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THE
PRESBYTERIAN RECORD
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The Presbyterian Council.

IN a very few weeks the Presbyterian Council will meet at Philadelphia, and brethren will sit together as representatives of many branches of the far-spreading Presbyterian family. They will be there from all parts of America; from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales;—from Germany, France, Spain, Italy and Austria; from Africa and Asia, from Australia and New Zealand. They will meet in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the King and Head of the Church, the Shepherd and Bishop of souls. There will be no earthly potentate,—emperor, patriarch, or pope to claim dominion over brethren in Christ. There will be no lordly prelacy; there will be no usurping papacy; there will be no disintegrating independency.

What then may we expect—what ought we to pray for? Our General Synods and Assemblies are over for the year. They have disposed of a vast amount of business and have laid their plans for another year's campaign. What work then is left for the General Council in which the Synods and Assemblies are to be represented?

1. It is our duty to show that as Presbyterians we are members of a truly catholic Church—a Church which has now proved her divine mission in nearly every country in the world. We are no longer separate and antagonistic sects; we are members of one noble family. Our spheres may be separated by continents and oceans but we are united by the same Confession, by allegiance to the same King, by the same grand traditions, and the same exalted aspirations.

2. We say in our Confession of Faith that "Saints, by profession, are bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion,

which communion, as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all who in every place call upon the name of the Lord Jesus." Modern facilities of communication have rendered such "communion" practicable, and we cannot neglect it without great and perilous loss. If we are willing to sink into mere sectarians and allow Presbyterianism to become a byword of reproach, then we may neglect our opportunities, but not otherwise. It will be the duty of the Council to manifest to the world the glorious Presbyterian (and Christian) ideal of fellowship and communion.

3. We hope the Council will be able so to show forth the claims of Presbyterianism as to gain the ear of Christendom. Ultramontaniam is clamorous and obtrusive with its worse than mediæval claims to universal supremacy; and men willing to commit intellectual and moral suicide are submitting to its claims. Anglicanism, feebly parodying the great Antichristian system, is also loud and bold in its pretensions. These systems are dangerous to human liberty, are subversive of the Gospel, are at war with the first principles of modern civilization. It becomes the representatives of catholic Presbyterianism to show how our system in all its essential features is strictly accordant with the Word of God and with all the natural rights of man. The most advanced forms of civil government are only approaching to the perfection of the Presbyterian system in the combination of liberty with order,—individual right with general safety.

4. The Council will undoubtedly prepare the way with caution and prudence for its own regular and authoritative operation. We anticipate the time as not far distant when in all matters of general concern the voice of the General Council will be heard with due submission by all churches. Meeting

once in three years, it will be able to exercise a perceptible and very valuable influence for good upon the whole Presbyterian family. And those who are not yet Presbyterians will be able to see the system in its genuine completeness.

5. The Presbyterian Church is catholic, her roots are deep in the soil of the apostolic age; her ministry is primitive and apostolic (as even Bishop Lightfoot maintains); her polity is in accord with the Word of God, with right reason and the requirements of the foremost races of mankind. Presbytereterianism will be the universal form of church government just as certainly as representative institutions are destined to prevail in all civilized countries. We do not predict this universality for any special type of Presbyterianism as now existing; we refer to its essential features and broad general principles. It will be the duty and the delight of the Council to point out more plainly than has been hitherto done the "essentials" of our system.

We are glad that our own Church will be ably represented at the Philadelphia Council, and we doubt not that our brethren will aid in wisely directing its deliberations and decisions. The eyes of the world will be upon that Council as they never before were upon a Presbyterian Assembly. Let our people pray for that Council. The presence of Christ alone can give it vitality and real influence. The blessing of God alone will make it a means of revival to Presbyterianism throughout the world.

Good News from France.

More important than political revolutions or the rise and downfall of parties is the fact that the Gospel in its purity is making progress in France such as has not been witnessed since the reign of Henry Fourth. Many agencies are at work, and there is ample scope for all. The nation seems heartsick and weary of Ultramontaniam and its offspring, Infidelity. As a sign of the times the expulsion of the Jesuits and the suppression of other unauthorized Romish organizations, must be noted. These things could not have been done so peaceably, so effectively, until now. The progress of the Gospel among our own French-speaking fellow-countrymen prepares us to feel a deeper interest in what is taking place in France. One society alone, the *Société Évangélique*, sends the Gospel to over a hundred and forty districts hitherto purely Roman Catholic. Leading men, officials of the government, mayors, prefects, magistrates, support the new movement. The people *en masse* in some places rise to welcome the evangelists. In some of the more central places, Conferences are held where the Gospel is expounded, by eminent laymen

as well as by clergymen. As a sample of the work carried on we quote the following:

Mr. Reveillaud and Mr. Daruier of Geneva have begun a series of such conferences in the Côte d'Or and Saône and Loire departments. They broke ground at Dijon, an intensely Romish city, in its aristocratic and upper bourgeoisie classes. The meetings were held in the Grand Philharmonic Hall of the Hôtel de Ville, readily granted, heated and lighted by the Municipal Council, the subject of the first address being, "The Religion of the Syllabus and Modern Society utterly irreconcilable." The Romish party did their best to make the meetings a failure, but without effect. The audiences reached 1200, and gave the most earnest attention and rapturous approval to the speaker (Mr. Reveillaud.) At the door two hundred and fifty Bibles and New Testaments were sold by the colporteur. At a crowded gathering of people the other day in Paris in the Oratoire, convened to hear some results of these conferences, Mr. Pressensé, one of the speakers, gave emphatic testimony to the widespread desire to hear the gospel. His words were: "I have come to be decidedly of opinion, without concealing from myself the difficulties and obstacles in the way, that never since the Reformation has there been a more favourable moment for the spread of Protestant doctrine. A great door is indeed open. Secure almost anywhere a large hall, and invite the people to hear the gospel, and you will find crowds gather. I have myself, at some of those *réunions*, when I have been asked to speak, been borne away and truly electrified by the crowds. And, in many ways, circumstances are on the side of the gospel." On the same occasion, Dr. Fisch remarked that in his study, two maps hung before him—the one having the thirty-eight thousand communes of France, the other that of *Protestant France*; and that his heart was touched, as he looked on the blank parts of the latter, and thought that in the sixteenth century nearly a third of France was won to the gospel. How different to-day—whole departments without a single Protestant parish or even station. But it can be said that things are now changing for the better. France waits to receive the gospel.

S. S. CENTENARY.—The Centenary of the foundation of the English Sabbath School system by Robert Raikes was celebrated in London and in many other places, during the week beginning with the 26th June. In London a Convention was held, attended by delegates from the United States and Canada as well as from various European countries. The best way in which we can celebrate this Centenary year is by renewed consecration to our work for Christ.

The Sabbath School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

ABRAM AND LOT.

AUGUST 8. B. C. 1918. GENESIS XIII : 1-18.

VERSES 1, 2. *Went up*—Egypt was a low lying country.—*Into the South*—i. e. of Palestine. *Was very rich*—How he came by his wealth, see ch. 20 : 14. *Went on his journeying*—encumbered with so much “substance,” his progress would be by slow marches and frequent encampments; he had to regulate his movements by the facilities for water and pasturage. V. 3, 4. *Bethel*—12 miles north of Jerusalem. His coming back to “the House of God” symbolized repentance for having gone to Egypt and for his misconduct there. The scene of one’s early dedication to God recalls hallowed memories. *Called upon the name of the Lord*—re-established family and public worship and offered thanks for deliverance from trouble. Vs. 6-9. *Lot also shared the temporal blessings bestowed on Abram. The land was not able to bear them*—Their joint pasturage was overstocked with sheep and cattle. Water was scarce. The herdsmen became jealous of their respective master’s interests. *There was a strife*—matters had gone too far, worldly possessions often occasion contentions among relatives and neighbours. *The Canaanite, &c.*—who owned the land, might take advantage of these quarrels to seize the property of both Abram and Lot, and besides, it was an unseemly thing to strive thus before the heathen. *Let there be no strife*—there should be none, see Phil. 2, 14 and 2 Tim. 2 : 24. Abram’s proposal displays an amiable and magnanimous disposition. Lot owed everything to him, but his uncle treated him in the most generous manner and gave him the first choice of location. Vs. 10, 11. Sodom and Gomorrah were then flourishing cities of the plain near the south end of the Dead Sea. Zoar was a little farther south, on the borders of Arabia. *Lot chose*—with a selfish eye to his own advantage, forgetting that “all is not gold that glitters.” Had he foreseen the consequences, he would have thought twice about it. *They separated*—so much the better for Abram, who removed his tents to Hebron, while Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom—in the neighbourhood of the wickedest city in the plain, where he seems soon after to have taken up his abode, ch. 19 : 1. Vs. 14-17. The promises now renewed to Abram were in a material sense fulfilled in Solomon’s reign, 1 Kings 4 : 20. In another sense they are still being fulfilled to the spiritual seed of Abram, Rom. 9 : 4, 8, and will only be fully accomplished when all the kingdoms of this world shall become subject to Christ, Gal 3 : 7-9.

LEARN the duty of praying to God for direction in the affairs of every day life. Strife among professing Christians brings religion into contempt. The best thing to choose is that which can never be taken from us, Luke 10 : 42.

Abram and Melchizedek.

AUGUST 15. B. C. 1913. GENESIS XIV : 12-24.

VERSE 12. *Took Lot...and his goods*—poor Lot was now reaping the fruit of his selfishness. V. 13. *There came one*—probably of Lot’s retainers. *Abram the Hebrew*—so called from his ancestor Eber, ch. 10 : 21. *Mamre*—afterwards called HEbron, 12 miles south of Jerusalem. V. 14. Abram lost no time in setting out to the rescue of “his brother,” his kinsman. *Armed his trained servants*—his domestic slaves who were then treated as members of the family. *Three hundred and eighteen*—As a number must have remained to take care of the flocks and herds, this implies that the patriarch’s establishment must have consisted of more than one thousand, men, women, and children. *Unto Dan*—or Laish, at the foot of Mount Hermon and near the sources of the Jordan—150 miles north of Hebron. V. 15. *Divided himself*—formed his household troops and his allies into skirmishing parties, after the manner of the Arabs, following up the enemy by day, and making an unexpected attack by night. *Smote them*—defeated them. *Hobah*—north of Damascus. DAMASCUS, one of the oldest cities in the world, situated in a fertile plain about 25 miles north east from Tiberias, is still an important city of 150,000 inhabitants. Vs. 16, 17. *Brought back the goods...and Lot*—At the risk of his life Abram saved Lot from exile and conferred a benefit upon his adopted country. His victorious return was hailed with public rejoicings. *The King of Sodom*—the chief of the confederates, met him at *Shaveh*—the King’s dale, see 2 Sam. 18 : 18, probably so called from this meeting of Kings. Vs. 18, 20. MELCHIZEDEC—one of the most mysterious personages in sacred history, who worshipped “the Most High God,” was himself a priest of the highest order, Ps. 110 : 4, a type of Christ, Heb. 7 : 1-4, and was also *King of Salem*—of peace, supposed to be Jerusalem. So far as known, he was without predecessor or successor. *Brought bread and wine*, a priestly act, recognized as such by Abram in the giving of tithes—the tenth part of the spoils. The tithing system was probably of very early date though now mentioned for the first time. Vs. 21-24. The usages of war entitled Abram to retain the whole of the spoil but he generously waived his right. He had *lifted up his hand*—sworn. It was customary in taking an oath to raise the right hand in solemn confirmation. *I will not take any thing*—He would not place himself under any obligation to Bera nor associate himself too closely with the Sodomites. As for the young men, and his allies, they should be allowed to judge for themselves. It would not be fair to make them adopt his standard of liberality.

LEARN that they who will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, 1 Tim. 6 : 9, 10. It is a dangerous thing to associate with wicked companions. Remember them which suffer adversity, Heb. 13 : 3. It is our privilege and duty to devote a definite portion of our earnings to religious purposes. Faith in God is sure to be rewarded.

The Covenant with Abram.

AUGUST 22. B. C. 1913. GENESIS XV : 1-18.

AFTER these things. After the signal display of courage and generosity, in last lesson, Abram settled down quietly at Hebron, while foolish Lot returned to Sodom. *The word of the Lord came*—it was revealed to him in a vision—a prophetic message. *Fear not*—the excitement of his military enterprise was succeeded by a season of despondency. The four kings whom he had routed might come back in stronger force and revenge themselves upon him. Most likely he began to reflect on the promise he had received from God, when he left his native land, ch. 12 : 2. How could he, now an old man, and childless, become the father of a great nation! Hope deferred, maketh the heart sick, Prov. 13 : 12. His faith again began to fail. *Thy shield*—I will protect thee. *Thy reward*—he should enjoy the favour and friendship of God, Isa. 41 : 8. James 2 : 23. Vs. 2, 3. *Elicter*—might become his heir, but could become his “son” only by adoption, and how sadly would that have come short of his hopes! Vs. 4-6. The rainbow was made a token of the covenant to Noah, let Abram consider the more enduring stars as his token, Ps. 8 : 3. *He believed in the Lord*—that the Lord was able to fulfil all his promises to him, Mark 9 : 23. Rom. 4 : 20, 22. V. 7. He is reminded that for this end God had brought him out of the land of Ur. V. 8. *Whereby shall I know?*—This was not said from distrust in God, but rather as though he had said,—“I believe, help mine unbelief,” Mark 9 : 24. Vs. 9, 10. The formal observance now enjoined accorded with Eastern customs when an agreement was entered upon. The animals and the fowls named include all the kinds used in sacrifice, see Lev. 1 : 2, 5, 10, 14. The division of the animals refers to the custom of passing between the halves of a divided victim, see Jer. 34 : 18, 19, symbolizing thenceforth their union. V. 12. *A deep sleep*—not of unconsciousness, rather “a divine ecstasy,” ch. 2 : 21. V. 13. *An horror of darkness*—prefigurative of the persecutions and afflictions which should overtake his descendants and delay fulfilment of the promise beyond his own lifetime. 400 years—reckoning from the birth of Isaac until the exodus. Vs. 14-16. Pointed allusion is made to the plagues of Egypt and the deliverance of the Israelites. *The Amorites*—the most powerful of the tribes of Canaan, occupying the country east of the Jordan, see Num. 21 : 21-25. V. 17. *Smoking furnace and a burning lamp*—symbols of the presence of Jehovah, Exo. 3 : 2 and 13 : 21. *Those pieces*—v. 10, probably consuming them and thus visibly ratifying the covenant, on God’s part, which is formally proclaimed in v. 18.

LEARN that they who trust in the Lord have no cause for fear. Ps. 37 : 39, 40. Righteousness shall be imputed to us also if we believe in God, Rom. 4 : 24, 25. God never forgets his promises, thought he sometimes delays their fulfilment. Gal. 3 : 14-18.

Abraham’s Intercession.

AUGUST 29. B. C. 1808. GENESIS XVIII : 16-33.

ABRAM was 99 years of age when God again appeared to him, renewed his covenant with him, changed his name to ABRAHAM, and promised him a son and heir, ch. 17 : 2, 5, 19. He entertains three heavenly messengers, ch. 18 : 2, who repeat the promise to him. V. 16. *Abraham went with them*—with eastern politeness escorted them a little way. V. 17-20. *The Lord said*—Jehovah, himself one of the three visitors, stayed to speak with him. *Shall I hide?* God would now take his “friend” (Isa. 41 : 8) into his confidence, see Exo. 33 : 11, and disclose what he was about to do to Sodom and Gomorrah, as a lesson and warning to his descendants. V. 21. *I will go down*—speaking after the manner of men, and implying that before vengeance was executed, ample proof should be afforded that the judgment was neither rash nor excessive. The Lord is slow to anger, Ps. 103 : 8. V. 22. *The men*—the angels who accompanied Jehovah, ch. 19, 1, *went towards Sodom*—for God had said, “I will know” whether they have filled the measure of iniquity, v. 21. Vs. 23-32. Abraham who had been standing before the Lord, in prayer, now draws near and commences the most remarkable instance of human intercession recorded in the Scriptures, though it does not stand alone, Num. 16 : 22. He repeats his intervention six times. The patience of the Lord is no less remarkable than the perseverance of Abraham. The account of the interview is full of instruction and affords undoubted proof of the efficacy of prayer and intercession, James 5 : 16. Other calamities have been mitigated for the sake of righteous people, Matt. 24 : 32. It is well for us that we have an advocate at the right hand of God. Heb. 7 : 25. Abraham’s is a model intercessory prayer, shewing his great faith, great humility, great charity, great earnestness and boldness. He justly appeals to the equity of the Almighty. Isaiah 3 : 10, 11. Rom. 2 : 2-6. And God’s favour to Abraham appears in this, that he did not leave off granting until Abraham left off asking, see Matt. 7 : 7, 9. Why did he stop at ten? Either he believed there were ten, or, if not so many, he thought the city ought to perish. Perhaps he had some intimations that he should cease interceding, see Jer. 7 : 16. V. 33. *The Lord went his way*—the angel of the covenant. There were not ten “righteous persons” in Sodom, but only one, and he might justly have been left to perish; but the grace of God was manifested in the saving of Lot’s family, for Abraham’s sake. *Abraham returned unto his place*—to Hebron—to observe what the event would be. His prayer was answered though Sodom was not saved.

LEARN from v. 19 the importance of religion in the family, and, from the whole lesson, the duty of earnest, persevering intercessory prayer for others. That, sooner or later, sin will certainly be punished. We cannot expect too little from man, nor too much from God. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, vs. 2-8 and Heb. 13 : 2.

Our own Church.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WE resume our narrative of proceedings of the General Assembly at Montreal.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

PRINCIPAL MACVICAR, Chairman of the Board of French Evangelization read an abstract of the Report, giving a concise view of the year's operations. The total contributions for the ordinary fund exceeded those of last year by \$650, and the Board have been enabled to meet all claims and to make a special grant of \$1,000 to remove the indebtedness on the St. Hyacinthe Church property, while there remains a balance on hand of \$715.91 at the close of the year. For this result the Board acknowledge their heartfelt gratitude to God for having put it into the hearts of His people to provide the means requisite to carry on the work. They are stimulated to take courage and go forward with renewed zeal and enlarged faith and prayerfulness in humble dependence upon the promised aid of God's spirit. To the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, the cordial thanks of the Church are due for a grant of £200 sterling, as well as for the interest manifested by the Mission Board of that Church and especially by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Limerick, its convener, as indicated by the frequent references to our work in the columns of their "Missionary Record." To 139 of the Sabbath-schools of our own Church, including their superintendents and teachers, the Board are greatly indebted for contributions amounting to the sum of \$1,666, and would solicit their continued interest, as also the co-operation of all the other schools of the Church. If each scholar contributed but one cent per month for French evangelization, \$10,000 would be the result next year, a result which can easily be attained if every Sabbath-school superintendent present the claims of the work to his school. Among the receipts of the year are legacies to the amount of \$640, including a bequest of \$500 from the late Mr. Andrew Carswell, of Tecumseh, Ontario, received through the Rev. Dr. Fraser, of Bondhead. The Board hope that many other friends of the mission will remember it in a similar way, and that hereafter a considerable revenue will be obtained from this source.

The sum of \$2,028 was received during the year from individual friends of the work. To every one of these the warmest thanks of the Board are tendered, and especially to those of them who gave time and labour in collecting contributions in their respective

districts. The Board bespeak a continuance of their kind offices. The liabilities of the Board, on account of mortgages on Church properties, at present exceed \$16,500. It is most desirable that this indebtedness should be reduced somewhat every year, so as to admit of the amount now expended on interest being used in the extension of the work.

A careful estimate of the expenditure for the ensuing year shows that at least \$32,500 will be required efficiently to carry on the work together with \$5,500, the cost of the schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles, making a total of \$38,000 required during the next year, falling nearly double the receipts of the year just closed.

At no former period has the work of French Evangelization seemed more hopeful. The power of the priests is evidently on the wane, while there is good reason to believe that many of the better class of them are restless and uneasy under the iron yoke of Rome, and are longing for the day of their deliverance. The people generally are more accessible, the spirit of persecution is fast disappearing, and the missionaries and colporteurs of the Board enjoy, with few exceptions, perfect immunity in carrying on their work. It must not, however, be forgotten that there still remains very much of the land to be possessed. Nearly a million and a quarter of our French-speaking fellow-subjects are yet in spiritual darkness.

THE POINTE-AUX-TREMBLES SCHOOLS.

For some time past negotiations have been going on with the French Canadian Missionary Society, with a view to the transfer of the Mission schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles to the Board. The negotiations are now completed and only await the sanction of the General Assembly. The terms which have been agreed upon by the Society and the Board are substantially as follows:—

The price agreed upon for the buildings, and seven acres of land attached, is \$5,500. This sum will be expended, after meeting all existing liabilities and engagements of the French Canadian Missionary Society, in the support of colporteurs for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and of French religious literature as formerly. On the completion of the sale to the Board of French Evangelization and the consequent withdrawal of the French Canadian Missionary Society from its Mission School work at Pointe-aux-Trembles, the Society has decided to withdraw from all missionary work and to bring its existence to a close so soon as the funds derived from the sale of the property at Pointe-aux-Trembles, together with any other unsolicited contributions meanwhile received, will have been expended; it being further understood that the Society will not solicit contributions

as heretofore, and will at once issue a circular explanatory of the decision come to, and the providential indications of its duty now to withdraw from the field of missionary work among the French Canadians, which it has been honoured of God to occupy for the past forty years with such important results.

The sanction of the Assembly was asked to this purchase, and, further that the Board be empowered to secure the services of the Rev. C. A. Tanner, who is open for engagement, to canvass for a time in America and in Great Britain, with a view to convey information as to the work of the Board, and especially as to these new arrangements, and to raise contributions for the purchase and maintenance of the Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles.

PRINCIPAL MACVICAR said the report was not his own work, but that of the Secretary of the Board, and therefore he was more free to speak upon it. Mr. Warden's services in this and other connections, as had already been remarked in this House, were invaluable. He spoke of the harmony prevailing among the different Boards of the Church. It was now known that the Home Mission Board during the past year was much embarrassed for want of means. It was well known also that the Church responded very heartily and liberally to the appeals for an increase of funds. In connection with these efforts Mr. Warden was indefatigable, and the same might be said of other members of the Board. If the work should seem to be slow, and not to result in the formation of congregations as rapidly as by the Home Mission Committee, that might be taken as a proof of its difficulty and as a test of the faith and the perseverance of the Church. He wished to impress on the members of the Assembly one or two things; first, the great unanimity with which the Church entered upon this work and continues to conduct it. He recollected when he appeared on the floor of the Assembly to propose the work in the form in which it now exists, they had scarcely any difficulty or opposition on that occasion. The city in which the Board has its home contributed largely, including members of the Board itself. There was no rivalry among the Boards of the Church. They were striving to find out not how little but how much they could do for the Church. If the work was not as poetic as the Foreign Mission, it was not less patriotic, calling British people in this Dominion to give the light of truth to those who have it not. When, in 1869, he appeared at the Synod at Ottawa the enthusiasm was unsurpassed. In 1875 the united church entered upon the work, and he recollected with what eloquence on that occasion his friend Dr. Jenkins presented the whole matter. Since then the success appeared marvellous.

At that time they were regarded as very sanguine in looking for \$2,000 income, but this year the income was \$21,456. They had first of all attempted to give the ordinances of the Church to those of their own people extended over the Province of Quebec, who but for this would be destitute of the Gospel. There were some Scottish Presbyterian families that had become devout Roman Catholics through the neglect of the Church. Then they had worked by means of education by planting schools wherever they could get enough children to form classes, and by colportage. He warmly advocated the purchase of the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools. The work there had always been undenominational and catholic in its character, being supported by Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists—very largely, however, by Presbyterians. In this connection it was proper to mention the name of their honoured elder, Mr. Court, to whom the whole province owed a debt of gratitude. Dr. Wilkes, of the Congregational Church, had also done much to promote the work. It appeared to him that we had reached a stage when it was unnecessary to offer arguments, either religious or patriotic, in defence of the work. If they were to take the Master's test, "By their fruits ye shall know them," the mission was thoroughly established; it was a work needing courage, needing earnest toil and incessant prayer. He knew there were those, even preachers, who thought that any creed which found acceptance with a large number of the human family was worthy of acceptance. He was not one of those. He believed error was error and deserved no softer name. He believed truth was truth, liberty was liberty, and that those who had not the truth of God had not the liberty with which Christ had made His people free. He believed they should not relax their efforts but increase them, until this great country from the Atlantic to the Pacific should become Emmanuel's land. He moved that the report be received, and its recommendations adopted.

DR. WATERS seconded the motion. He remembered five years ago, at the union of the churches, the French work was considered. When the scheme was launched, he felt no anxiety as to its success; he knew it would, of necessity, entail expense on the Church, far more than they were in the habit of expending on the mission work. He also felt that it was necessary to discharge their duty to the French people. In looking back over the past five years, he had not been disappointed as to the results. He thought they had been on the whole satisfactory. Almost all Frenchmen were enthusiasts, but discounting the flowers of Rhetoric they still had left a large amount of efficient work done

in the French mission field by their own Church. On the whole the money expended on the French mission work had not been thrown away. It was a work of vast importance; first of all to the persons to whom they sent their missionaries, who although called by the Christian name did not know the truth as we understand it from the ministrations of their own church and preachers. He had no desire to say hard things about that church, but he believed the truths held by it were so embedded in error that it was almost impossible for the people to become acquainted with the saving truths of the gospel. They were sending their missionaries and colporteurs among them in order that souls might be saved. Another reason they had taken it up was because they owed a duty to their country; for political reasons it was right that people should be taught to think for themselves.

Mr. WARREN answered some questions respecting the nature of Mr. Stevenson's agency in Britain, and the amount of funds collected by him. After further remarks by Mr. McCurdy, Mr. King, Mr. Robert Campbell, Dr. Cochrane, Principal Caven and Mr. John McMillan the proposed deliverance was agreed to.

At this stage of the proceedings Principal MacVicar introduced the Rev. CHARLES CHINIQUE, recently returned from Australia, and moved that he be heard.

FATHER CHINIQUE

Received a very cordial welcome from the Assembly and thanked the members sincerely for their kind encouragement. A great work had been done in his dear country, and he had been charged with exaggeration. Those who did not know the work, and had not seen it, could not tell of it. He had himself been sometimes tempted to think the same thought, but he was certain that he had been mistaken. He pointed out in answer to the question "Where are the converts?" to the fact that when Canadians came into the Protestant Church they had to leave the country. A few days after leaving the Roman Catholic Church the convert was to be seen looking for work. But he was known as an apostate, and found the door to earn his bread shut in his face. Because this was the case he had been told that they had exaggerated the work. He had met converts in all parts of the United States, and even in Auckland and Australia he had met some of them. He had had five hundred letters from France, showing that there had been work done by the converts made here, and who had gone back to France. It was not all due to the work here, perhaps, but much of it was. This was not the work of Chiniquy.

It was the work of God. He found Australia in the hands of Rome and pursuing the policy of peace. He had raised the cry of war with Rome, and they had a war—a Scotch war, an English war, but it was a war, and thank God he had succeeded. The Roman Catholics had been beaten. They had sought his life, but thank God, he had been saved.

He then described the scene of trouble at Balarat, and an assault made upon him by a fine-looking lady who when brought before him he had sent back to Rome. He saw the necessity for Protestants to be true to their teaching of the Gospel and showed it to be the duty of these Protestants to go into the battle, to give assistance to the converts. He knew very well that there were men in Illinois who were disgusted at, and in France some five hundred men who had given up, the errors of Rome. But when they had done that they were not saved nor converted. They were simply outcasts, and had to bear the curse of Rome. They even got the cold shoulder from Protestants and his own experience was the same. He had been trampled under foot by Protestants in the United States, and it was a public fact that had it not been for Dr. MacVicar and Principal Caven, who were sent to save him, he would have been destroyed. When he first came out of the church he was not unlike other people. He had his crooked ways, as some other men in his presence, perhaps, had crooked ways. Every glass was turned toward "that Chiniquy," and he was overwhelmed. Every priest had not the brazen face of Chiniquy, and could not pass through the same ordeal he had. Even good Protestant men in Montreal had insulted him and maligning his work. He had been blamed for bringing only beggars to Protestantism. Well, the dear Saviour, had commenced His work in the same way. He instanced that Saul was not always a great apostle, and had been a persecutor of Christians. When called by the Saviour, he had asked, "What must I do to be saved?" That was the great question. Well, Christ did not answer as the Protestants did converted priests by saying "Do what you can." No; God said, "I have prepared a home for you safe from the Jews who would stone you." Just as Roman Catholics would do to converts here if they could. God found a home for Paul, and his hearers knew the rest. He said that God was asking the same question of the priests that He had done of Paul: "Why do you persecute me?" Let them make a home for these converted priests, and they would soon find it too small for them. The world was waiting for conversion. Rome must be destroyed—not by persecution but by persuasion—and the priests were the power to do it. He concluded by hoping that his views

would have some weight in bringing about the object he had spoken of.

PRINCIPAL MACVICAR stated that already some provision had been made in the direction of a home for converted priests. The Assembly was evidently and very deeply interested in the subject of the evening, and the proceedings were harmonious and enthusiastic. There never was a more hopeful prospect before the French Evangelization Board.

ANENT STUDENTS.

A brief discussion arose in connection with an overture from Kingston respecting the employment of students. It was found that the rules in the Blue-Book covered the point referred to.

FIFTEENTH SEDERUNT, JUNE 16th.

In the morning, after devotional exercises, Mr. P. McLEOD, of Stratford, read the report of the committee on the appointment of standing committees, recommending that a small committee be appointed by the Assembly to consider the question with a view to conferring with presbyteries and reporting to the next General Assembly a scheme for the equitable appointment of the committees.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Dr. MCGREGOR moved, and Mr. Sinclair seconded:—

"That the General Assembly record with profound gratitude to God the progress of our mission in the New Hebrides and in Trinidad during the year past, noticing more especially in the New Hebrides the publication of the entire Bible in the language of the Aneiteumese at their own expense, and of the Acts of the Apostles in the language of the Erromangos and of the Fatese; and in Trinidad the increase of the schools, the opening of a new field for a fourth missionary, the praiseworthy liberality of the Proprietors, and the gratifying development of self-support among the Coolie converts. The General Assembly accepts the following recommendations:

1. Approved of the having of a native ministry in Trinidad; sanction the syllabus prepared by the Presbytery of Trinidad, and authorize the Presbytery to proceed to license and ordain if they are satisfied with the qualifications of the candidates.

2. Authorize the sending of a fourth missionary to Trinidad so soon as the finances of the Eastern section will, in the judgment of the Eastern Committee, warrant that step, and express the hope that our people in the Lower Provinces, hitherto so liberal in support of foreign missions, will remove the existing hindrance without delay.

3. Approve of the raising of the salaries of our missionaries in the New Hebrides from £150 to £175 with £10 for each child as formerly.

The recommendations were adopted.

REMOVAL OF DEBT.

PROFESSOR McLAREN moved a recommendation in connection with the Foreign Mission Report (Western Section) that "The General Assembly call upon congregations to make a special effort to double their contributions to Foreign Missions for the present year, and enjoin upon the Presbyteries to use all due diligence to secure this end. Agreed to.

A COMMISSION

was appointed to settle certain difficulties with regard to Knox Church, Perth.

SUPPORT OF COLLEGES.

Dr. REID read the report of the Committee on the Support of Theological Colleges in the Western Section, which consisted mainly of the following minutes: The Committee, believing that the financial support of theological education will not rest upon an adequate foundation until the several colleges have been endowed, would represent to the General Assembly the necessity of undertaking a general endowment of these colleges at the earliest period possible, and, in the meantime, of using measures to develop and strengthen throughout the Church the sentiment in favour of such a motion. Second. The Committee having had before it the present income and expenditure of the Theological College Fund:—1. That on the basis of the present staff and not considering the debt now on the fund of each College, the following sums are annually required from 1880 for their maintenance respectively: Knox College, \$7,650; Queen's Theological Faculty, \$3,400; Montreal Presbyterian College, \$3,250, with the addition of \$2,500 required by Montreal College three years hence when the period for which the special subscription now pledged for one of the chairs shall have terminated. 2. That the question having come up as to whether these amounts should be raised, as at present, or on the basis of a common fund, it is expedient to have the opinions of the Boards of these institutions, and therefore the Committee decides to meet again prior to the General Assembly, when the members shall be in a better position to arrive at a conclusion on this point." The Boards of Montreal and Knox Colleges were of opinion that a common fund was not practicable. The Board of Queen's University thought a common fund desirable.

The Committee agreed that in view of the opinions thus expressed by the College Boards the principle hitherto adopted of

supporting the Colleges by division of territory must be continued for some time longer, and that the present division of territory be also continued.

The report was approved and adopted.

HOME MISSIONS : EASTERN SECTION.

Dr. WATERS presented the Report of the Home Mission, Eastern Section. Fifty-seven agents were employed as against fifty-one during the preceding year. Fourteen were ordained ministers, ten were licentiates, thirty were students preparing for the ministry, and three were men of piety and zeal recommended and asked for by Presbyteries on account of special aptitude for the work. The average of the time given by the students is about five months, but as two of the catechists were employed during the whole year, the average of the non-licentiates is thus raised to about six months.

For several years our vacant charges have been about twenty-five, for the supply of which thirteen preachers were reported in 1878, nineteen in 1879, but this year twenty-four have been employed, though not more than fifteen at any one season of the year.

For the first time for many years the ministerial force at the Committee's disposal was more than adequate to meet all demands of Presbyteries and congregations. Many vacant charges sought only half supply, some from the want of funds and others because they acted on the Assembly's permission to provide for themselves, so that probationers had not constant employment; and the Committee had to decline offers of home missionaries from a distance.

Of the twenty-six charges reported vacant last year, fourteen now have settled pastors, and twelve remain as they were, and as other ten became vacant since, the present number is twenty-four. During the year past congregations of size and ability to command the services of a preacher without interruption, have, from a mistaken economy, or in waiting till some paltry debt due to a former incumbent should be discharged, deprived themselves of the preaching of the Gospel for one, two, or three months at a time. If this course is continued, such congregations will become demoralized, the young lost to the Church and to society, and men who have prepared themselves for the pulpit be driven to other lands where their services will be wanted. The Committee ask the hearty co-operation of the Presbyteries in impressing the vacant congregations with the fact that the Gospel and the public ordinances of religion are incalculably more valuable to churches, communities, and families than the money expended in the payment

of the preacher. The Committee record their conviction that the same desire to have cheap services has led, in some cases, to the employment of catechists instead of probationers, to the injury of congregations, and of our licensed and ordained preachers, who find themselves unemployed while their places are occupied by young men who have scarcely commenced the study of theology.

SPECIAL FIELDS.

Besides ordinary congregations, whose condition set forth in the statistical and financial tables of the General Assembly, there are four special fields respecting which some additional statements are called for. Two of these are in Newfoundland, one in New Brunswick, and one in Nova Scotia.

BEDFORD, WAVERLEY, AND FALL RIVER.

are about six miles apart, and ten and twelve miles from Halifax. Our adherents too few to form a regular charge, and supply by catechists, tried for years, having failed of success, Rev. G. Christie, by request of people and Presbytery, took charge just two years ago. Then the average attendance at Bedford was only twenty; now sixty. Waverley and Fall River have improved attendance, weekly prayer meetings and Sabbath-schools are prospering. A communion roll of 68 at the three stations has been formed.

The next special field is New Kincardine, in New Brunswick, a new settlement of Scotch people who have yet to learn to contribute liberally for the support of ordinances. The Presbytery of St. John has charge of this interesting field.

The third special field is Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, where Mr. Creelman has laboured most usefully for some years. Both lumbering and fishing interests there have of late been greatly depressed and fears are entertained that Mr. Creelman will be constrained to give up the field. The fourth special field is Bett's Cove and Little Bay, Newfoundland, which presents a most interesting sphere for Home Missionary operations. The copper mines of Bett's Cove and Little Bay have attracted a large population, who have been ministered to mainly by the missionaries of our Church, Mr. Gunn who laboured in this field most usefully has been succeeded by Mr. Whittier.

Student missionaries and catechists have occupied 22 mission fields, 114 stations, with an average attendance on the Lord's Day of 10,782. Communicants, 1738; families, 2,340; families visited, 2,475. Amount paid by stations, \$3,232, by H. M. Committee, \$1,363. These figures do not include the four special fields.

IN ST. JOHN PRESBYTERY

More than in any other in the Maritime Provinces the mission fields are weak through division, not the division of Presbyterians among themselves, but through the existence of three or four denominations in every little village and settlement, no one being able to support a resident pastor. At Boiestown, at Baillie, at St. George's, in the Littleton district in the west, as well as Londonderry, and in the Hopewell district farther east, the same great hindrance comes out in every report. Still we gather that the Presbyterian cause, too long neglected, gains, and that the efforts of the Presbytery and its agents are not put forth in vain.

With regard to FINANCES the Committee say:—

In the matter of finance our report will compare favorably with last year. That closed with a debt of \$1,307.04, and as that year was commenced with a balance on hand of \$170.76, we really went behind to the sum of \$1,477.80. During the year now closing we have paid off over \$1000 of debt. Two sums of £60 and £50 stg., received from the Colonial Committee of the Free Church, for the benefit of Mr. E. Gillies, and of New Kincardine, have been passed over to their respective objects. Besides this, £100 stg. of the Free Church grant of £200 stg. came into our funds, but only to be paid out for the support of Manitoba College, so that our own funds have carried on our own ordinary Home Mission work. The state of the funds may be thus given:—

Debt at the commencement of the year.....	\$1,307 04
Expenditure to May 1, 1880...	4,679 41
	\$5,986 45
Receipts.....	3,487 14
Balance due Treasurer.....	\$499 31

Receipts above expenditure, and consequently debt reduced to the extent of \$807.73.

The Committee would record their sense of deep obligation to the parent Churches, to the Colonial Committees of the Established and Free Churches of Scotland, and to the Presbyterian Church, Ireland; and though the greater part of their generous gifts have been passed over to the supplementing department of our work, the Committee feels none the less the value of such aid during a long night of commercial depression.

We would also be thankful to God for the progress and prosperity of the year closing. On many grounds, as it appears to this Committee, our people should feel constrained to prosecute this work. On the ground of patriotism and political economy, on the ground of kinship to those who need our help, on the

ground of fidelity and loyalty to our own branch of the Church, but more especially on the ground of love to our Divine Master and zeal for his kingdom and glory, we should push forward the great work. The extension of the Church at home is the readiest, the nearest way for the advancement of Christ's kingdom: and we cannot, as a Church, abate our efforts in this department without bringing on ourselves dishonour and loss.

SUPPLEMENTING FUND.

For the last three years the expenditure exceeded the receipts, so that, notwithstanding special appeals, and in some cases, double contributions, the year closed with a balance of \$1,084.28 against the fund. The instructions of the Assembly, in reference to the half yearly payment coming due on July 1st, were, that a temporary loan might be made, so that half the amount should be paid at once, but that nothing more should be paid till such temporary loan should be refunded, and means furnished by congregations to meet the claim in full, it being understood, however, that the old loan of \$1,084.28 should remain during the current year undischarged.

The Committee report that these instructions have been faithfully carried out.

Of the payments coming due January 1st, 1880, one-half was remitted about the middle of January, and the other in the month of February, so that the ministers on the fund, while experiencing the inconvenience of delay and the painfulness of uncertainty, have enjoyed in common with others the pleasure of seeing on the part of many of our people a hearty determination that they should sustain no real loss.

For the year past forty-five congregations were on the list, about one-fourth of which had no pastor, and these drew nothing, so that the actual recipients of the benefit were thirty-nine. Some of these being for a month or two only, the number for the year may be set down at *thirty-six*, but that means that about every fourth congregation is supplemented and that three out of every four have to provide about forty dollars each for the fourth, a state of things most unfavourable for further enlargement of the number.

The payments have been:—

For 11 Cong. in Pres of St. John.....	\$1,358 41
“ 3 “ “ Miramichi.....	550 00
“ 3 “ “ P. E. Island....	330 00
“ 2 “ “ Victoria & Rich'd	180 00
“ 2 “ “ Sydney.....	337 50
“ 4 “ “ Trarou.....	316 66
“ 2 “ “ Wallace.....	250 00
“ 6 “ “ Halifax.....	719 00
“ 4 “ “ Lunenburg.....	348 94
“ 1 “ “ Pictou.....	150 00

Total.....\$4,540 51

To this must be added—

Interest.....	\$80 25
Miscellaneous	60 89
Proportion of Agent's salary.....	250 00
	391 14

Total expenditure. \$4,931 65

RECEIPTS.

From Col. Com. of Church of Scotland..	\$837 06
“ Col. Com. of Free Church of Scotland	486 67
“ Presbyterian Church of Ireland...	243 33
“ Donations, etc., from our own people	366 51
“ Benefit from the Record Com.....	250 00
“ 117 Congregations.....	2815 03

\$4,998 60

Balance to credit on the year . . . \$66 95

Balance against the Fund, May 1st, 1879 \$1084 28

“ “ “ “ 1880 1017 33

During the year fewer congregations have contributed to the Fund than in the year preceding, but the sum received from them has been greater by \$286.79.

The credit of the increase belongs to the Presbyteries of Truro, Prince Edward Island, Miramichi, Newfoundland, Victoria and Richmond, and Halifax, all the other Presbyteries having given less than during the year preceding. In Truro Presbytery every congregation has given, and all, including the supplemented charges, have given liberally. The Committee deeply regret that, in the present condition of the Fund, with revenues from without likely to be, at least partially, withdrawn, that the congregations contributing should be reduced instead of increased; for it renders the reduction of the grants inevitable. *Between forty and fifty congregations have given nothing.*

When the Committee met at Truro on the 23rd December, to make arrangements for the future, they found themselves confronted with the following facts. First, that there was a debt against the fund of \$1,084.28; secondly, that for the present year, it would be scarcely possible to make any reduction in that debt; thirdly, that they had notice of withdrawal of aid by the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland; and, fourthly, that the General Assembly required them to bring their expenditure within their income.

In these circumstances, reduction of grants was simply unavoidable; and the main question before the Committee was this—By what principle shall this reduction be regulated? The Committee thankfully acknowledge the liberality and great kindness of the parent Churches, whose donations have already been named. They have also to acknowledge receipt of \$250 from the Committee of Management of the *Record*, through Mr. Croil, but for which the expenditure

would have exceeded the income by the sum of \$183.05. It is therefore, only by aid from without that our balance of debt has been reduced from \$1,084.28 to \$1,017.33, so that the fund is not by any means in a satisfactory condition. In less than two months the first semi-annual payment for 1880 will be due, and when the time comes the treasurer will not be in funds. Unless authorized by the General Assembly to make a temporary loan, as they did last year, to be repaid within the year, they have no course open but to pay *pro rata*. The Committee have, therefore, to ask the General Assembly for instructions, as they can recommend no further reduction for the present year. In any case, they must earnestly ask for early collections, alike from the congregations which ignored this fund last year, and from those who did support it. In prospect of the withdrawal of a portion of the aid hitherto enjoyed from Britain, our engagements cannot be met, unless the principle which underlies every sustentation and supplementary fund, be fully recognized and acted out: that we are all brethren; that the Church is one, though having many members; and that a primary duty of the stronger members is to shew sympathy with the weaker in their difficulties, and to help them in their struggles for congregational existence and progress. Equally is it the duty of the smaller and weaker members to *help themselves*, to the full extent of their ability, developing the principle of self-support, and by persevering efforts pushing their way up to independence. Were such results to shew themselves to any considerable extent, they would greatly encourage the Committee, and give the fund a new and most telling claim on the support of the whole Church.

Dr. WATERS stated that the total debt on the supplemental and Home Mission funds this year was reduced to \$1,516, and he believed that there would be not a dollar of debt next year. He had every confidence that if pastors laid the schemes of the Church faithfully before their people there would be no lack of money in the Lord's treasury. He had that much confidence in the people. He complimented the Rev. Dr. McGregor, the secretary of both the Supplemental and Home Mission funds, upon the efficient and thorough work he had done, which was the same as was usually performed by Conveners of the Western Section.

Mr. SEDGEWICK said that it was a matter of great congratulation to the Church that the reduction of the Supplemental Fund had not been very large. He was proud to say that since the commencement of the scheme, fifteen years ago, they had paid every dollar of their indebtedness. He saw also an increasing desire of the stronger to help the

weaker congregations. Mr. King, of the Western Section Home Mission, had hoped that the Maritime Provinces people would sympathize a little more strongly with the work in the North-West. He showed that they had contributed in the Maritime Provinces, since the Union, some \$37,229 for mission work, and he felt that it was a privilege to do so. They would, of course, do better in the future.

Mr. SEDGEWICK'S motion is as follows:—"That the Assembly adopt the report, and in doing so would gratefully acknowledge the Divine goodness as shown by the reports submitted in the work done during the past year in the Maritime Provinces. The Assembly notices with approval the continuance of the missionary effort in new fields in Newfoundland and in New Brunswick, in Little Bay, and in New Kincardine, and would again gratefully record the liberality of the Established and Free Churches of Scotland and of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, by whose kind assistance the work of augmenting the salaries of ministers in many weak charges has been accomplished, general Home Mission work aided, and debt reduced from \$2,391 to \$1516; that the General Assembly notices with approval the resolution of the Committee on Supplements in the disbursement of the funds entrusted to them to be guided by the rules contained in the Assembly's minutes, and commends the whole work to the prayerful support of all the congregations in the Maritime Provinces."

Mr. HOUSTON, Bathurst seconded the motion.

Passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following are the Standing Committees. Their appointment occupied a considerable portion of two seditments:

I. KNOX COLLEGE.

1. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—Mr. W. M. Clark, Chairman; Principal Caven, Prof. McLaren, Prof. Gregg; Dr. Proudfoot, Dr. Ure. J. B. Edmundson, H. Gracey, F. R. Beattie, J. Little (Bowmanville), J. Hastie, J. Smith (Toronto), J. Leiper, J. Mordy, J. McMillan (Mount Forest), J. Davidson, D. H. Fletcher, W. T. McMullen, S. R. Battisby, J. W. Mitchell, Arch. McLean, J. L. Murray, J. Straith, J. Thomson (Sarnia), J. M. King, Messrs. C. McDougall, L. G. McCaughey, W. T. Root, J. Fairbairn, W. Alexander, T. W. Taylor, J. Harvie, A. McMurphy, J. McLennan (Q. C.), W. Wilson (Toronto).

2. SENATE.—Principal Caven, Chairman; the Professors and Lecturers in the College, H. M. Purcell, D. J. McDonnell, J. A. Murray, J. M. King, G. Milligan, Messrs. Thos. Kirkland, W. B. McMurrich.

3. BOARD OF EXAMINERS.—Mr. J. Laing, Chairman; the Senate, Messrs. R. Torrance, G. Bruce, H. H. McPherson, E. D. McLaren, J. Carmichael (King), J. Gray (Orillia).

II. PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

1. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—Mr. D. Morrice, Chairman; Principal MacVicar, Professor Campbell, Dr. Mathews, A. F. Tully, F. M. Dewey, C. E. Amaron, J. Scrimger, R. Campbell, A. B. Mackay, R. H. Warden, P. Wright, J. B. Muir, W. R. Cruikshank, D. L. McCrae, J. McCaul, J. Ferguson, W. Armstrong, J. Munro, G. Burnfield, W. J. Dey, Judge Torrance, Principal Dawson, Messrs. Joseph Mackay, S. J. Stirling, J. M. Smith, Alexander McPherson, J. Croil, G. S. Spence, W. D. McLaren, P. Redpath, Warden King, W. Yuile, A. C. Hutchison, W. Darling, Jr.

2. SENATE.—Principal MacVicar, Chairman; the Professors and Lecturers in the College, Dr. Jenkins, Professor Weir, J. S. Black, A. B. Mackay, Justice Torrance, Principal Dawson, Professor Murray.

III. PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, HALIFAX.

1. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—Dr. Burns, Chairman; Dr. McGregor, Secretary; Principal McKnight, Dr. Pollok, Professor Currie, Dr. McCulloch, Dr. Bennet, Dr. Waters, Principal Ross, Messrs. C. B. Pitblado, J. Forrest, D. McRae, A. Simpson, S. Houston, A. McL. Sinclair, John McMillan (Truro), L. G. McNeil, K. MacLennan, T. Sedgewick, T. Duncan, A. J. Mowat, E. Scott, J. C. Herdman, E. D. Millar, the Hon. R. P. Grant, Judge James, W. J. Stairs, J. J. Bremner, J. K. Blair, R. Cruikshank, R. Murray, Howard Primrose, J. McMillan (Antigonish).

2. SENATE.—Principal McKnight, Chairman; the Professors, Principal Ross, Dr. Burns, Messrs. P. M. Morrison, J. Forest, A. B. Dickie, R. Laing, R. Murray.

3. BOARD OF EXAMINERS.—Mr. R. Laing, Chairman; Principal Ross, Dr. Lyall, Prof. McDonald, Messrs. P. M. Morison and A. B. Simpson.

IV. QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.

BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.—Prof. Williamson, Chairman; Professor Ferguson, Messrs. T. G. Smith, H. Gracy, F. McCuaig, O. M. MacDonald.

V. MANITOBA COLLEGE.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—The Hon. A. G. Bannatyne, Chairman; Prof. Bryce, Prof. Hart, Dr. Black, Messrs. Allan Bell, James Robertson, Alexander Campbell, John Scott; the Hon. G. McMicken, Messrs. D. McArthur, D. U. Campbell, P. R. Ycung, William Fraser, John Sutherland, A. W. Ross.

VI. HOME MISSIONS.

1. WESTERN SECTION.—Dr. Cochrane, Convener: Messrs. A. F. Tully, R. H. Warden, D. H. MacLennan, F. W. Farries, R. Campbell (Renfrew) George Burnfield, T. G. Smith, J. Cleland, A. A. Drummond, E. Cockburn, J. M. King, R. Moodie, J. Somerville, J. Campbell, (Harrington), A. Stewart (Clinton), R. Torrance, G. Bruce, George Cuthbertson, W. Walker, R. Hamilton, D. Cameron, A. Tolmie, D. J. MacDonnell, J. Laing, J. Robertson, Messrs. T. Gordon, T. McCrae, T. W. Taylor, Stevenson.

2. EASTERN SECTION.—Dr. Waters and Mr. C. B. Pitblado, Joint Conveners: Dr. McGregor, Messrs. J. McMillan, S. Houston, J. Forrest, J. C. Burgess, R. Laing, S. C. Gunn, E. Scott, E. Grant, Messrs. J. Barnes, Chas. Robson, J. K. Blair, and J. K. Munnis.

VII. SUPPLEMENTS.

Mr. Thos. Sedgewick, Convener; Mr. Jas. Sinclair, Dr. McGregor, Dr. Waters, Dr. Burns, Messrs. C. B. Pitblado, A. Burrows, J. H. Chase, John McMillan, Jas. McLean, E. A. McCurdy, J. M. McLeod, J. A. F. McBain, Jos. Hogg, E. Scott, Messrs. Harvey Graham, W. Y. Loughead, Geo. McLean and A. F. Thomson.

VIII. DISTRIBUTION OF PROBATIONERS.

Mr. R. Torrance, Convener: Dr. Wardrope, J. C. Smith, D. Tait, J. B. Mullan, H. H. McPherson, T. McCrae.

IX. FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1. WESTERN SECTION.—Professor McLaren, Convener: Messrs. J. Gallagher, T. Lowry, John Smith, M. W. McLean, J. Ballantine, Dr. Moore, J. S. Black, A. D. MacDonald, D. D. McLeod, R. Campbell (Montreal), A. H. Scott, J. Scott, W. Burns, J. A. Murray, T. G. Smith, Messrs. J. B. Fairbairn, W. B. McMurrich, A. McPherson, Dr. Macdonald, A. Macalister, J. Y. Reid, A. L. Davidson, Hon. A. Morris, R. D. Fraser.

2. EASTERN DIVISION.—Mr. Alex. MacLean (Hopewell), Convener; Dr. McGregor, Dr. McCulloch, Dr. Jardine, Messrs. A. McL. Sinclair, Geo. Walker, Thos. Duncan, T. Sedgewick, W. Stuart, E. A. McCurdy, John McKinnon, W. Donald; Messrs. John Miller, Harvey Graham, Dr. Murray.

X. FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

Principal MacVicar, Chairman; Mr. R. H. Warden, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Bain, Dr. Moore, Prof. Campbell, Messrs. P. Goodfellow, R. Campbell (Montreal), J. A. Carmichael, Dr. Wardrope, S. Lyle, P. Wright, J. M. King, J. Scrimger, J. Fleck, J. S. Black, A. B. Mackay, A. B. Cruchet, Thomas Cumming, W. R. Cruikshank, P. S. Livingston, J. L. Murray, J. M. Aull, C. A. Doudiet, James Patterson,

J. Nichols, T. G. Johnstone, J. McCaul, W. T. Bruce, J. Sieveright, R. Cameron, M. Mackenzie, J. C. Burgess, M. Mackay, D. Morrice, Warden King, J. Durie, Joseph Mackay, J. Stirling, J. Croil, A. S. Ewing, A. C. Hutchison, D. Yuile, Robert Anderson, J. G. Ross, Jas. Walker (Hamilton), W. Adamson Alex. Macpherson, G. Underwood, J. F. Blanchard, Alex. Jardine, R. McQueen, David Mitchell (Belleville), Joseph Hogg, of Moncton, A. F. Carr (Alberton).

The members residing in Montreal to form an Executive Committee.

XI. MISSION TO THE LUMBERMEN.

Mr. D. M. Gordon, Convener; Dr. Bain; Dr. Moore; Messrs. S. Mylne, J. B. Edmundson, W. Armstrong, W. D. Ballantyne, Walter Ross (Beckwith), J. Bennet, James Fraser, (Chatham, Que), Hon. G. Bryson, Messrs. A. Drummond, George Hay, John McMillan (Ottawa), S. S. M. Hunter.

XII. ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Mr. T. Duncan, Convener; Principal McKnight, Dr. Black, Dr. James, Messrs. R. Campbell (Montreal), J. W. Mitchell, E. A. McCurdy, W. M. Roger, J. Kirkpatrick, W. Burns, D. D. McLeod, D. B. Whimster, John Scott (North Bruce), E. Smith, Jos. Hogg, J. A. F. McBain, J. S. McLean, Walter McKenzie, James Patterson (Hemmingford), J. M. McLeod, B. L. Mackenzie, F. McCurrie.

XIII. SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

Mr. John McEwen, Convener; Dr. Bell, Messrs. M. Fraser, R. J. Laidlaw, J. M. Cameron, T. F. Fotheringham, J. Carmichael, (Markham), G. Burnfield, A. Campbell (Manitoba), J. Hastie, J. B. Edmundson, J. B. Mullan, E. S. Bayne, J. C. Herdman, M. G. Henry, W. Donald, J. Murray (Sydney), D. D. Wilson, Thomas Muir, N. W. Hossie (Brantford), John Fraser, W. Laird, G. C. Robb, A. Mathieson, T. Kirkland, D. Fotheringham, J. Croil, G. M. McLaren.

XIV. SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Messrs. W. T. McMullin, and Dr. McCulloch, Joint Conveners; Dr. McLeod, Dr. Jardine, Dr. MacIise, Messrs. A. Wilson, P. Wright, F. M. Dewar, R. Wallace, J. R. Batisby, R. N. Grant, P. McDermid, J. Sieveright, P. McF. McLeod, D. Camelon, A. Russell, H. McKellar, Hon. S. Creelman, R. Murray, Dr. Christie, A. Bartlett, D. McArthur (Winnipeg), Robert Laird, A. Gilray, Toronto.

XV. THE PRESBYTERIAN RECORD.

Dr. Jenkins, Convener; Messrs. D. Ross (Lachine), J. Scrimger, J. S. Black, J. McCaul, and the Editors.

XVI. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

1. OF THE LATE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Messrs. W. Alexander, and T. W. Taylor, Joint Conveners; Dr. Reid, J. Leiper, J. Carmichael (King), A. Stevenson, F. W. Farries, J. K. Smith, J. Anderson (Paris), A. Gilray, James Brown, J. K. McDonald, J. Osborne, W. Gordon, G. S. Spence, J. Bethune, J. McL. Stevenson.

2. LATE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LOWER PROVINCES.—Mr. D. B. Blair, Convener; Dr. Paterson, Dr. McLeod, Dr. McCulloch, Dr. Bennett; Messrs. W. Maxwell, T. Sedgewick, A. L. Wyllie, J. McKinnon, E. A. McCurdy, Jas. McLean, Kenneth McKenzie, Messrs. Donald McNeil, H. Primrose, J. S. McLean, J. D. McGregor, Geo. Murray, M. D., G. McLean.

3. OF THE LATE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—Mr. J. J. Bremner, Convener; G. Mitchell, Dr. Pollok, Messrs. Alex. McLean, R. Laing, J. M. Sutherland, Géo. McLean, J. R. Nicholson, J. S. MacDonald.

XVII. AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

1. WESTERN SECTION.—Mr. J. Middlemiss, Convener; R. Leask, A. McQuarrie, M. Fraser, Peter Scott, M. McGillivray, F. McCuaig, Rev. A. Mitchell, J. C. Smith, Dr. Reid, A. D. McDonald, J. Thomson (Sarnia); Messrs. A. D. Ferrier, T. McCrae, W. T. Root, J. Barr, J. Fairbairn, A. McAlister, John Hock.

2. EASTERN SECTION.—Mr. A. McL. Sinclair, Convener; Principal McKnight, Dr. Paterson, H. B. McKay, J. H. Chase, R. Cummings, P. Goodfellow, D. McMillan, Jos. Hogg, E. S. Bayne, T. G. Johnstone, Messrs. J. F. Avery, G. Underwood, J. D. McGregor, Dr. J. N. McLean, J. Fraser.

XVIII. FINANCE.

1. TORONTO SECTION.—Hon. J. McMurrich, Convener, Dr. Reid, J. L. Blaikie, C. Davidson, W. Adamson, J. Brown, J. McLennan, A. Jardine, W. Alexander.

2. MONTREAL SECTION.—Mr. R. H. Warden, Convener; R. Campbell, D. Morrice, J. Stirling, A. McPherson.

3. HALIFAX SECTION.—Mr. J. S. McLean, Convener; Messrs. J. J. Bremner, J. W. Carmichael, Isaac S. Murray.

XIX. STATISTICS.

Mr. R. Torrance, Convener; Principal McKnight, Messrs. S. Houston, Donald Fraser, G. Chrystal, J. Little (Princeton), J. Gray (Orillia), A. D. Fordyce, G. Bruce, J. Creasor, J. F. Brown, jr.

XX. ON THE PROTECTION OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

Mr. Jas McLennan, Convener; Dr. Bell, Dr. Reid, Dr. Kemp, T. G. Smith, T. McPher-

son, the Hon. Alex. Morris, D. B. McLennan, W. M. Clark, T. G. McCaughey, J. F. Bain (Winnipeg), J. L. Morris.

SIXTEENTH SEDERUNT, JUNE 16.

LADIES' COLLEGES.

Part of the afternoon session was devoted to hearing the reports of the Ladies' Colleges which are connected with the Assembly. Dr. Cochrane spoke on behalf of the

BRANTFORD LADIES' COLLEGE,

(Giving a most encouraging account of work done, and of continued prosperity. The following deliverance was adopted by the Assembly:

Receive and adopt the report. Further, the General Assembly desires to express its satisfaction at the continued prosperity of the College, and the efforts of the directors and faculty to raise the standard of education to the highest degree of efficiency. The Assembly is pleased to find that the College is taking advantage of the University local examinations for women, and commend it cordially to the constituency of our Church as an institution providing at once a Christian home and thorough training for the daughters of our Church. In the terms of the application made in the report the Assembly nominates the following shareholders as Directors for the ensuing year, namely, Messrs. Alex. Robertson, Wm. Watt, Thomas McLean, C. B. Heyd, John Sutherland, Robert Russell, James Ker, Dr. Wm. Nichol and Dr. Cochrane.

Dr. Moore presented the Report of the

OTTAWA LADIES' COLLEGE,

And spoke of the excellent work which had been done, and the importance of duly supporting such institutions. The College had 30 boarders and 75 day pupils last year. Professor MacLaren in moving a resolution, thought that the Assembly had reason to be congratulated upon having had two such reports read as those of the Brantford and Ottawa Ladies' College. He had been acquainted a long time with the College, and was of opinion that it had never been in such a state of high efficiency as it was at the present moment. It was of the highest importance to have such institutions in Canada, where many Protestant families were in the habit of sending their daughters to the Roman Catholic colleges.

Mr. BLAIR of Nova Scotia, seconded the motion and regretted only that they had no such institutions in the Maritime Provinces under the Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Dr. KEMP said that from his own knowledge there was no university, grammar school, or other establishment where a more thorough system of education could be

acquired, while at the same time they had very strict care for the religious influence upon their education.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUNDS.

Mr. T. Lowrie read the report of the Committee of Assembly appointed to confer with the Conveners of the committees managing the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Funds of the Church, which was as follows:

The Committee having consulted with the conveners of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Funds, find that so far as practicable the two funds are managed under the same regulations. The fund for the Western section, however, has reached a higher maximum annuity than the fund in the Eastern section.

The Committee recommend that the first clause of the third section of the present regulations be amended so as to read as follows: When a minister is allowed by the Assembly to retire after ten years' service in this Church he shall receive \$150 a year and \$5 for each additional year up to forty years' service if the state of the fund permits. This rule shall apply to those who are now upon the fund, as well as to those who may hereafter be placed upon it.

The Committee recommend that the following additional regulations be enacted: Ministers who cease to pay the rates shall receive only such amount as they may have paid into the Fund. Henceforth for every year that a minister is in arrears for his rates he shall pay in addition to the rates due by him, ten per cent, interest upon those rates. The Report was received.

SEVENTEENTH SEDERUNT, (June 16.)

The proposed regulations for the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Funds were after discussion remitted to the Committees to report to next Assembly.

SUSTENTATION FUND.

Mr. P. McF. McLeod submitted the report of the Committee on Sustentation Fund as follows:

Your Committee beg to submit to the Assembly the following scheme for the working of a Sustentation Fund with the recommendation that it be sent down to Presbyteries with instructions to consider it and report to next General Assembly:—

The object of this fund is to secure to all our ministers in settled charges a minimum stipend of not less than \$750 per annum, under the following regulations:

I.—AS TO AID-RECEIVING CONGREGATIONS.

1. No congregation shall be entitled to receive a minimum stipend agreed upon unless it remits to the fund the sum of not less than \$500.

2. Every congregation receiving aid from the fund shall be required to send into the fund its whole revenue, after paying the usual congregational expenses, such as the salary of precentor and caretaker, fuel and lighting, &c.

N. B.—All cases in which there are debts on buildings requiring a yearly outlay for interest, shall be specially dealt with by the committee.

3. In every aid-receiving congregation opportunity shall be given to all members and adherents to contribute regularly to the fund, if possible monthly.

4. It shall not be lawful for any aid-receiving congregation to pay their minister a supplement.

5. A re-arrangement shall be made with every congregation on its becoming vacant, and no step shall be taken toward filling up the vacancy till this is done.

6. In the event of any congregation failing to fulfil its engagements toward the fund, the Committee will communicate with that congregation directly, and through the Presbytery, and if necessary bring the case before the Assembly, which may, if it see cause, remove it from the minimum stipend platform.

7. All congregations at present on the supplemented list, not able to reach the amount necessary to place them on the minimum stipend platform, shall be dealt with so as most effectually to develop their resources by means of direct grants on a given basis, to make up a certain amount, all the revenue of such congregations being sent into the fund, and arrangements made in them for regular contributions to the fund as in those on the minimum stipend platform.

8. That in the event of a vacancy in an aid-receiving congregation, situated in the immediate neighborhood of one or more other congregations, the Presbytery, within whose bounds such congregation is situated, shall not proceed to a settlement of a new minister without prior consultation and agreement with the Sustentation Committee in regard to the necessity of retaining such congregation as a separate and independent charge, and if it shall seem expedient, the use of all prudent means to effect a union between the vacant congregation and a neighboring one; cases of difficulty to be referred to the Assembly.

9. That every aid-receiving congregation be required to furnish the Committee with an annual statement of its accounts duly certified by the Presbytery of the bounds.

II.—SELF-SUSTAINING AND AID-GIVING CONGREGATIONS:

1. All self-sustaining and aid-giving congregations shall be required to participate in

the fund, sending in the amount of the minimum stipend plus whatever they may be able to give to the help of the fund, and receiving back the minimum stipend for their minister.

2. When such congregation gives a call it will promise its minister the minimum stipend plus any amount it may feel able to give as supplement.

3. The amount such congregations will be expected to contribute to the Sustentation Fund will be adjusted by negotiation between the committee and each congregation, subject to the sanction of the Presbytery, on a common basis applicable to the whole church.

It will be observed that the committee does not seek to regulate the financial arrangements of aid giving congregations, or to interfere with existing engagements, but only requires a participation in the fund, and what help such congregations may be able to afford.

III.—REGULATIONS APPLYING TO BOTH AID-RECEIVING AND AID-GIVING CONGREGATIONS.

As it is proposed to pay the minimum stipend at the close of each quarter, congregations will be required to remit to the fund quarterly, and where that is possible, a monthly remittance will be preferred.

In cases where the remittance is not made before the quarter's stipend is due, and no explanation sent to the Treasurer, the quarter's stipend will be withheld.

Mr. MACLEOD expounded the plan at some length, and moved the reception of the report and the adoption of the recommendations of the Committee, and that the plan now presented be sent down to Presbyteries with instructions to consider it and report to next Assembly.

The motion was earnestly supported by Mr. Macdonnell. After some discussion the motion was amended by adding to it the following clauses, and it was then adopted: "And to report also in connection therewith their views on the whole question as to ministerial support, whether by a Sustentation or by a Supplemental scheme; and that the Presbyteries report to the Committee by March 1st, in order that they may be in a position to consider the entire question of ministerial support, and report to the next General Assembly.

"25 PER CENT."

Last year owing to extreme pressure on its funds the Home Mission Board (Western Section) reduced the payments of certain labourers in the field twenty-five per cent. In response to various overtures, motions, &c., the Assembly authorized that all cases of this kind be looked into and arrears paid up.

LUMBERMEN.

Mr. D. M. GORDON presented the report of the Mission to Lumbermen in the Ottawa Valley. The report showed that the Rev. S. S. Taylor, of Mattawa, and the Rev. Joseph Gaudier, had done excellent work among the lumbermen of Mattawa. The former had visited fourteen lumber depots and twenty-four shanties on the Ottawa and its tributaries, the *Magnissippi, Mattawa, Montreal*, and on lakes *Beauchene* and *Keppewa*, &c., and seventy-five families, exclusive of those in Mattawa and vicinity, scattered throughout the region from Rockliffe to the head of Lake Tamiscamingue. Between *Deux Rivières* and the head of *Temiscamingue*. It showed further a large amount of work done in other sections, and recommended that two additional ordained missionaries be sent into the field—the whole to be under the Presbyteries of Montreal and Ottawa.

The report was received and approved. In future it is to come up as part of the Home Mission report.

EIGHTEENTH SEDERUNT, JUNE 17th.

RETURNS TO REMITS.

Mr. D. J. MACDONNELL reported as follows from the committee which classified the returns of Presbyteries to remits sent down by last Assembly:

1. Returns anent the retaining of the names of ministers, who retire with permission of the General Assembly from the active duties of the ministry on account of age or infirmity, on the rolls of their respective Presbyteries. Fourteen Presbyteries approve; six approve provided that the ministers, whose names are retained, engage in no secular calling.

Of the twenty Presbyteries thus approving, eleven expressly state that the right to vote shall be accorded, while nine say nothing about the right to vote. Eleven Presbyteries approve of the retaining of the names on the roll, the right of voting being withheld; four disapprove *simpliciter*.

2. Returns anent the Presbyterian University.

Seven Presbyteries approve *simpliciter*; four approve with modifications; twenty-two disapprove, of which two recommend that each Theological Hall should secure the power of granting degrees in theology; one Presbytery expresses no opinion on the principle, but judges the establishment of the University inexpedient; one sends no report.

Returns anent the validity of ordination by the Church of Rome.

Sixteen Presbyteries regard Roman Catholic ordination as invalid; seven regard it as valid, six recommend that each case be

dealt with as it arises; two express no opinion; four send no report.

4. Returns anent the mode in which the ministers of other churches shall be received.

Twenty-six Presbyteries approve *simpliciter*. One Presbytery wishes the eleventh clause rejected; one wishes the third and fourth clauses modified.

5. Returns anent the reading of the Pastoral on Home Missions, and the securing of contributions; on this point six Presbyteries report that the injunction of the Assembly has been complied with. The other Presbyteries make no return.

PRESBYTERY OF BARRIE.

The claims of this large Presbytery were heard at length and cheerfully conceded.

MANITOBA COLLEGE.

PRINCIPAL GRANT reported the following recommendations from the special committee on this College.

1. That the General Assembly approve of the allowance of \$600 voted by the Committee on the ordinary fund of Manitoba College to Dr. Patterson, for his services as agent of the Assembly, and agree that \$300 of this amount be paid out of the Assembly Fund, the other \$300 having been in part collected by Dr. Patterson, and in part out of the ordinary fund of Manitoba College.

2. That the Assembly regret that only thirty-five congregations have responded to the Committee's circular. The General Assembly having repeatedly expressed its conviction that the maintenance of Manitoba College in efficiency is essential to our work in the North-West, instruct this Committee to press the matter committed to them until a sufficient sum is raised by congregational collections to relieve the eastern and western sections of the Home Mission Fund of the burden borne by them, and instruct the Committee to bring the matter specially before the parent churches.

3. That the General Assembly express satisfaction that the growing prosperity of the College indicated in the reports and at the increase of contributions to its support from local sources, and urge upon the Board of Management the duty of looking especially to local sources for the new buildings required and for the extension of the College work by additions to the teaching staff.

4. That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Committee of the ordinary fund, especially to the Convener, and that the Committee be re-appointed with the additions to it of the Rev. J. Bruce, of St. Catharines, and the Rev. Mr. Torrance, of Peterborough.

5. That as regards the burden on the Home Mission Fund for the support of Mani-

toba College, the Eastern Section be instructed to pay \$250 and the Western Section \$1,000 for the current year, in the hope that congregational collections and donations and the grants from the parent churches will prove sufficient not only to make up the amount required, but also to reduce the debt now standing against the ordinary fund.

The report after full consideration was adopted.

NINETEENTH SEDERUNT, JUNE 17th.

THE RECORD.

Dr. JENKINS presented the *Record* report. The circulation was increasing in Manitoba, but it had decreased in the East since 1876. The circulation is over 30,000. The following deliverance was adopted: "That the Assembly receive the report; thank the Committee and editors of the *Record*, and especially the managing editor, for the diligence and ability with which the *Record* has been conducted; express satisfaction at the success of the periodical, as shown in the circulation and in the state of its funds; approve of the disposition of the \$1,000 of the profits to the Home Mission funds, and commend the *Record* to our ministers and people as worthy of their support, and enjoin Presbyteries to draw the attention of their several congregations to the importance of extending its circulation."

Resolutions recommending to the Committee the enlarging of the *Record* and the lessening of expenses were adopted and referred to the Committee. During part of this session the Assembly sat with closed doors.

TWENTIETH SEDERUNT, JUNE 17.

The evening session was wholly taken up with the reception and discussion of an overture anent Degrees in Divinity from the Synod of Hamilton and London. Rev. R. N. Grant supported the overture and moved as follows: Receive the overture of the Synod of Hamilton and London, and empower the Boards of Management and Senates of Knox College, Toronto, and the Presbyterian College of Montreal respectively to apply to the Legislature of the provinces in which said Colleges are situated to bestow upon them the power of conferring degrees in theology in such manner as this Assembly shall enact—the Board to report to the General Assembly for its approval the examinations on which the degree of B. D. shall be conferred."

A motion to postpone to the next Assembly was lost. Mr. McDonnell moved: "That the Assembly take no action in the matter, but allow the Montreal and Knox Colleges to take steps if they consider it necessary to do so—for the securing of power to confer degrees of divinity."

This amendment was lost. Principal MacKnight moved:

"That the Assembly having considered the overture 'anent the subject, authorize the Boards and Senates of the Colleges of Montreal and Toronto to take such steps in the matter as they may deem advisable."

This motion was carried unanimously and the Assembly adjourned.

CLOSING DAY, FRIDAY, 18th JUNE.

The twenty-first Sederunt and nearly the whole of the twenty second the Assembly devoted to the consideration of the "Philips Divorce Case." The decision was given in brief in our last.

A resolution was moved in favour of having all papers submitted to the Judicial Committee printed at the expense of parties. The resolution lies on the table till next year.

ROMISH ORDINATION.

Time did not permit the discussing of this subject, and it was postponed till next Assembly.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROBATIONERS.

The order of last year is continued for another year.

PROPOSED CHANGE.

A memorial in favour of constitutional changes including biennial or tri-ennial Assemblies was read but not considered. It was "laid on the table."

"DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER."

An overture from the Presbytery of Toronto was read whereupon Dr. Gregg moved that the Assembly appoint a Committee to watch legislation on the subject, and take measures to avert such legislation as that recently proposed. The motion passed and the following committee was appointed: the Moderator, Principal Caven, Prof. Gregg, Prof. McLaren, Rev. Mr. Gordon, Dr. Moore, Rev. R. Campbell, Dr. Sedgewick, Dr. MacVicar, Dr. Hay, Hon. George Bryson, Mr. Charlton, Dr. Christie, Robert Bell.

TEMPERANCE.

An overture from the Presbytery of Toronto and Kingston, that the Assembly take the whole subject into serious consideration and appoint a standing committee on temperance was read. Also a memorial from the Rev. N. McKay in the same direction, asking that steps be taken to express the opinion of the Assembly on the Canada Temperance Act.

The Rev. DONALD FRASER, M. A., of Mount Forrest supported the first overture and showed that the quantity of strong drink consumed in Ontario the year past was greater than for any one of ten years past, and

and that if it had not been for the decrease in the lower provinces the amount consumed in the Dominion would be larger too. He held that the policy of the Church should be distinctly heard on the point and that when it was it would give no uncertain sound. If so it would be a great benefit to the cause. He also counselled organization and then moved the resolution as follows:

"That the overture be received; that the Assembly appoint a standing committee on temperance with authority to make enquiries of the various Presbyteries within the bounds regarding the prevalence of intemperance and the best means of promoting a healthy scriptural temperance sentiment; and further, that Presbyteries be enjoined to hold conferences on the subject and frame and forward to the Convener of the temperance committee such answers as they may be able to give, together with such views and suggestions on the whole question as they may deem proper; that the Assembly recommend the appointment of synodical committees on temperance where such do not exist; that this committee consist of a convener and one member from each Presbytery in the Church."

Mr. NEIL MCKAY moved the following:

"That the Assembly is much pleased to mark the progress recently made in temperance legislation, especially in the enactment of the permissive act, known as the Canada Temperance Act, and rejoices to know that in several sections in the Dominion, notably in Prince Edward Island, the people, by their votes, are putting the Act into practical operation."

The motions were agreed to.

REFORMED CHURCH.

A friendly letter from the Reformed Church of America was read, and a suitable answer directed to be given.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The report was read and on motion of Mr. Murray it was received and the Assembly's Committee instructed to co-operate with synodical, presbyterial, or other committees in all well-directed efforts to secure the better observance of the Lord's Day.

COLLECTIONS.

Dr. WATERS reported that collections were arranged as follows:—

French Evangelization, first Sabbath in July; Widows' and Orphans' Fund, third Sabbath in August; Assembly Fund, first Sabbath in September; Home Mission Fund, first Sabbath in October; Foreign Mission Fund, fourth Sabbath in January; College Fund, first Sabbath of March, or on such other Sabbath as congregations find most convenient.

STATISTICS.

PRINCIPAL GRANT reported briefly from this Committee showing, for example, that the Presbytery which had contributed most liberally to all the schemes of the Church, in proportion to families and membership, was the Presbytery of Newfoundland. A fuller notice of our statistics will shortly appear in the RECORD.

CLOSING.

After disposing of a few minor matters, some of which will be taken up at next Assembly, the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the hospitable people of Montreal, to the minister and officers of Crescent Street Church, to the Committee of Arrangements (and especially the Convener, Rev. R. H. Warden,) to the Press, and to Railway and Steamship companies that had afforded travelling facilities to members of Assembly. The Moderator briefly addressed the brethren, and after singing and prayer the Assembly was dissolved, the next to meet at Kingston, on the evening of the second Wednesday of June, 1881.

Meetings of Presbyteries.

TORONTO: July 5th:—A minute regarding the late Hon. George Brown was read. The union of the parishes of Laskey and West King was sanctioned. Ministers were appointed to look after the main scheme of the Church,—Mr. Macdonald to the Foreign Missions, Mr. Kilpatrick for Theological Education, Mr. King, for Home Missions, and Mr. Fraser, French Evangelization.

Mr. Hunter, student, was licensed to preach the Gospel.

A petition was read from Rev. A. Mackenzie, late of Skye, Scotland, who had been suspended for intemperance by the Free Church of Scotland. Mr. M. prayed that his sentence be relaxed. A committee was appointed to consider the whole matter, and the following finding was arrived at: (1) Considering the peculiar form in which the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland signify their consent that the sentence of suspension in the case of the Rev. A. Mackenzie should be removed, the Presbytery deem it prudent to refer the case to the General Assembly for their determination. (2) The Presbytery resolve to represent to the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland the embarrassment caused to them in taking any action in this case by the remarkable condition connected with the permission to relax the sentence of suspension. (3) The Presbytery further resolve, as there may be opportu-

nity, to allow Mr. Mackenzie to labour as a catechist within their bounds, and still further to signify their interest in him by appointing a committee with whom he may advise on any matter touching his position.

The "remarkable" condition was to the effect that a minister might preach in the colonies who was not in a position to officiate at home.

KINGSTON: 6th July:—Rev. M. W. Maclean was appointed Moderator. At the request of the Presbytery the clerk withdrew his tender of resignation. The stations of Morton &c., and Blairton were transferred, the former to the Brockville Presbytery, and the latter to the Peterborough Presbytery. Notice of motion was given for re consideration of the sentence, in the case of Rev. J. Fraser. The Home Mission Committee was re appointed with the addition of Rev. D. Kelso. Messrs. G. C. Patterson, M. A., and J. Cumberland, M. A., were after due examination licensed to preach the gospel. A minute in relation to Rev. J. M. Royd, late minister of Demorestville, was adopted, expressive of his faithfulness.

MONTREAL: July 13th:—Rev. John Mackie was chosen Moderator for the next six months. A standing Committee to examine students was appointed. Applications for moderation in a call, from St. Louis de Gonzague was granted. Mr. Warden reported that expenses connected with entertaining the late General Assembly had been met leaving a balance of \$200 which the Committee devoted to the building fund of the Pointe Aux Trembles Schools. The Presbytery cordially thanked the Committee. The following students, after due trial, were licensed to preach the Gospel:—Alex. H. McFarlane, Thos. A. Nelson, and Theodore A. Bouchard.

BRUCE: July 5:—Rev. R. C. Moffatt was appointed Moderator for the next six months. Mr. J. T. Patterson having accepted the Call from Hanover his ordination and induction were appointed to take place on the 22nd. July. Mr. J. A. Anderson after having passed a creditable examination was licensed to preach the Gospel.

PICOU: July 6:—Rev. A. Maclean asked further time to consider the call from Pughwash. Rev. W. Maxwell's resignation of Little Harbor and Fisher's Grant was accepted to take effect on the last of July. Commissioners to the General Assembly were required to give an account of their diligence.

Mr. Brouillette submitted a very interesting and gratifying report respecting his labours during the last three months. His report was received and his diligence warmly approved. In consequence, however, of the removal of a very large part of the French population from Stellarton and the Vale Colliery, and the con-

sequent insufficiency of that field to occupy the time of a missionary, it was agreed to accept Mr. Brouillette's resignation, to take effect on the 31st July, and in doing so to express the high regard of the Presbytery for Mr. Brouillette personally, their appreciation of the diligence, fidelity and zeal, with which he has carried on his work during his connection with the Presbytery, and their earnest hope that he may soon be settled in a field where he will have fuller scope for his energies.

The Presbytery took up the recommendation of the Foreign Mission Board in reference to the removal of the debt, when it was agreed to urge upon all the members of the Presbytery the most prompt attention to the recommendation of the Board. "That all ministers connected with this Synod be affectionately urged, immediately, to make an earnest appeal to those members of their congregations whom they may judge most likely to aid them in the effort to sweep away this debt, and to furnish the necessary means for sending out an additional labourer to Trinidad, these special sums so given not to interfere with ordinary annual collections."

TRURO: July 6:—Rev. A. Burrows was elected Moderator for the ensuing year. The business transacted was almost entirely of merely local interest.

HALIFAX: July 13:—The Presbytery held a visitation of the Congregation at Dartmouth, Rev. P. M. Morrison, pastor. The Congregation is prospering in things spiritual and temporal.

ORDINATIONS AND INDUCTIONS.

TORONTO, CENTRAL CHURCH:—Rev. P. McF. Macleod, inducted on the 20th ult.

ROTHSAY AND MOREFIELD: *Guéph*:—The Rev. Henry Edmison, of Melbourne, was inducted on 1st June.

NEWCASTLE: *Miramichi*:—The Rev. William Aitken, of Vaughan, Ont., was inducted on 9th June.

SHEET HARBOR: *Halifax*:—Mr. Richmond Logan, was ordained and inducted on the 8th June.

TEMPORALITIES CASE.—The Court of Appeals of the Province of Quebec has decided against Mr. Dobie *et al.*, in their case against the Board of Management of the Temporalities Fund. Mr. Dobie has appealed to the Privy Council.

OUR COLLEGES.—The Legislature of Quebec has amended the Charter of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, so as to enable it to confer degrees in Theology.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, KINGSTON.—The Calendar for next session can be obtained on application to the Registrar, Rev. Professor Mowat, Gananoque.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

The Annual Collection on behalf of this Scheme was appointed by the General Assembly for Sabbath, 18th July. In those Congregations and Mission Sections where it has not yet been taken it should be attended to without delay so as not to interfere with collections for any of the other Schemes. The estimated expenditure for this year being so very greatly in excess of that of last year—fully sixty per cent—it is hoped that congregations will show a corresponding increase in liberality.

In addition to Congregational contributions, the Board look to the friends of the mission for individual donations. It is greatly to be desired that the Pointe-aux-Trembles training Schools be entirely supported by Sabbath-school contributions and those of private friends taking Scholarships, &c.

The following circular has just been issued by the Board:—

The Board desire to call the special attention of the friends of the Mission to the marked growth and extension of the work committed to their care, more particularly in regard to the purchase of the Pointe-aux-Trembles Schools, and the transfer to the Board of the work of the French Canadian Missionary Society there.

For the last forty years this Society has been honoured of God in accomplishing much in the cause of French evangelization, especially by means of Colportage and the Mission Training Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles. In vigorously prosecuting this all important work of Colportage and education, the Board confidently rely upon the generous sympathy and liberality of all the friends of the French Canadian Missionary Society. It will be the aim of the Board to render increasingly useful the Mission Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles, and to make them subservient to the great work of evangelizing the million and a quarter of French-Canadian Catholics in the Dominion. There is accommodation in these training Schools for about two hundred pupils. It is believed that this number of French Canadian children can be gathered into the Institution, provided the funds at the disposal of the Board will warrant them in admitting so many. The cost of maintaining and supporting a pupil is about fifty dollars per annum. (Scholarships were placed at forty dollars each by the French Canadian Missionary Society, but this sum has been found insufficient to support a pupil.) The Board are most anxious to obtain from Sabbath-schools and friends of the work generally a guarantee for the support of one or more pupils, and earnestly appeal to you for your assist-

ance in this matter. Every one contributing Fifty Dollars, or upwards, per annum will, if desired, have a particular pupil or pupils assigned them, concerning whose progress reports will be sent from time to time, or from whom letters will be forwarded annually. To enable the Board to decide as to the number of pupils to be admitted for the ensuing Session an early response is solicited. Where it may not be convenient to forward the money at once, a letter to the Secretary stating the amount to be contributed and the time of payment will greatly oblige. The Board will feel thankful to the friends of the work if in addition to their personal contributions they will kindly interest themselves in collecting contributions from neighbours. Subscription sheets and cards for this purpose will be forwarded on application to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Full particulars as to the other departments of the work of the Board will be found in the Annual Report.

The General Assembly at its meeting last month unanimously appointed an eminent French Theological Professor for the thorough training of Ministers and Colporteurs for the work of the Board. This appointment, it is believed, will tend very much to the advancement of the cause of French Evangelization. Contributions on behalf of this as well as the other departments of the work will be gratefully received.

The transfer to the Board of the educational work of the French Canadian Missionary Society at Pointe-aux-Trembles and the appointment of the French Professor of Theology, together with a considerable addition to the staff of Colporteurs and Missionaries, will entail an *additional* expenditure of about \$12,000 per annum, making the estimated expenditure for the current year \$32,500, in addition to \$5,500—the cost of the Pointe-aux-Trembles School property.

All contributions for the work of the Board (including Rev. Father Chiniquy's Mission) should be forwarded direct to the Secretary-Treasurer, addressed Rev. R. H. WARDEN, 260 St. James Street, Montreal,—from whom copies of the Annual Report, Subscription Sheets, and Collecting Cards can be obtained.

Soliciting your hearty co-operation and fervent prayers on behalf of the work of French Evangelization,

We remain,

Yours faithfully,

D. H. MACVICAR, LL.D., *Chairman.*

ROBT. H. WARDEN, *Sec.-Treasurer.*

Montreal, July 1880.

Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

AGED & INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

ANNUAL COLLECTION ON THE THIRD SABBATH OF AUGUST.

By appointment of the General Assembly, the Annual Collection for this Fund is to be made on the *Third Sabbath of August*, by congregations that do not contribute to its maintenance by appropriating a portion of the Funds of their Missionary Associations. As the prosperity of the Fund depends very much on the interest that our ministers indicate in it, it is earnestly hoped that they will use their best endeavours in pressing its importance and its claims.

It is not needful here to argue the importance, and even the necessity of such a Fund, in relation to the interests of the Church. The only question is, shall the provision made for our Aged and Infirm Ministers be such as is worthy of the Church, and sufficient to obviate the temptation to continue in the pastoral work when a minister is no longer able efficiently to discharge its duties? It is a matter of great rejoicing and of much thankfulness to Him who has all hearts in His hand, that, owing chiefly to the increased liberality of congregations, there has, during the last two years, been a *great* improvement in the state of the Fund. For some years there had been annually a serious reduction of capital. The Assembly of 1878 having ordered that there should be no further reduction of capital, and that all bequests should be devoted to its increase, the Committee have since added \$1,000 to the capital. But, though there was in 1879 a great advance in the congregational contributions, it was not such as to enable the Committee to pay the *maximum* annuity of \$250, which they had been giving for some years. It was hoped that this year the income would suffice not only to warrant the payment of the *maximum* of \$250, but to enable the Committee to pay up the reduction of 1879. The increase of income both from congregational contributions and from Ministers' Rates has been such as to warrant the Committee to make the usual *maximum* payment of \$250, but not such as to enable them to pay up the reduction of 1879.

The Committee would now put it to ministers and congregations whether it will not be discreditable to the Presbyterian Church in Canada, that we should be obliged to recede from the position in which we were at the time of the union in 1875, instead of advancing till an annuity of \$400 is ensured. They would also express the hope that the fact that *some* retired ministers could live, perhaps very comfortably, without aid from such a Fund, will not be suffered to hinder

the liberality of our people. With few exceptions, the present beneficiaries need all that the Fund in its present state can do for them. To show that there is no prevalence of a disposition to take undue advantage of the Fund, it may be enough to mention that, last year, *three* of the ministers on whose behalf their respective Presbyteries had resolved to apply to the General Assembly, were dead before the Assembly met.

Several names were added by the late General Assembly to the List of Annuitants; but there can be no doubt that the Committee will be able to meet all claims, if our congregations dutifully respond to the repeated appeals of the Assembly. Some congregations have done so much, that the Committee cannot ask them to do more this year than they have been doing the last two years; but there are many congregations, some of them liberal in their contributions to some of the Schemes of the Church, that have not done their duty to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

The collection for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund being made on the same day, the General Agent requests that, when Treasurers remit to him the proceeds of the collection of the day, they intimate distinctly *what proportion* of the collection is to go to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. While the division of the collection is left to the congregations, the mind of the General Assembly is that congregations, in making the division, should have regard to the fact that the Widows' Fund is in such a prosperous condition as not to need the same amount of liberality on the part of congregations as is needed by the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

JAMES MIDDLEMISS.

Obituary.

MR. John Forrest, of the Township of McNab, Ont., died at his residence, on the 8th of May, in the 94th year of his age. He was born in Carlisle, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and came to Canada in 1830. He leaves a family circle to the fourth generation numbering 172. He left no doubt that he died in the Lord, for his whole life was a daily witness to the truth of his religion. He was one of the first elders of the first Presbyterian congregation in McNab. He always took an active interest in the affairs of Christ's Church. He was wise in counsel and ever ready to visit the sick, giving consolation and comfort and pouring out his heart in prayer, with and for them, and such visits were highly appreciated. He was able to attend public worship till within a few months of his death. He knew that

his earthly house of this tabernacle was ready to fall and he was not sorry. He said he was waiting for the Master to call for he had a desire to depart and be with Christ which is far better. In him the congregation has lost a pillar that stood firm and sure through many tempests. A faithful pilot that stuck fast to the boat whether plunging among the breakers or dashing on the rocks, till again calm water is reached. He lived to see the church in good repair and clear of debt. Now he has resigned his office at the Master's call for a higher and nobler place in the church above. Well may we say "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." Does not the whole history of his life echo back to us the words of Paul, "My beloved brethren, be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Ecclesiastical News.

Our sister Church in Ireland has held her General Assembly which has been marked with the usual enthusiasm and devotedness. It was a noble Assembly. The question of instrumental music was discussed once more amid much excitement, the question being whether or not instrumental aid in public worship should be tolerated. By a small majority the party opposed to tolerance won the day; but ultimately it was resolved not to proceed to extremities, but to appeal again to the brotherly feeling of the people using instruments. The Irish Assembly has ever been mindful of the Colonies. It has missions at home and abroad; and certainly the field for missions at home is vast, and its claims are urgent. The foreign missions are to Jews and Gentiles, and are all encouragingly prosperous.

One worthy brother proposes a union of the Presbyterian churches of Great Britain. The idea is a good one. It is not new; it is at least as old as the Westminster Assembly. The experience of the churches in the United States and this Dominion is decisive as far as the question of practicability is concerned. We believe such a union would be a great blessing to Scotland as well as to England and Ireland. It would stimulate anew the zeal of the churches. "Home Missions" would then mean missions to Irish Roman Catholics. The spiritual necessities of thirty millions of people would be pressed upon the attention of the churches. Ireland ought to be evangelized, its noble people should be rescued from the dominion of the Papacy. It should be the mission of the Presbyterian Church to diffuse the light of truth among the Roman Catholics of Ireland.

FRIENDLY WORDS.—Our Church is thus referred to in the appeal of the Convener of the Free Church Colonial Committee :—

The case of the Presbyterian Church of Canada is so peculiar as to demand a separate mention. That Church has no fewer than five Divinity Halls, so that, while welcoming suitable labourers from this side the Atlantic, she has not, for some years back, very urgently required them. But her home mission field in the west, and especially in Manitoba, is really immense. That vast territory, recently opened up, is at this moment attracting the eyes of many a Scottish farmer, and bids fair to be, at no distant date, the home of enterprising and intelligent Presbyterians. If these are not to be allowed to lapse into practical heathenism, the Church must lose no time in following them with a gospel ministry and the means of grace. It is pleasing to know that our brethren in Canada are addressing themselves to this task with characteristic energy and much success. But the work is too vast for them to overtake unaided and alone. It is, therefore, our clear duty, as it has been our high privilege, to aid in providing the necessary means for carrying on this great home mission work for the benefit of our own fellow-countrymen, by whom this wide and fertile region is being rapidly colonized.

WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING.

A year ago the Foreign Mission Committee of the Free Church closed its annual accounts with a deficit of £1,800 sterling. This year that debt has been paid, and there is balance on the right side of £414. The total ordinary revenue of the Committee by collections, donations, &c., in Scotland amounted to £25,918. Including contributions in India and elsewhere, the grand total has been £54,912.

The total missionary expenditure of the Free Church of Scotland in the year 1879-80 is thus seen :—

Missions to the Heathen & Mohammedans	£54,912
Missions to the Jews.....	10,014
Colonial Mission.....	4,189
Continental Mission.....	4,124
	£73,239

The Free Church employs 438 Christian Agents, 35 of whom are ordained missionaries; and 230 native teachers. The Free Church is now associated with us in the New Hebrides Mission.

The Reformed Church in Greece is thoroughly Presbyterian in constitution and in

methods of working. It is not yet strong but it is diligently at its beneficent work of evangelization. Heretofore the Scriptures were proscribed, and, it was always necessary that the Catechism of the Greek Church should be taught in the common schools. Latterly to the great gratification of all the Reformed, the Government ordered that the New Testament be read in the common schools, in the Greek version. Till now no version, no edition of the New Testament was ever published at Athens; but now a publisher is at work, and thousands of copies of the New Testament are sold already! Greece is enlarged by the addition of territory hitherto claimed by the sultan of Turkey. Thus Greece is both strengthened and liberalized. Would that it were also evangelized!

DR. MACGILL. We record with deep regret the death of this admirable man, long the Foreign Secretary of the United Presbyterian Church, and the Editor of her Record. He was one of the excellent of the earth, and the success of the foreign mission of the U. P. Church has been in a large measure due to his zeal and prudence. He was seventy-three years of age.

The Robertson Smith case is likely to be revived again. An article in the 11th volume of the Encyclopedia is made the ground of complaint.

The Free Church now aims at £300 sterling as the minimum stipend for her ministers.

Elders in the Established Church are henceforth to subscribe to the "sum and substance" of the Confession of Faith. Ten new parishes were endowed last year. Rev. Dr. Rankin of Muthill has been appointed a Commissioner to investigate the charges against the Missionaries at Blantyre, Central Africa, of cruel abuse of the natives.

Impressive memorial services have been held in the open air in Scotland in places notable in connection with the covenanting struggles of two hundred years ago. 1680 was a gloomy year in Scotland, but a movement was then commenced which culminated in the "glorious revolution of 1688."

The Methodists are to hold a General Council in August of next year in London.

The Church of Scotland mourns the death of Rev. Dr. Esdaile, and the Presbyterians of Ireland the death of Rev. John Moran.

The Free Church has lost Rev. Dr. MacGillivray, of Aberdeen, who died on the 1st. ult.

The sustentation movement is succeeding in New South Wales.

Our Foreign Missions.

WE have great pleasure in recording the safe arrival amongst us of Rev. Dr. Mackay, our missionary to Formosa. It was a serious disappointment that he was not able to meet the General Assembly. He suffered severely from illness both at Rome and Edinburgh; but he is now in a large measure recovered. He, however, is in need of rest. It is hoped that after the 1st September he will be able to visit a number of congregations. Professor Maclaren intimates that brethren who desire a visit from Dr. Mackay should correspond on the subject with Rev. Thomas Lowry, Brantford, Ontario. Dr. Mackay is accompanied by his wife, a Chinese lady. It is expected that his visit will serve to kindle the missionary zeal of our people. Already, says Professor Maclaren, one gentleman after listening to one of Dr. M.'s addresses handed in a cheque for \$200 towards the training school for natives of Formosa. A widow, next day, handed in \$2. Dr. M. asks the sum of \$4000 for the equipment of an institution in Formosa for training native teachers and evangelists.

Remember that this year we have to remove a very heavy debt, and to meet increasing obligations. If we were as much in earnest as we ought to be there would be no difficulty in raising every dollar asked for. But we are "playing at Missions" as Dr. Duff said. Comparatively few are making any great sacrifice of personal comfort for the sake of sending the Gospel to the Heathen. We should like to know how many wealthy men deny themselves any luxury for the sake of the Gospel. That there are some such, we believe: but alas, how few! Dr. Pierson speaking of Missions in general says:—

1. On no enterprise of the Church has God so signally smiled as on the efforts to reach the destitute with the bread of life.

2. No work has been so grandly successful in the magnitude and rapidity of its results.

3. No work has had so marked an effect reflexively in the development of a heroic type of piety and consecration in those who have themselves to it, personally or sympathetically.

4. In no enterprise has God opened doors so wide and so effectual before his people.

Now, all this is true of the Missions of our Church. But we are bound in duty and conscience to go forward.

Formosa.

REV. Professor McLaren, Convener of the Western Section of the Foreign Mission Committee, has favoured us with the following letter recently received by him from the Rev. K. F. Junor.

Tamsui, April 2st 1880.

My-dear Brother,

The longer you live in China and the better you know the people, the greater do your wonder and amazement increase. Their superstitions are as numerous almost as your thoughts. Their religious customs are so many and intricate, that they make burdens for the people more grievous to bear than those the Pharisees laid upon the Jews. They spend as much money on those, to us, useless and silly customs ten times as much I fully believe, as we Christians spend on the Gospel. The rich man, of whom Mr. Mackay has written in a late letter, I am told, spent on the building of a paper house which was burnt for the use of the spirit of the head of the family who had died, and on the ceremonies connected with it, \$10,000 in hard cash.

This is a large sum of money to spend in paper to be burnt simply on what, to us looking on, seem perfectly ridiculous rites. But that is only a tithe of the money spent by such a family for instance on this religion which God hates. These people believe that every man has three spirits. When he dies one spirit goes to Hell, the second dwells in the grave, and the third by due ceremonies is invited to take up its residence in a wooden tablet which is made and on which his name is inscribed. This tablet is kept in the house and the worship of it is the ancestral worship which is the last thing a China man will give up.

No later than yesterday we had a good example of the ceremony for the dead of which I have spoken. This is the case of a China man born in Penang. He speaks and writes English and is employed in the Chinese Customs. Penang being a British colony, these people like to call themselves British and speak of the Chinese as of another nationality from themselves, speaking of China and the Chinese in the third person. This man's wife died in the latter part of last year but the ceremonies for providing for her comfort in Hades were not performed till yesterday. He should have performed these services several months ago according to the proper custom and was very much blamed by the Chinese for having delayed. He told me the secret of the business how-

ever. He did not believe in the *thing*, as he said, but his wife's mother was near at hand and all their relations, and because he was going to neglect the matter apparently, they began to give him trouble. For peace therefore he made the preparations. In the meantime the body of his wife was still in the house in the coffin. A Chinese coffin is thick and airtight at least no smell escapes from the decaying body which sometimes is kept for years in the house or in a temple. This man was not a rich man but was in good circumstances.

He prepared a house about 12 feet square built of bamboo and papers, most beautifully and carefully finished,—the painting on it representing brick, stone, marble and woods of different kinds. Silver and gold leaf were used profusely. Fruits and trees in relief and figures of all shapes. Inside the house, which was, by the way, beautifully furnished with miniature furniture, reclined the lady of the house, to represent his wife, on a handsome couch. In the house were all the household utensils and every thing indicative of a wealthy household. At the door was a handsome sedan chair and four coolies standing by ready at her call. Around her were men and women servants in figures about 8 inches high, some engaged in one work, some in another. Some were preparing rice, some baking, some washing clothes, some cleaning rice with a fanning mill. Every thing that indicated a prosperous household was there in miniature. All was most tastefully and elegantly made up.

Before this house on a table were spread out all kinds of provisions. A little pig roasted, whole chickens, ducks, &c., &c. The heads of these were all there and all pointed at the place where the woman sat. It is by the way a Chinese custom to thus point the head of an animal cooked at the guest to whom you wish to show honour.

Outside and over the door of the house and extending across the whole front was an elaborate framework of bamboo covered with gilt paper. This was supposed to represent the grounds before the house and there were dozens of little figures all representing the lady's retainers,—some as soldiers, runners, tradesmen, &c. And why all these things? For the comfort and use of the spirit in hell, to mitigate her torments by providing her with comforts. All these things cost about \$40 or \$50.

In another room the ceremonies in connection with this were being performed. Here was a table covered with priestly symbols, food, liquor, candles and peculiar priestly appliances. About the table stood three Buddhist priests and sitting on benches were four men with drum, cymbals and horns. For two days nearly they kept up incessantly the

most fearful din, reading and howling at the top of the voice. Every now and then the priests would perform a sort of dance. On the walls were hung large pictures of the torments practised in Hell, most hideous pictures of pulling out men's tongues and eyes and tortures you would hardly think men capable of imagining. The little children of the dead woman were there clothed in coarse sack cloth and kept busy, taking part in the ceremonies, directed by the priests. In the place where the house was they would come in and bow down to the ground several times to their mother. The father stood by or sat on a chair looking on, like one troubled and ashamed of the horrid nuisance as he evidently thought it to be. In the morning the whole thing was taken out and set on fire and thus spirited away to the spiritual regions for the use of the poor woman.

You cannot get rid of all that in a day. The priests are only there for money. They don't believe in it very much more than I do, I verily believe. They will tell you the doctrines of the Gospel are good. *Perhaps* they may come and listen occasionally but to break away from such close and old associations and in such surroundings is not the work of a day but the toil of years and the lavishing of treasures. Both are easily furnished; for God has given to us, who have the Gospel in addition, wealth and ability if we are ready to use them as offerings in his service. As Christian people we have the command and the means, and let us work away. There may be failure here and success there. There may be imprudence in one and wisdom in another effort. There may be success with one and failure with another. All these ups and downs we have been warned of in the beginning. The same chequered experience is true in Christian lands as in Heathen, even to a greater extent, when you examine it closely.

As to the work of the Church it is going on quietly and I trust advancing. The work in all its parts is going on as usual, the results being in the hand of the Lord. We are in good health and in hope of continuing so

WOMEN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARDS and Societies are doing excellent work in Scotland, in the United States and among ourselves. May they prosper more and more! Mrs. Mackay addressed the Society in Toronto, her husband, Dr. Mackay, translating her words. We hope she may be able to see thousands of her sisters in Christ throughout Canada before she leaves for Formosa,—and that she will be able to tell her countrywomen in China of the love and the good works she will have seen in Canada.

The Presbyterian Record.

MONTREAL: AUGUST, 1880.

JAMES CROIL,
ROBERT MURRAY, } Editors.

Price: 25 cts. per annum, in Parcels to one address. Single copies 60 cts. per annum.

PAYMENT IN ADVANCE.

LET US THANK GOD AND TAKE COURAGE.

The late General Assembly was a hopeful one, and rightly so. God had smiled on the efforts and enterprises of the Church. All our Schemes had largely prospered during the year. Heavy burdens of debt had been removed. A widening and deepening interest in the Church's work was manifested. The Home Mission work all over the bounds of the Assembly's vast territory had been more than usually successful both as regards the work done and the contributions received. Our five foreign fields had each something encouraging in the year's report. Our Colleges were able to show a cheering record. The Board of French Evangelization had taken important steps towards "lengthening its cords" as well as "strengthening its stakes." God has granted enough success to all our enterprises to rebuke our unbelief and encourage us to go forward in His glorious name.

Shall not the ecclesiastical year on which we have entered be better than any that have gone before it? There is no good reason why it should be otherwise. The liberality of the past year should be perennial. No one thinks so meanly of the Christian people as to believe the generous contributions of the past a mere "spurt." The more we do the more we are able to do: the more we give the better able are we to give more.

INTELLIGENCE.

Missions will never be properly supported unless missionary intelligence is read with zest. Our pages contain in course of the year a vast amount of news from our own and other mission fields. Every word of the letters from our own missionaries should be read by all our Church members. It is a shame and pity that a large number of families in our Church do not yet take the *Record*. This ought not to be so. We appeal to Presbyteries, to Sessions, to members, to do all in their power to place a copy of the *Record* in every family. Were this accomplished we may rely upon it that all the

Schemes of the Church would be greatly benefited. The Lord is working now with us: let us not ignore His presence or cease to take a due interest in all His dealings.

Literature.

THE SALON OF MADAME NECKER, parts I and II, (published by I. K. Funk & Co) will be found deeply interesting reading by all who wish a close view of French society at a critical period.

THE ORATIONS OF DEMOSTHENES, (by the same publishers) need no commendation.

MISTER HORN AND HIS FRIENDS, OR GIVERS AND GIVING, (by the same publishers) All we need say is that this book is by Mark Guy Pearso, the author of Daniel Quorm. It is most readable.

A DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIAN ANTIQUITIES, by William Smith, D. C. L., LL. D., &c., and Samuel Cheetham. This admirable standard work is published from the English plates by the J. B. Burr Publishing Co., Hartford, Conn. Smith's Dictionaries occupy the very highest rank, and the present is not behind the best in excellence. It is in two octavo vols. with 2100 double columned pages and 600 engravings.

IMMERSION proved to be (1) not the only mode of Baptism, and (2) not a Scriptural mode at all, but an invention of the Church of Rome, by Rev. W. A. Mackay, B. A., Woodstock, Ont. We very cordially recommend this pamphlet as calculated to be of great use wherever the Baptist controversy is troubling the minds of our people. The author shows much research, and profound reverence for the Word of God.

VOLUME VIII OF KNIGHT'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND, is issued in a remarkably cheap form, by I. K. Funk & Co., New York. This completes the work.

Memoirs of my Exile, by Louis Kossuth; (same publishers) is full of the deepest passion and pathos.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERIES.

Montreal, at Montreal, 5th October, 11 a.m.
Kingston, at Kingston, 21st September.
Bruce, at Walkerton, 14th September.
Pictou, at Antigonish, 7th September.
Truro, at Parrsboro, 17th August.
Victoria and Richmond, at Whycocomah,
3rd August.
Lindsay, at Lindsay, 31st August, 11 a.m.
British Columbia, at Victoria, 6th October.
P. E. Island, at _____ 11th August.
Lanark and Renfrew, at Pembroke, 17th
August, 7 p.m.

Acknowledgments.

RECEIVED BY REV. DR. REID, AGENT
OF THE CHURCH AT TORONTO, TO
2nd JULY, 1880.

ASSEMBLY FUND.

Received to 2nd June '80...	\$43.00
Oxford	3 00
Greenhill, Salem Miss'y Soc.	3.39
Cornwallis South	4 00
Martintown, St Andrew's...	5.00
Truro, St Andrew's	8.00
Dalhousie, N B.....	2.06
Wallacetown.....	5.00
	\$73.45

HOME MISSIONS.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$356.52
Griersville	2.55
Moss, Burns' Ch	50.00
Elora, Chalmers' Ch	55.00
Beeton	40.00
Glance, St Andrew's Ladies Missionary Society	8.00
Galt, Knox Ch	100.00
An offering of a Longing Heart, Newcastle	1.00
Deans	5 67
Davenport Road Sab Soc.....	20.00
Bayfield, St Andr's	2.23
Perth, St Andrew's	20.00
Camilla	8.89
West Williams	18.00
J Edwards, Sherbrooke, Que Member of the Congregation of Wellesley	25.00
Montreal, Crescent St Ch...	155 00
Wallacetown	20.00
	\$692.92

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$214.75
Griersville	2.10
Sherbrooke, St Andw Ch, Q.	7.00
Beeton	10 00
Galt, Knox Ch	50.00
Friend of Missions Archibald Manitoba, China	1.00
do	1.00
Deans	6 67
Brucefield, Rev Jno Ross	47.00
Martintown, St Andrew's...	16 00
Perth, St Andrew's	25.00
J T Boyd, Toronto.....	50.00
J Edwards, Sherbrooke, Que.	15.00
Toronto, Old St Andrew's...	75.00
East Williams, Rev L Mo- Pherson	97.00
Member of the Congregation of Wellesley	25 00
Montreal, Crescent St Ch ...	100.00
Wallacetown	5 00
	\$747.52

COLLEGES ORDINARY FUND.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$102 15
Beeton	8.80
Nichol, Zion Ch	11.00
Galt, Knox Ch	50.00
Deans	6.65
Mitchell, Knox Ch	14.00
Perth, St Andrew's	15.00
Beverley	32.40
Brucefield, Union Ch	35.00
Wallacetown	10.00
	\$235 01

KNOX COLLEGE ORDINARY FUND.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$10.00
A member of the Congrega- tion of Wellesley	25.00
	\$35.00

**KNOX COLLEGE ORDINARY FUND
DEBT.**

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$17.00
Brussels, Melville Ch.....	13 50
Wroxeter	11.25
	\$41.75

KNOX COLLEGE BUILDING FUND.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$130.50
Keene, per Jas McNeil	26 60
Bowmanville, per Murdoch Brothers	50 00
W J Whitten, Toronto, in full	8 00
Jas Sinclair, Toronto, in full	10.00
John Fiskin, do on acc	33.34
G Sutherland, do do	10.00
	\$267.84

WIDOWS' FUND.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$22.66
Beeton	5 66
Galt, Knox Ch	20 00
Cayuga	5.00
Wallacetown	5.00
	\$66.66

With Rates from Revs J Hogg, 2
years, \$24; J A R Dickson; G D
Mathews; A Cross, \$

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

Received to 2nd June, '80...	\$49.63
Griersville	1.00
Elora, Chalmers' Ch	18.00
Beeton	5.00
Moore Line	5 50
North Georgetown	15 00
Acton, Knox Ch	10.00
Cayuga	5 00
Wallacetown	5.00
	\$108.13

Ministers' Rates Received to 2nd June, 1880	23.75
With Rates from Revs J Hogg, 3 years, \$22 50; A Cross, \$4	26.50
	\$50 25

RECEIVED BY REV. DR. MACGREGOR,
AGENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES, FROM
MAY 6th to JULY 4th, 1880.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Acknowledged already.....	\$176.40
Special for 4th Missionary to Trinidad	

O P Q, Pictou	5.00
Farmer in Rev E Grant's Cong, Upper Stowiacke	5.00
Friend, St Andrew's, N B	5 00
Friend	100 00
1st Presbyterian Cong, Truro lay in St Andrew's Ch, Chatham	41.50
A few friends in South Corn- wallis and Wolfville.....	20.00
Campbellton	34.25
Lunenburg	30.00
	40.00

New Carlisle, Hopetown and Port Daniel	10.00
A L S, Bridgewater, per Rev J Cameron	10.00
Rev Dr MacGregor	20.00
Poplar Grove S S, Halifax ..	25.00

Sherbrooke Ladies, per W F M S, Truro, for educa- ting Rev J MacKenzie's daughter	40.59
Bass River	20 96
Portauquoque	6.26
Castlereagh	1.98
St John's Ch, Chatham	25.00
St Mark's, Douglastown	3.00
W F M S, Halifax, for Miss Blackadder's salary, 1 yr.	101.60
St David's Ch, St John	101 00
	\$821.44

DAY-SPRING & MISSION SCHOOLS.

Acknowledged already.....	\$54.90
Chalmers' Ch, Hfx, towards outfit and passage of Mr Campbell, teacher to Tri- nidad	32.00
United Ch, N G, for do	30.00
let Pbyn Ch Sab Soc, St Ca- tharine's, Ont, for support of scholar in Rev S Chris- tie's schools.....	38.00
	\$152.90

HOME MISSIONS.

Acknowledged already	\$44.50
Bass River	14.76
Portauquoque.....	6.80
Castlereagh	1 97
St John's, Chatham	15.00
St Mark's, Douglastown	2.00
Interest on \$500 for 1 year ..	38.00
St David's Ch, St John	100.00
	\$215.63

SUPPLEMENTING FUND.

Acknowledged already.....	\$61.04
Bass River	5.10
Portauquoque	1 48
St John's, Chatham	25.00
St David's Ch, St John	100.00
	\$192.62

COLLEGE FUND.

Acknowledged already.....	\$166 11
Div U B, Nfld, 3 shares £120	486.11
Bonus do	£60 243.05
Dividend U B of Commerce	159.75
Interest on \$1000, 1 year.....	6.60
City Debentures	175.20
City Coupon	13.38
Bass River	6.78
Portauquoque	2.91
St John's, Chatham	15 00
St Mark's, Douglastown	2 00
St David's Ch, St John.....	75.00
	\$1405.29

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

Acknowledged already.....	\$78.75
St John's, Chatham	5.00
Interest on \$50, 1 year	31.30
City Debentures	14.60
Ministers' percentage.	
Rev John Cameron, for 1880.	4.00
John Robertson, do	2.50
	\$136.05

SYNOD FUND—MAR. PROVINCES.

Balance on hand May 1st '80.	\$57 71
North & West Cornwallis	7.00
Alberton, P E I.	4.00
	<hr/>
	\$68.71

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

RECEIVED BY REV. R. H. WARDEN, SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE BOARD OF FRENCH EVANGELIZATION, 260 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL, TO 8th JULY, 1880.

Gananoque, St Andrew's	\$28.00
Quebec, St Andrew's	120.00
Mandamun Sab So	5.00
Fenelon Falls & Somerville	8 00
New Glasgow, N S, UnitedCh	136.50
A friend, Belleville	2.00
Doon	3.00
Thorold Sab So	11.00
Sherbrooke, Que	7.00
Metcalf Sab So	3 78
Tara	6.00
Buckingham	8.00
A Presbyterian	4.09
Oneida	7.75
Montreal, Crescent St.	60.00
Fitzroy Harbour & Tarbolton	8.00
W P McLaren, Watford	4.00
Perth, St Andrew's	15.00
Carp, Kinburn & Lowrie Ch.	9.00
Scarboro, Knox Ch	49.10
Bequest of J Robertson.	
Ulston Farm, St Ann's, C B	15.67
Per Jane J Irving, Cherry Valley, P E I.	5.25
Presbyterian Ch of Ireland.	243.33
A friend, New Glasgow, P E I	10.00
Lancaster, Knox Sab So	12.60
Dr Dunsmore's Bible-class, Mitchell	15.00
	<hr/>
Per Rev. Dr McGregor, Halifax:—	
Cove Head, P E I	7.75
East River, St Mary's Sab S.	1.29
Summerside, P E I.	23 00

Mrs T Cameron, Loch Broom	0.50
Mira, Sydney	12.00
Blackville and Derby	10.00
Georgetown, P E I	29.75
Chatham, N B, St John's Ch	12.00
St John, N B, St David's Ch	37.00
J Turner, French Riv, Pictou	2.00
	<hr/>
Per Rev Dr Reid, Toronto:—	
Scott and Uxbridge	8.00
Esqueving, Union Ch	42.85
Rosemount	5 00
Malmur	5 03
Laskoy	6 50
Paisley, Knox Ch	13.60
Arthur	7.50
Bequest of David Butler, Ancaster Township	10.10
Balaklava	5.10
	<hr/>
	\$1191.52

QUEEN'S COLLEGE ENDOWMENT.

Local Treasurers are requested to follow the mode of entry adopted below. The lists will be made up at Kingston, on the 1st of each month, E. C. IRELAND, Treasurer. Ab. 1 on 100 means the first instalment on \$100, and so with the rest.

Already acknowledged... Kingston.	\$69,400.06
Jas'Ande	on acc 25.00
W Gemmill	2 on 100 20 00
	<hr/>
Mill Point,	
Rev R J Craig	2 on 100 20.00
	<hr/>
Montreal.	
B Lyman	in full 109.00
H McLennan	do 100.00
	<hr/>
Ottawa.	
J Hardie	1 on 100 20.00
A McKellar	2 on 100 25.00

C Camoron	2 on 100	50.00
W T Jennings	2 on 100	25.00
J J McCracken	2 on 100	29.00
Friend	2 on 100	20.00
		<hr/>
		\$160.00

Belleville.

J B Murphy	2 on 100	20.00
S S Laggier	2 on 100	25.00

Campbellford.

R Cocks	in full	10.00
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Kincardine.

A Malcolm	2 on 25	5.00
J Watson	Balance	3 00

Toronto.

W B Geikie	on acc	34.00
D It Wilkie	on acc	20.00
J Leys	in full	200.00
A Jardine	2 on 250	50.00
		<hr/>
		\$304.00

Total to 1st July.....\$70192.06

THEOLOGICAL HALL BUILDING AND ENDOWMENT FUND, FARQUHAR FOREST & CO., TREASURERS, 173 HOLLIE ST., HALIFAX, TO JUNE 30th, 1880.

Already acknowledged	\$55,275.24
J Cumming, Sherbrooke, N S	20.00
Henry Sanderson, St. Peter's Bay, P E I.	5.00
Upper Londonderry	10.00
Mrs Capt McMillan, Woodville, P E I.	2.00
Rev D B Blair, Barney's Riv. N S.	20.00
Barney's River, N S	8.00
	<hr/>
	\$55,340.24

JUVENILE MISSION SCHEME.

Miss Machar, Kingston, Treas.,

Indore Mission Soc'y, Q'bec	\$60.00
St. Gabriel St. S. School	20.00

AFTER much research and great labour, an American savant has prepared the following statement of the progress of Christianity. At the close of each century the number of believers is given :—

Century.	About.
First	500,000
Second	2,000,000
Third	5,000,000
Fourth	10,000,000
Fifth	15,000,000
Sixth	20,000,000
Seventh	24,000,000
Eighth	30,000,000
Ninth	40,000,000
Tenth	50,000,000
Eleventh	70,000,000
Twelfth	80,000,000
Thirteenth	75,000,000
Fourteenth	80,000,000
Fifteenth	100,000,000
Sixteenth	125,000,000
Seventeenth	155,000,000
Eighteenth	200,000,000

During the present century it is estimated that the Church has doubled its communicants. It is about one hundred years since the commencement of modern foreign missions. There are now at least one million and a half of converts from heathenism. The Bible has been translated into two hundred and twenty-six different languages, and the copies circulated amount to 148,000,000. More than seventy barbarous languages have been endowed with a grammar and literature.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE. KINGSTON.

The 40th Session will be opened in the Faculty of Arts on the 6th October, and in the Faculty of Theology on 3rd November next. The Calendar containing full information as to Examinations, Graduation in Science, Arts, Medicine, and Theology, Scholarships, Fees, &c., &c., also Examination papers for Session 1879-80, may be obtained on application to the Registrar, Rev. Prof. Mowat, Gananoque.

J. B. MOWAT, Registrar.

July 13th, 1880.