

fourth volume, to subscribers for that year. This volume, which will be of a more useful character, is in course of preparation, and will be delivered along with the second year's books. We would take this opportunity of reminding Canadian subscribers to the scheme of the necessity of transmitting the subscription money soon to the nearest agent. So far as can be seen at present, one dollar of our money will suffice for a year's subscription. Mr. D. McLELLAN, King Street, Hamilton, has been appointed by the Presbytery of Hamilton as Agent for their bounds.

*To the Ministers and Missionaries of the Presbyterian Church of Canada—and to Elders or Committees at their Missionary Stations.*

DEAR BRETHREN,—I now address you at the request of the College Committee: and I have to inform you that the Committee have this week had the pleasing, though laborious, duty of examining not fewer than nineteen students, who are now enrolled for the current session of the College; and there is a prospect that the number will soon reach, if not exceed, thirty. A statement may afterwards be published of the numbers attending the different classes. Suffice it to say, that our examinations were directed not only to the acquirements in learning heretofore attained by the different students, but also to their personal religion and their views and feelings towards the ministry of the gospel.

And we are sure, brethren, that you will rejoice with us, and give God the glory, that so many are already raised up amongst us to consecrate themselves to studies, preparatory to an effective exercise of the ministry of reconciliation.

At the close of our examination, five of the young men who had been attending the summer course, delivered each an essay, or discourse, in the presence of the Committee, the Professors, and Students. These exercises were highly creditable at once to the students themselves and to the capability of our institution, feeble as it yet confessedly is, for imparting a thorough literary and theological culture. The shelves of the library are already replenished with upwards of 3,000 volumes, and that chiefly through the liberality of our friends in Scotland and the zeal of our respected Professor of Divinity. And when I add, further, that the sum of £91 10s. is already subscribed for bursaries, to be dispensed during the current session, in a way at once to stimulate the diligence of the Students and aid towards their maintenance, I am sure that you will acknowledge that we may well thank God and take courage.

In stating these things, dear brethren, I would remind you, and through you all the members of the Church, of the great responsibility under which we are laid by these very tokens of the Lord's goodness, and of the need we have of the Holy Spirit, in order to our severally improving our privileges in this matter. Let us all then combine in earnest prayer in our closets, our families, and public assemblies, for the divine blessing to rest on our institution. Pray, dear brethren, for the Committee of Synod entrusted with the care of the institution; for the Professors and those who for a season are to assist them in the work of teaching; and for all our students; that ours may indeed be a School of the Prophets, which our adorable Head himself, the Great Prophet of the Church, may ever watch over and bless; and from which he may send forth in my pastors and teachers to diffuse the name of His own name through this and other lands.

The subscriptions for the Bursary Fund have been made by private individuals, by ladies, associations, congregations, members of the different Presbyteries, and, in one case, by a female student in Toronto, and her young pupils. A list of these may afterwards be published, and the Committee will doubtless soon publish the whole accounts of the institution, from its first opening in November, 1844. In the meantime I have now to intimate that the Annual Collection for the College will be made in all our congregations and meetings, on the 7th day of December next, being the first Sabbath of that month. This is the day on which, according to the scheme recommended by the Synod, the collection for the Home Mis-

sion Fund shall be made; but as the College Fund is well nigh exhausted, the Convener of the Home Mission Committee, in concurrence with the members of the Synod, has consented to the Collection of its collection in December; the Home Mission Committee to have its in March.

We trust, dear brethren, that no arguments are required to stir you up to diligence in collecting the offerings of the people for the maintenance of our Seminary. God has dealt bountifully with us in the harvest, as we have as a Church endeavoured recently to acknowledge; and as we pray that He would visit us and water our souls, and all the Churches of the land, with the refreshing rains and dews of Divine influence, oh let us endeavour to honour Him more by a greater singleness of aim and devotedness of heart in His service, and greater liberality in our offerings.

It is earnestly recommended that where the collection cannot be made on the 7th of December, it be made on the earliest convenient Sabbath thereafter; and that to those who may be prevented from attending at the public collection, an opportunity may be afforded of contributing privately. Collections and donations will be received in Toronto by JOHN M. MARSH, Esq., Treasurer to the College Committee.

In name, and by appointment of the College Committee, I am, dear brethren,

Yours affectionately,  
WM. RINTOUL,  
Convener.

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND OF THE MISSIONARY SYNOD OF THE SECESSION CHURCH.

HAMILTON, OCTOBER 23RD, 1845.

The Committees appointed by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, and the Missionary Synod, met this day in Hamilton.

On the part of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, were present,—the Rev. Messrs. Alexander Gale, Mark Y. Stark, and John Bayne, Ministers, and Messrs. William McMillan and Wm. Kyle, Elders. On the part of the Missionary Synod, were present,—the Rev. Messrs. W. Proudfoot, Thomas Christie, R. H. Thornton, and James Roy, Ministers; and Robert Christie, Esq., and Mr. Walter Chisholm, Elders. The Rev. Mr. Gale was chosen Chairman; the meeting was constituted by prayer; and the Rev. Mr. Proudfoot was appointed Clerk. Mr. Gale read the following extract from the Minutes of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church:—"The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to wait on the Missionary Synod of the United Secession Church in Canada. Mr. Gale reported that that Synod had not yet met, but was to meet next week. The Synod continued the appointment of the Committee, with a change of some of the members, writing them, besides tendering to that Synod the Christian greetings of this Synod, to express to them the deep convictions entertained by this Synod of the importance and practicalness of union, on a scriptural basis, amongst all the sound Presbyterian Churches in Canada; and the Synod authorize the Committee to confer on the subject with any corresponding Committee of the Synod of the Secession Church of Canada. The Committee to be, the Moderator, Mr. Gale (Convener), Mr. Bayne, Mr. Stark, Ministers, and Messrs. McMillan and Kyle, Elders."

Mr. Proudfoot read an extract from the Minutes of the Missionary Synod, bearing date 12th June, 1845, to wit:—"The Rev. Alexander Gale and Mr. William McMillan, Elders, accompanied by the Rev. George Smiche, were introduced as a delegation from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Mr. Gale read an extract from the Minutes of said Synod appointing the deputation."

The Missionary Synod, cordially reciprocating the sentiments expressed in the above document, appointed Messrs. William Proudfoot, Thomas Christie, R. H. Thornton, and James Roy, Ministers; together with Robert Christie, Esq., and Mr. Walter Chisholm, Elders, a Committee to meet with the Committee of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, for the purposes stated therein.—Mr. Proudfoot, Convener."

After some conversation, it was unanimously Resolved 1. That whereas the Missionary Synod and the Synod of the Presbyterian Church have the same standards of doctrine and discipline, it is highly desirable that they should unite, both for their mutual benefit and for strengthening each other's hands in the advancement of the interests of Christ's kingdom in this Province.

Resolved 2. That there is a full agreement amongst us in holding the Westminster confession of faith—as the confession of our faith, expressive of the sense in which we understand the scriptures, in all points, excepting certain statements regarding the powers of the civil magistrate, contained in chap. XX. sec. 4, XXIII. sec. 3, XXXI. sec. 2.

Resolved 3. That we find a very satisfactory measure of agreement generally amongst us, in regard to the great doctrine of Christ's Headship over the nations; and that the chief point in which we differ, is respecting the questions,—whether it is, under any circumstances, lawful for the civil magistrate to devote any portion of the public funds for the support of the Church; and whether, under any circumstances, it be lawful for the Church to receive such support—the Committee of the Missionary Synod taking the negative, and the Committee of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church the affirmative, in these questions.

Resolved 4. That the Committees shall severally prepare written statements of their views in regard to the questions specified in the last resolution, to be submitted for consideration at a future meeting; as also on the question, whether a difference of opinion on the foregoing points continuing to exist, such difference ought to be regarded as a barrier to union, or whether satisfactory grounds of union may not nevertheless be found.

Resolved 5. To adjourn till the call of the conveners.

(Signed) ALEXANDER GALE,  
Chairman.  
(Signed) WILLIAM PROUDFOOT,  
Clerk.

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA.

The regular winter Session of this Institution commenced on Tuesday, the 2d inst., under the most encouraging circumstances. The College Committee met on Monday, and entered on the important duty of examining the several candidates for admission, and they were principally engaged in this work during the first three days of the month. Mr. RINTOUL, the Convener of the Committee, and Dr. BURNS, Professor ESSON, and Messrs. HARRIS, STARK, GALE, ALEXANDER and RILEY, and Messrs. WESTLAND and McMURRICH, being present. The examination was, of course, conducted privately. The applicants being examined one by one, by the Committee, and was so directed as to bring out as fully as possible the previous course of study, and progress in the various branches of knowledge in each case, and the condition of the several parties as to personal piety—their views of divine truth, and their motives and aims in presenting themselves as candidates. At the close of the examination on the second day, nineteen students were admitted, and we understand that several have been added to the number since that time.

On Tuesday evening Dr. BURNS and Professor ESSON delivered their introductory lectures, the latter having chosen as his subject, "the love of truth," and the former, "the search after truth." Besides the members of the Committee, and the Students, there was a numerous and highly respectable general audience present on this occasion. Our limits permit us not to attempt giving even an outline of these lectures. On Wednesday morning the Committee spent some time in consultation respecting the general business of the Institution, and in making arrangements for the Session. The Treasurer reported the state of the fund, and it was agreed that the general collection in behalf of the College should be made on Sabbath the 7th December, instead of the 1st March—the Convener being requested to intimate this, and to issue an address to the Church setting forth the claims of the Institution on the prayers and liberality of all that wish well to Zion. With reference to the assistance which the Committee have felt themselves constrained to solicit from certain