

PRESBYTERIES.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON AND TORONTO.—A meeting of this Presbytery took place at Hamilton on the 6th of August last. The attendance was full. The business was of great importance, but not of much public interest, consisting chiefly in the making appointments for the supply of vacant congregations and in forwarding the labours of Missionaries. The Roll of the Presbytery numbers 11 Ministers and 12 Elders. The absence of Ministers, Probationers and Students to the Presbytery is not elsewhere. The state of the congregations under the Presbytery was minutely inquired into and found to be generally most satisfactory. The next meeting of this Presbytery was appointed to take place at Toronto, on the 8th day of October, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

PRESBYTERY OF COBBOURG.—The Presbytery of Cobourg held its first meeting at Cobourg on Wednesday, 21st July. There were present three Ministers and two Elders, viz.: Messrs. Alexander, Douglas, and Reid, Ministers; and Messrs. Milne and Munro, ruling Elders, representing the Sessions of Cobourg and Gravelly, respectively.

Mr. Alexander was appointed Moderator *p. t.* and Mr. Reid was appointed Presbytery Clerk.

The Presbytery had but little business before it. It was gratifying, however, to have as the first piece of business in the new Presbytery, the case of Mr. William Sutherland, a student, who appeared before the Presbytery in order to be examined, with a view to preparation for the Ministry. Mr. Sutherland had studied three years at the Pictou Academy, in Nova Scotia, and one session in the University of Edinburgh. The Presbytery, after a brief conference with Mr. Sutherland, appointed him to appear at next meeting, in order to be examined in Latin, Greek, Mathematics and Natural Philosophy and Religion, so that his case might be reported to the Synod in October, and advice obtained with regard to his future studies.

The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to take place at Cobourg on Wednesday, 11th September.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.—A meeting of this Presbytery took place at Cobourg on Wednesday, the 11th current, the members present being Messrs. Roger, Alexander and Reid, Ministers, and Messrs. Milne, Munro and Drummond, Ruling Elders.

Mr. William Sutherland, Student, was examined by the Presbytery in Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and the principles of Religion. The Presbytery were satisfied with the appearance of Mr. Sutherland in these branches, and resolved to report his case to the Synod.

Documents were read, intimating the adherence to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, of the following congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery of Cobourg, viz.:—Darlington, Otonabee, and the congregation assembling at Keeler's Mills, in the Township of Asphodel. The Presbytery resolved to grant as frequent supplies of preaching as possible to these congregations, until they shall be provided with Pastors, and in accordance with a memorial from the congregation of Otonabee, appointed Messrs. Roger and Reid to dispense the sacrament of the Lord's supper to that congregation on the first Sabbath of October.

The Presbytery thereafter took into consideration the subject of Home Missionary operations, and resolved to take steps for carrying out the scheme recommended by the Synod's Home Mission Committee.

The Presbytery, after directing their attention to some matters specially referred to them by the Commission of Synod, adjourned to meet at Cobourg, on Tuesday, the 8th October.

We learn incidentally that the Presbyteries of Kingston and Montreal have recently met, but we have not been furnished with any authentic account of their proceedings. It would contribute greatly to unity of action in the Church, if the proceedings of its rulers, in their various Courts,

were regularly and correctly reported. We respectfully request the attention of Presbytery Clerks to this matter.

SUMMARY OF ECCLESIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE—CANADA.

A Meeting of the congregation at Ancaster took place after divine service on Sabbath last, the 15th inst., for the purpose of ascertaining the number of adherents to the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and in the event of its being afterwards deemed proper to proceed to the nomination of Elders. After the meeting was constituted sixteen families adhered, numbering 31 communicants besides three or four not heads of families, and three or four heads of families not communicants—the greater part of adherents not being members had left the Church not having been invited to remain. The portion of the congregation adhering to the old Synod, numbers, in so far as we can learn, only about seven families, besides two or three other adherents: and it is confidently expected that many not present on Sabbath will yet give in their adherence to the Presbyterian Church of Canada. The nomination of Elders was then proceeded with. When Mr. James Walker, Mr. John Robertson, and Mr. George Thompson, were unanimously elected, and it is anticipated they will accept of the appointment—some time previous Mr. William Dixon and Mr. William Kyle had been selected at a congregational meeting at Dundas, to fill the vacancies there in the joint Session of Dundas and Ancaster.

A general meeting of the congregation of London was held on Monday, 16th inst., after intimation from the pulpit on the two preceding sabbaths, to deliberate and decide as to the ecclesiastical connexion in which the church should be placed. It was resolved almost unanimously, there being only two dissentients present, to adhere to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. There are, it is understood, a few others of this flourishing congregation favorable to connexion with the Scottish establishment; but there is no reason to think that they will take any active steps to disturb the harmony which generally prevails among its members, on this point, or that might hinder the early settlement of a minister amongst them. They possess a very handsome church, edifice, and we trust they will speedily receive of the Lord, a pastor according to his own heart.

At Stratford, on Avon, in the Huron District, the congregation of the Rev. Daniel Allan, with a few rather noisy exceptions, have expressed their adherence to the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Similar adherences have recently taken place at Woodstock, Bomanville and Otonabee, Belleville and Pictou. At Kingston a large congregation in connexion with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and adhering to their protest, has been formed by the union of the Presbyterians of Irish origin, with those from Scotland and other countries. The committee through whose judicious management, under the divine blessing, this important object has been accomplished, have published an address to their constituents, manifesting a very clear discernment of the true grounds of christian fellowship and unity, and bearing many other marks of the influence of divine truth—many the dew that descended on Zion refresh them. The proceedings also, of the congregation of St. Gabriel street Church, Montreal, (Mr. Esson's) have been characterised by great unanimity, in regard to their adherence to the protesting Synod:—the proprietors of the church, moreover, seem quite disposed to maintain the minister in the possession of his privileges. We notice, moreover, with great satisfaction the accession of the Rev. Daniel Clark, of Indian Lands, Glengarry, to the list of adhering ministers—and we close these brief notices by informing our readers that the 93rd Regt., stationed at Montreal, have given an emphatic testimony in behalf of the great christian principle for which their fathers and brethren have suffered so much, by attaching themselves to Mr. Esson's ministry.

Missionary Intelligence.

INDIA.

It will be remembered that Dr. Durr and his eminent fellow-labourers at Calcutta, were ejected at the instance of the Scottish Establishment from the Mission-buildings, and strip of the library and apparatus belonging to their Seminary, furnished almost wholly by benefactions procured by Dr. Durr himself, and entrusted to him personally by the benefactors. This ejection took place at the close of one of the ordinary terms or sessions of the Seminary. During the vacation, after the most indefatigable efforts on the part of the Missionaries and their friends and more advanced pupils, and after having their hopes and fears alternately excited, in the most remarkable way, they were at length put in possession, in a manner indicating very strikingly the overruling and gracious direction of Divine Providence, of an extensive edifice, even better adapted to the various purposes of the Institution than that which they had left. Dr. Durr in a late communication says:—

"We are fairly fixed down in our new location, and every thing is proceeding with the same quietness and uniformity as if nothing had occurred. The actual number, in the corrected registers of this month, is one thousand and fifty-four,—being, I believe, the largest number in any single institution in India. The whole framework of our external machinery (bating library and apparatus, of which, however, we have already a very promising nucleus) is complete. What we want and pray for is, the spirit within the wheels. So immense is the edifice which Providence so graciously put within our reach, that every class has, or may have, a separate room for itself, independent of the spacious hall, which is reserved for all manner of miscellaneous exercises. The marvellous goodness of our God in this matter, we daily find fresh reason for admiring and adoring. But what we want and long and pray for is, the outpouring of Divine grace. We feel we can do everything but—convert. We can communicate Divine knowledge, silence objections, remove prejudices, produce the clearest intellectual conviction of the truth of Christianity—but we cannot convert a single heart to God. We can come up so sharply to the very edge of conversion, that it seems as if we were not separated from it by a hair's breadth. And, yet, after reaching and touching, as it were, its very border, that apparently infinitesimal line we cannot cross. There we stand still,—gazing on—helpless—impotent, and consciously incapable of further progress. And standing there, with such consciousness, it is with us not a cold deduction of reason, however valid, or a bare inference from Scripture, however sound, but a positive sensation, that nought but Omnipotent grace can cross the line, and savingly convert a soul to God. Oh! then, let the Church's prayer be offered up unceasingly for the vivid and copious manifestation of Jehovah's grace in the midst of us."

At Bombay, where the Mission premises were purchased with money subscribed by private individuals, a similar process of ejection is contemplated by the Scottish Establishment. Several gentlemen who had contributed largely to this object, protest against the iniquity of such a measure—informed Dr. Buxton that it was to the Missions as it was, and still is constituted and managed, their donations were intended to be given, and not to any particular Church. A youth of the Brahman caste, who had left his home and found his way to Bombay, being left in utter destitution by his own countrymen and caste-men there, has been Providentially brought under the care of the Missionaries, and promises to be an apt and interesting pupil.

At Madras a work of peculiar interest and importance is going on. Viswanauthan, a Brahman youth of 19 years of age, has been turned to God from idols, and was baptised in the Hall of the Institution, on the forenoon of Friday, 29th