfulness and liberality of the Ladies' Association. I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing the very high value which I personally attach to the beneficial influence of a band of Christian women, associated with the pastor of a congregation in works of charity and labors of love. Suffer me, therefore, to bespeak a continuance of this helpful agency, and to urge a large increase in the enrolment of names from among the wives, mothers, and daughters of my flock, until each family shall have at least one representative in the active membership of the Association. May the Lord quicken us all to a deeper sense of the claims which pertain to our respective spheres, and endow us graciously to meet them to the honor of our common Redeemer. The members of the association will please to accept through me the thanks of

the congregation, and I beg both donors and recipients to join with me in earnest prayer that each season when the vessels now presented shall be used in the dispensation of the supper, may mark among us a higher tide of consecrated life, and characterize a brighter testimony for Jesus "till He come."—Hamilton Evg. Times, Jan. 18th, 1875.

Tribute to a Mother.

Children, look in those eyes, listen to that dear voice, notice the feeling of even a single touch that is bestowed upon you by that gentle hand! Make much of it while yet you have that most precious of all good gifts, a loving mother. Read the unfathomable love in those eyes; the kind anxiety of that tone and look, however slight your pain. In after life you may have friends, fond, dear, kind friends; but never will you have again the inexpressible love and gentleness lavished upon you which none but a mother bestows. Often do I sigh in my struggles with the hard, unceasing world, for the sweet, deep security I felt when, of an evening, nestling in her bosom, I listened to some quite tale, suitable to my age, read in her untiring voice. Never can I forget her sweet glances cast upon me when I appeared asleep; never her kiss of peace at night! Years have passed away since we laid her beside my father in the old church yard; yet still her voice whispers from the grave, and her eye watches over me, as I visit spots long since hallowed to the memory of my mother.—Lord Macaulay.

Stick to Foundation.

Our lot is fallen in times when on the one hand the very foundations of the faith are shaken by those who ought to be its chief defenders; and, on the other, a superstructure of wood, hay, and stubble is raised upon that foundation, almost equally perilous to the safety of those who trust themselves upon it. And men are asking where is there any resting-place amidst this deluge of unbelief and false doctrine with which the earth is overspread? But why such a question? Is not the ark of God's Word floating high above it, offering a secure, a permanent resting place to every weary and heavy laden soul that seeks a refuge in it? Is not the ark of God's testimony spread open before you? Keep close to God's own Word. Let no man call himself what he will, move you from the foundation. And amidst all the varied interpretations of that Word, keep at that which a prayerful, earnest, and diligent perusal of it carries home to your conscience. When you stand before the bar of God hereafter, no dependence on human teaching will be your vindication of not having acted upon God's Word as He gave it to you. He who allows man to come between him and God's message to him, must take the consequence of preferring man's word to God's.—Dean Goode.

Miscellaneous.

It is perhaps not very widely known that the National Library of St. Petersburg, founded in 1714, is one of the three greatest of Europe. In 1849, however, it contained as yet no more than 600,000 volumes; this number had increased in 1859 to 840,853 (not including duplicates), 29,045 manuscripts, and over 66,000 maps, illustrations, &c.; in 1867 there were registered 1,044,465 printed books and 84,000 manuscripts. To-day the library contains 1,100,000 volumes at least; it has a "work-room" to sit 4,000 readers, and is open from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m. daily, with, of course the necessary days of closing.

MCKENZIE & KEMMERLY of Troy, N. Y., whose orders for church bells are not at all significant of stagnation in trade, are now sending large bells for several of the magnificent public buildings which the Canadian government is erecting in different parts of the Dominion. These orders are creditable to Troy manufacturers.

THOUGHTFULNESS for others, generosity, modesty and self-respect are the qualities which make a real gentleman or lady, as distinguished from the veneered article which commonly goes by that name.—Prof. Huxley.

"ORDER is the first law of heaven." Let there be good order in the Sabbath-school. This can usually be secured by judicious management. Don't scold nor "look daggers" at the children.

THE Sabbath-school is the workshop of the church. The superintendent and teacher may well say, I am working for Jesus in the Sabbath-school.

WOMAN'S hopes are woven of sunbeams; shadow annihilates them.—George Eliot.

FLOWERS are the sweetest things God ever made and forgot to put a soul with.—H. W. Beecher.

"I CANNOT be poor," said Bernard, "so long as God is rich, for all his riches are mine."

SOME mourn more the shame which sin brings, than the sin which brings the shame.

TAKE care to be an economist in prosperity; there is no fear of your being one in adversity.

MANY who have escaped the rocks of gross sin have perished in sands of self-righteousness.

HE that preaches gratitude pleads the cause both of God and men, for without it we can neither be sociable nor religious.

WE owe the greatest gratitude to those who tell us the truth.

A JOYLESS life is worse to bear than one of active sorrow.—Faber.

WE are always looking into the future but we see only the past.

FRIENDSHIP, like iron, is fragile, if hammered to thin.—Saadi.

HE who boasts a multitude of friends has none.—Aristotle.