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## The Presbyterian Review.

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### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

If the delegates to the W.F.M.S., Convention have carried away with them pleasant memories of the Toronto meetings, it is equally true that they have left a good impression behind them, not only in the homes where they have been welcome guests, but on the community. The church services on Sabbath were redolent of the Convention. A missionary air pervaded the churches, and in the prayers, the great meeting and the objects of its devoted work were remembered in fervent supplication at the throne.

"The Parliament of Presbyterian Women," as some one happily called the Convention, deserves the name.

No more orderly body meets for the transaction of business. The proceedings were conducted with deliberation, despatch, and method, which showed the knowledge of detail derived from familiarity with the business in hand, and only acquired by diligent study of the reports. Presbyteries and Synods can learn from the W.F.M.S., in these respects. The reports were compiled in a manner to reflect credit on the local officers, and as a consequence the minimum of trouble was experienced in presenting the business adequately to the Convention.

The impression made on the public was evidenced by the fact that Bloor Street church was found to be too small for the public meeting on Wednesday evening, and the meeting was therefore held in Cooke's church. Even its

immense seating capacity was taxed. The addresses by the returned missionaries - Miss McKellar, Rev. Donald McGillivray, Rev. N. H. Russell, were listened to attentively, as well they might on account both of the interesting facts and the attractive manner in which expression was given to them. The church is fortunate in this fact, that most of her missionaries are able to place their story of work in the field in eloquent, effective language, before the people. The addresses were a treat in their matter and manner. At this meeting Her Excellency Countess Aberdeen expressed her sympathy with the Society's work, recalling the fact that she is a Presbyterian herself, and giving of her experience of mission work in India and Egypt.

The *Presbyterian Messenger* of Philadelphia noting our statement in a recent issue as to the number of colored Presbyteries in the South properly supplements it by stating that, in addition to the six Presbyteries with 58 churches belonging to the Southern church, there are 175 ministers and 321 churches under the direction of the Northern church. These churches contributed last year over \$70,000 for their own support. We are glad of the additional information.

One of the points on which the Special Committee and the Standing Committee of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund seems to have been agreed was that every minister in the church from henceforth ordained should be required to connect with the Fund; another point was, that the age limit of beneficiaries should be lowered as soon as the state of the fund permitted. On both of these points the Committees are in touch with the prevailing feeling of the church.

Dr. Mathews, the secretary of the Pan. Presbyterian Alliance, in the May number of the *Quarterly Register*, gives an interesting account of the Stundists, a growing body of Evangelical dissenters from the Greek Church in Russia, and of the constant persecution they are enduring at the hands of the government. He estimates them at from two to three hundred thousand, but they are continually being sent into exile for their faith. Only by living in the most unobtrusive way are they tolerated at all. Owing to the attitude of the government little can be done for them by sympathizers outside, but Dr. Mathews suggest that a few of their own young men might be helped to a better education abroad to qualify them for instructing their brethren. Their position would be a dangerous one, but he believes the right men would be forth-coming if the opportunity were afforded.

As the time for Professor Robinson's departure draws near, his friends are realizing the loss his removal will be to the pulpit power of Toronto. He has been a welcome addition to the preaching force of the city, drawing appreciative audiences whenever he appeared. On Sabbath last he