

QUEBEC PRESBYTERY NOTES.

This Presbytery met in Richmond on the 1st and 2nd December. Among some of the items of business transacted were the following: Rev. D. H. MacLennan, M.A., was appointed to Hillhurst and Massawippi for one year. A call from Sawyerville, in favor of Rev. Jas. Hastie was reported by the interim moderator, presented and sustained. Mr. Hastie being present and having intimated his acceptance, the induction was appointed to take place on the 8th December. Rev. Dr. Mowat, Montreal, appeared before the Presbytery as a representative of the Assembly's Committee on Systematic Benevolence, and in a clear and forceful address showed what great things could be accomplished for missions by systematic methods. Mr. Job. Munro, an elder of Crescent Street Church, Montreal, addressed the Presbytery on the Laymen's Movement. These brethren received the cordial thanks of the Presbytery.

Some years ago a few families at East Angus built a church there, and for some years the Presbytery endeavored to maintain a mission there. But owing to the weakness of the mission (in numbers) and its distance from other points, it was found extremely difficult to get the field supplied. The result was that the Presbytery withdrew from the field, leaving the Presbyterians there to the Methodist Church. The mission finds itself now with a church, on which there rests and encumbrance of \$500, and the church being closed the people are not disposed to bear that burden—that is to discharge the mortgage if the building is not to be used for the purpose for which it was built. A Commission of Presbytery was appointed to confer with the people and dispose of the matter.

OUR SPECIAL NEEDS—The Presbytery of Quebec is confronted with some difficulties that are not experienced by many others, and possibly by none to the same degree; and how to meet the difficulties has engaged the serious attention of the Presbytery frequently, and at this meeting possibly more than ever. The Presbytery is conscious of the need and importance of looking after families situated some of them a hundred miles from a minister of our church—too far, and too scattered to be ministered to in any efficient manner by a minister in a charge, too few at any point to be a nucleus for a mission station. Then there are a few industrial enterprises—due to R.R. construction, to the lumber and pulp trades—which should receive attention; there are men engaged in R.R. construction throughout the entire length of the Presbytery for whom the Presbytery has been unable to give any service. It is felt there should be some way of rendering somewhat efficient services to such places, and for that a man must be free from congregational work, and means are necessary, and means the Presbytery has not.

Again from time to time there come urgent calls to build a new church, or to aid in removing a mortgage upon a church in a weak mission or congregation. Several claimant calls of this kind have come quite recently to the Presbytery and hands are stretched out still. But while there is a church and manse building fund in the great West, some provision of the kind for New Ontario, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, there is none for Quebec—except the possibility of receiving small grants to aid in building manse.

How to supply all the needy places, look after families scattered through French localities, and aid weak missions or congregations in building churches, or retaining them a ter they are built, are problems that weigh with the Presbytery. As a result of a report presented on the whole situation, by a committee appointed months ago to look into the matter, the Presbytery at this meeting adopted the following resolution: viz: "That the Presbytery of Quebec recognizes the need of greatly increasing its power to carry on its work efficiently,

both by additional men and money, appoints a committee, in two sections, to devise ways and means, and to report at the March meeting—the committee to consist of—Quebec Section—J. A. Macfarlane, convener, A. T. Love, W. C. Clark, J. R. MacLeod, E. G. Walker, M. F. Boudreau, ministers; G. B. Ramsay, Jas. Muir, A. J. Elliot, Jos. Ford, jr., elders. Richmond Section—H. Carmichael, convener, H. C. Sutherland, C. A. Tanner, J. N. Brunton, ministers; Thos. Wark, W. E. McIver, M. G. Crombie, J. S. Riddle, elders.

CALVIN MEMORIAL—The Presbytery considered a resolution of the General Assembly, bearing on John Calvin Memorial, in connection with French Evangelization, and resolved to transmit their judgment on the matter to the executive of that Board, which is as follows: "The Presbytery unanimously recommend that the Board of French Evangelization erect and maintain (as a Calvin Memorial) a French and English school in the city of Quebec, or in its vicinity, for the purpose of giving a liberal and sound education to the youth of this province who may seek its advantages.

LONDON NOTES.

At the December meeting of the Presbytery of London last week the Rev. Robert McIntyre who has been for the past ten years minister of North Street and Burns Church (Delaware) accepted a call from the congregation of Bridgeburg in the Presbytery of Hamilton, and was released from his charge. He will leave after the 13th instant for his new field.

A strong and instructive address was given by Dr. Shearer on "Need for Efforts at Social and Moral Reform in This Dominion, Especially in the Far West."

Another rousing address was given by Dr. Gandier on "Systematic Giving." He asks the London Presbytery to raise \$50,000 a year for the schemes of the Church, and the Presbytery resolved to try.

The Presbytery's regulations for the appointing of commissioners to the General Assembly were overhauled and amended. All commissioners are sent in rotation, and their travelling expenses paid. A fixed roll of the ministers now in charges is constructed. Any minister who shall hereafter be inducted shall be added at the foot of the roll, unless his name is already on the roll. When a minister retires by leave of Assembly, his name will remain on the roll where it was on retiring. When commissioners are appointed, their names shall be transferred to the bottom of the roll in the order of their appointment. The commissioners shall always be appointed from the top of the roll. The Presbytery shall have power to elect any member to any Assembly independently of the rule of rotation. So much for the ministers.

For the appointment of elders, there is a fixed roll of congregations (pastoral charges.) The sessions of these have the privilege of nominating one of their number as Commissioner to the Assembly and reporting to Presbytery which appoints him. These sessions are taken in the order of rotation in making their appointments. The elders' expenses to the Assembly are also paid.

Dr. McCrae, who was badly shattered a month ago or more by being kicked by his horse frightened at the passing of an auto-car, was sufficiently recovered to be at Presbytery, leaning on his staff and still suffering. He submitted his Home Mission report. London churches are supporting three distinct missions in the city without aid from the Assembly H. M. Fund.

Of the large batch of business General Assemblies are now sending down

to Presbyteries for consideration, the presbytery took up the remits proper. Regarding the Status of Minister-Evangelists, Presbytery endorsed the report submitted to last Assembly in both parts, disapproving of the proposal to give these a seat in the Church Courts, and also recommended that the conferring on catechists and students the right to perform the marriage ceremony, and dispense the sacraments should be viewed merely as a special license, and not as an ordination at all.

The Presbytery very unanimously disapproved of the Interim Act relating to obligatory connection with the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund as in its nature nugatory. It is impossible of enforcement without sanctions. The Act of 1895 is still in force and goes as far as the Assembly can go in this direction. The same applies to the assessment of congregations.

Giving assistant pastors a seat in Church Courts is disapproved except when such have been called by the congregation and inducted as colleague, or assistant and successor.

Presbytery approved the first part of the Interim Act of Assembly relating to the licensing of students without leave from synods, but disapproval of the second part relating to their ordination.

The fourth clause of the Assembly's regulations in regard to statistical returns (page 75) is a puzzle to some of the brethren who cannot see how to making up the roll of Presbyteries the names of ministers are to appear in the order of their induction while the list of pastoral charges is to appear in alphabetical order.

After adjournment of Presbytery which meets again January 12th to discuss the Union question and other business, the ladies of First Church entertained the members of Presbytery to a most inviting repast furnished in the basement of the church. Following this the Presbytery met again in conference on Evangelism. Rev. A. L. Furch, E. L. Pidgeon, and W. H. Geddes addressed the conference. The conference had not long advanced when the minister—Rev. J. G. Inkster, was called out to accompany one of the elders in breaking the sad news of John Cameron's sudden death to the bereaved family.

MAY GO TO EDINBURGH.

The name of Prof. H. A. A. Kennedy of Knox College is being mentioned very prominently in Scotland for the chair in Edinburgh now held by Principal Marcus Dods, who was strongly opposed to Dr. Kennedy's coming to Canada, as he desired to see him his own successor in Edinburgh. He has now resigned his chair, and the question of his successor is being widely discussed in the United Free Church of Scotland. Dr. Kennedy has discouraged the mention of his name, as he regards himself "very happily settled in Knox College."

The British Weekly has the following with reference to the Edinburgh situation:—"In connection with the prospective vacancy in the chair of exegetical theology in New College, Edinburgh, the name of the Rev. W. M. Macgregor, D.D., minister of St. Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, is being mentioned as that of one who is eminently fitted to fulfill the duties of the chair with great distinction. A meeting of those favorable to the nomination of Dr. Macgregor is to be called at an early date, and arrangements will be made for presenting in suitable form his claims to the position. For the same vacancy the name of Professor H. A. A. Kennedy of Toronto is also proposed. Professor Kennedy's books show him to be a master of New Testament learning, and his career as a professor in Toronto has been one of the most marked success."