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JULY, 1878.

## Ecclesiastical Assemblies.

### THE UNITED STATES—NORTH.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States which met at Pittsburgh on the 16th May, was chiefly occupied with business of a routine character. This, however, instead of detracting from the interest of its proceedings, stamped them with exceptional value: for the usefulness and prosperity of a church, consist after all in the proper regulation of its internal affairs, and the promotion of evangelistic and missionary and educational enterprises, rather than in the exercise of discipline and lengthened arguments respecting dogma and doctrine. Dr. Patton of Chicago, was the Moderator, — the youngest Moderator, it is alleged, who ever occupied the chair of that Assembly, but who proved himself well qualified for a position which above most others, requires quick perception, tact, and firmness, combined with such a knowledge of men and things as command unquestioning respect and obedience. One of the first acts of the Assembly was the formal unveiling of a memorial tablet commemorative of the Union of the old and new school Presbyterians, which took place in Pittsburgh, in 1869. A marked feeling of unity pervaded this Assembly, the old lines of division being almost entirely obliterated. The Sabbath School, its hymnology, literature, and equipment generally, occupied a prominent place in the deliberations. The Home and Foreign Missions, however, were the subjects in which all others found a common centre. Although in the discussions which took place, there was the appearance of threatened clashing of jurisdiction, yet it was evident that the heart of the Church was right in respect of both. The receipts from all sources on behalf of Foreign Missions were \$463,351, and the expenditure \$511 180. Early in the year, the gift of \$50,000 by Mrs. Green, had extinguished

the indebtedness of the Board, but owing to the decrease of contributions, a deficit was again reported of \$47,829. A matter of some difficulty has been to hit upon a satisfactory basis of representation in an Assembly of such large dimensions as this. It was now agreed to fix the ratio of representation at one Commissioner for every 2,500 ministers and communicants combined, and that when the membership of the Assembly exceeds 350, the Assembly may change the ratio, so as to reduce the size of the body. The solution is not considered satisfactory, owing to the uncertain and fluctuating, not to say at times, deceptive nature of ecclesiastical statistics. An overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, representing that the clause of the so called Apostles' Creed which asserts that Christ "descended into hell" is offensive, and conveys an erroneous idea to those who recite or read it, gave rise to an animated discussion, but resulted in no action being taken in regard to it. In answer to the question, Should converts from Romanism be re-baptized? a previous decision of Assembly was confirmed, namely, that the matter should be left to the Session of each Congregation. The case of Rev. Dr. Miller, of New Jersey, suspended from the ministry for publishing heretical doctrines, was the most important judicial case before the Assembly. The sentence of the Presbytery was sustained by a very large majority. A resolution was adopted on the influence of the secular press, recognizing the services it renders, and urging the exclusion of obscene news.

The *Presbyterian Banner* thinks that this Assembly taken as a whole, has not been equalled since the Union, in ability, acquaintance with the rules of order, and in all that constitutes it a representative body.

### Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

THIS Synod commenced its sittings in Edinburgh, on the 13th of May. The proceedings were invested with unusual interest. The Rev. David Croom, of

Edinburgh, was elected Moderator. Referring to the important questions which were being discussed, he expressed his conviction that it was impossible to meet and seriously consider these great topics without rising from the examination better and wiser, purer and more thoroughly furnished unto every good work.

It was being broadly hinted in some quarters that the U. P. Church and the Free Church were not in a good way—(laughter)—that they were rather falling than standing churches, because serious errors were rising up in their midst, so serious as to call for that very sharp ordeal—a libel. But in answer, he had to say that it was no proof that a church was falling or unfaithful, that seeming or real errors arose and had to be dealt with. He thought that they had good reason to be grateful at the condition of their Church, as would appear from the facts to be subsequently laid before them.

**DISESTABLISHMENT**—A series of resolutions were submitted, and carried by overwhelming majorities, recording the conviction of the Synod in favour of a separation of Church and State. The resolutions contained a renewal of the oft-repeated testimony of this Church against the system of State Churches "as unscriptural, opposed to equity, and hurtful to the well-being of religion and society, and emphatically condemns all attempts at legislative compromise or alternative on the question of disestablishment."

**THE STATISTICS** of the Church shewed an increase of eight congregations during the year. The number of Congregations was 534. The members in full communion numbered 173,554—an increase of 1,384. There were 841 Sabbath Schools, and 693 Bible Classes, affording means of religious instruction to 79,816 scholars, and 25,001 pupils respectively. Eighty-eight Students attend the Theological Hall. The congregational contributions shewed an average of about \$2260 from each congregation. The total income of the Church was about \$1,895,000. The average stipend to each minister was \$1,300.

**THE STANDARDS**.—A lengthened discussion took place on the report of a Committee appointed at last meeting to consider the advisability or otherwise of revising the subordinate standards of the Church. The Committee stated that the idea of revising the standards, in the proper sense of the term, was entertained by none, but that they had agreed to recommend the framing of a declaratory statement containing such explanations as were judged needful in regard to the existing standards. This statement was, subject to some amendments, approved, and sent down to Presbyteries and Sessions for their consideration.

The *First Article* asserts the doctrine of redemption through Christ. The *Second* relates to the doctrine of election, which is declared to be in harmony with the truth that "God will have all men to be saved," and has provided a salvation for all, adapted to all, and offered to all, with the Grace of His Spirit in the Gospel: and also with the responsibility of every man for his dealing with the free and unrestricted offer of eternal life.

The *Fourth* declares that while all who are saved are saved by the mediation of Christ and by the grace of His Holy Spirit, who worketh when, and where, and how He pleaseth: and while the duty of sending the Gospel, the ordinary means of salvation, to the heathen, who are sunk in a state of sin and misery, and perishing for lack of knowledge, is clear and imperative, the Church does not require the acceptance of her standards in a sense which might imply that any who die in infancy are lost; nor does she bind those who accept these standards to hold that God never, in any case, does save without the use of the ordinary means.

The *Seventh* article allows liberty of opinion on such points in the standards not entering into the substance of the faith, as the interpretation of the "six days" in the Mosiac account of the creation.

The Committee further recommend to the Synod that the second question of the formula shall henceforth be read as follows:—"Do you acknowledge the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms as an exhibition of the sense in which you understand the Holy Scriptures?"

The chief event in connection with the Synod, however, was the case of Rev. F. Ferguson, appealed from the Presbytery of Glasgow. The Committee appointed to confer with Mr. Ferguson having reported that a majority of them were satisfied with Mr. Ferguson's explanation of his doctrinal views, Dr. Calderwood moved a resolution to the effect that the Synod should restore Mr. Ferguson to his ministerial functions, with an affectionate admonition to present his doctrinal positions in such a manner as to set forth their harmony with the great fundamental doctrines of the Church. This motion was carried by a majority of 142 to 90.

In the case of a Mr. Steele, of Greenock, who had been suspended from membership by his kirk-session for having married his deceased wife's sister, a Committee reported that in the present state of the laws of the Church, his restoration was inadmissible.

**THE REV. DR. JOHN C. BAXTER**, of Stanley Street Church, Montreal, at one of the sederunts, delivered an eloquent address on the condition and prospects of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. His speech is described as being seasoned with the raciness of an American, the solidity of a Scotchman, and the practical common sense of a Canadian. Unfortunately we have not seen it in print, and the telephone is not yet sufficiently far-reaching for us to have caught the sounds of his voice.

## Church of Scotland General Assembly.

**THIS** venerable Assembly met on the 23rd May. The opening was brilliant as usual. The levee, and the long procession from Holyrood to the Cathedral

of St. Giles, the Lord High Commissioner attended by a brilliant staff, the military escort, the salvo of artillery great guns, and the loud sounding trumpets, called forth as usual, the plaudits of thousands of spectators. Dr. Phin preached an orthodox sermon from the words, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine," in which he discoursed upon the tendency of the present age to explain away doctrines revealed in the bible from which worldly minds recoiled. Principal Tulloch, of St. Andrew's, was elected Moderator. The Earl of Rosslyn presided in state, as Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner. We have only room at present to notice the

#### REPORT OF THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE

which gave rise to a lengthened discussion on the policy of extending aid to the Colonies, and especially to the Dominion of Canada.

Rev. R. Muir, of Dalmony, the Convener, in his introductory speech, stated that the desire of the Committee was to observe an attitude of strict neutrality, as between their brethren in Canada, who had recently united with other Churches under the name of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and those who had declined entering into the union. The Committee felt the position an embarrassing one. For, while they were anxious to encourage all evangelistic work, it was found difficult to do so in Canada on account of the divided state of Presbyterianism there, and the consequent risk of "aggravating the existing state of things." Hence his opinion that the proper course was "the withdrawal of the Church of Scotland from the attempt to cooperate, where the aid given may be mistaken only for the supply of war material in an internecine conflict for mere denominational supremacy."

There are strong terms, and must have been suggested by representations respecting which we are entirely ignorant. We trust the good people of Scotland will not be misled by them. We can assure the respected Convener that we are not quite so bad as these statements imply. Certain it is, that not one farthing of the money that has so generously been given by the people of Scotland in aid of the Missions of "the Presbyterian Church in Canada," has been spent for any other purposes than those intended by the donors. We therefore entirely concur in that part of the report which suggests:—

"That grants to the Presbyterian Churches

throughout the Dominion of Canada should be made the subject of special enquiry by the Colonial Committee, with a view to such modifications as existing circumstances may seem to require."

The Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of St. John, N. B., after the reading of the report, addressed the Assembly on the state of the United Church in Canada, and at the request of the Assembly, was thanked by the Moderator, who requested him to assure his brethren in Canada, that the Church of Scotland is deeply interested in our church. Rev. E. Masson, of Edinburgh, moved the adoption of the report. He made an earnest appeal on behalf of the Colonial Churches, for the aid which many of them need. Rev. Mr. Playfair, of Abercorn, seconded the motion. Professor Charteris questioned the expediency of expending so large a proportion of the funds of the Committee as £2200 in the Dominion of Canada, where two churches were now applying to them for favour, and these two churches he said were "at strife with one another," in proof of which he cited the deposition of Dr. Snodgrass, by those in Canada connected with the Church of Scotland. "It had been reported to him that there were things taught in Queen's College, Canada, contrary to the Church of Scotland. (1) He therefore thought the Assembly would do wisely if they said, 'We will not give more money at present to maintain this bitter internecine struggle.' He suggested that fuller information should be furnished the Assembly of the actual needs of the churches in Canada, and of the manner in which the grants already made had been expended and "whether any portion of the grants go towards maintaining denominational strife." Dr. Story thought that the Canadians were now quite able to provide all that was needed for their own educational Institutions, and that expenditure on this behalf should now be put a stop to. Sir James Ferguson argued for a generous consideration of the claims of the colonies which still laboured under many disadvantages. He held that the distinctions in all the colonies would soon disappear, and that "the fragments of the churches there were gravitating to a common centre." In the meantime, he deprecated anything being done against giving assistance to Canada. Principal Pirie objected to any policy which might seem to favour unseemly rivalry between the Churches in Canada. The fullest information should be given as to the nature of claims coming from Canada.

It is not necessary further to follow this extremely interesting debate, from which it is clear that the Colonial Committee and the Assembly find themselves in a perplexing position, so much so that they feel themselves shut up to the conclusion that they must contemplate the withdrawal of their grants to Canada altogether. If such be their judgment, we have not a word to say against it. It is all right. We have, it is true, difficulties to contend with in a new country, but the sooner we are prepared to face them manfully, and to accept all the responsibilities implied in our efforts to make "the Presbyterian Church in Canada" worthy of its ancestry, and worthy the Dominion, the better it will be for the usefulness and prosperity of the Church. We have unlimited faith in the resources of Canada, and while appreciating every act of kindness received at the hands of the parent churches, and looking to them still for their sympathy in whatever form it shall be expressed, it is not right that we should be any longer *burdensome* to them.

## The Sabbath School.

### INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

#### BIRTH OF CHRIST THE LORD.

July 7th.]

Luke 2: 8-20.

Verse 7.—The birth of our Lord probably took place in the beginning of April, at which season shepherds, according to custom, would spend the night with their flocks, in the open fields. The wonderful and glorious event which has taken place is announced by an "angel," or messenger of Jehovah, not to the Scribes and Pharisees, but to the pious shepherds; and the "glory"—the shechinah—the bright symbol of Jehovah's presence is around them. See Exod. 13: 21, 16: 1 Kings, 8: 10-11, Matt. 17: 5. The angel calms the fear which his presence has awakened by the most blessed announcement the ear of mortal had ever heard. The great Deliverer had come: in Bethlem—the city of His great ancestor and type, on whose throne he should sit—the Saviour was born: and though a child, this Saviour was the *Anointed One* and *Jehovah*—"Christ the Lord." (Nowhere else is the Saviour so named. See Ch. 23: 2; Acts 2: 36; Col. 3: 24.) The angel gives a token that his words are true. "Ye shall find a babe," &c., not "the babe." How humble the circumstances in which the "King of Glory" came! "No room in the inn." (v. 7.) But in heaven the greatness of the event was known: and earth is not left in entire ignorance of it. The heavenly messenger who declares the event is not alone. A numerous choir of angelic voices forthwith unite with his in singing lofty but gracious words. (See Gen. 32: 1-2; Ps. 103; 20-21; Ps. 68; 174; Heb. 1: 14.) "Glory to God:" there is glory—let there be glory—to Him "in the highest," i. e., among the high and heavenly intelligences. This, as is fit, is the first note of the song. (Rom. 11; 36.) "And on earth peace:" for "He is our peace," (Eph. 2: 14), and "made peace through the blood of His cross," (Col. 1: 20); and so, justified by faith "we have peace with God," through Him, (Rom. 5: 1). Thus the ancient oracle is fulfilled, "peace to him that is far off and to him that is near," (Is. 57; 19.) and thus he can say "peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you," (Jn. 14; 27.) "Peace between God and man, between man and angels, between man and man, between man and his own conscience." There is also signified in this birth, God's "good will toward men," or, as another reading gives it, there is "peace among men of good will,"—men i. e. who are the objects of God's gracious though sovereign will.

No sooner are the angels gone than the shepherds proceed to verify this wondrous statement. Not with doubt, but with solemn yet eager joy they go straight to Bethlehem. They find the babe in the manger, and Mary and Joseph are there. No secrecy is enjoined upon them, and the angelic announcement is declared abroad. Their words, though imperfectly comprehended, are enough to fill with wonder all who hear them. But Mary treasures up in her remembrance, and revolves in "her heart"—compares with one another—the words and events that had come to her knowledge. The shepherds return to their home, "praising" and thus "glorifying" God—the God of salvation.

July 14th.]

A. D. 8.

Luke 2: 40-52.

#### THE CHILDHOOD OF JESUS.

This section records the visit of Jesus with Joseph and Mary to the temple at the Passover. His parents (no mistake can arise from using this term) being pious persons, went up yearly to the Passover.

According to a famous Jewish school, women were bound to go up to the Passover, though not to the other feasts. Jesus, being twelve years of age, would now be called a "son of the Law," henceforth he observes the "ordinances of the Law;" but we cannot affirm that He had never been at the Passover before. A new stage in the development—the inward life—of the Lord is here marked. The consciousness of His work takes possession of Him. "The seven days" (Ex. 12; 15-17) of the feast are fulfilled, and Joseph and Mary with their company, have made a day's journey homewards before they discover that the "child Jesus" is not with them. We need not impute carelessness to them, for they never doubt that one so observant of all he should do, is in the company. But when the caravan puts up for the night, he is missed. With anxiety and sorrow the parents return to the city, seeking him. After "three days" they find him in the temple. He is in one of the rooms where the Rabbis teach, sitting "in the midst of," i. e., among, these doctors. Deeply interested in the subjects of which they discourse, He listens, and uses the privilege of scholars in asking questions. All who hear him are astonished at the depth of understanding and spiritual discernment which the child of twelve years discovers. It was afterwards said "never man spake like this man," and "men wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth:" With joyful amazement his parents find him; and his mother (mark this as indicating her peculiar relation to him) with grateful heart, set as with wounded affection, asks why His father and she had been so treated. His memorable answer, disclaims the paternity of Joseph. God—He only—is His father. Up to this time Joseph had been so called by the holy child Himself; but from this time, *never*. "Wist ye not?" &c. There was no ground of surprise in His being found in the house and in the *quarters* of His Father. He "must" be in these. A word often on His lips; for the Father had given Him a work to do, and appointed Him suffering to be endured. (See Ch. 4, 43; and 4: 3; John 10; 16; 20; 9.) The words of Jesus were not "understood" by Joseph and His mother. They knew already, in some measure, who He was, (Ch. 1: 35) but like the disciples on other occasions, they could not penetrate the deep meaning of His words. (chap. 18: 34; Mk. 9; 32.) Jesus returned with Joseph and Mary to their home, and with true affection "was subject to them:" even as afterwards he probably wrought at His reputed father's trade. (Mark 6; 3.) But the mother, while imperfectly understanding, did not forget these words: she "preserved" them in her heart, (v. 19). Jesus continued to advance in wisdom, as in "stature" or "age," (the word means both). As his powers unfolded and the consciousness of His mission grew upon him, He more and more became the object of the divine favour: nor had men yet begun to hate Him as they afterwards did.—John 7: 7.

July 21st.]

A. D. 26.

[Luke 3; 15-22]

#### MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

The preceding verses of this chapter fix the date of John the Baptist's ministry; show that he came in accordance with prophecy, and set forth the substance of his preaching. His doctrine and his life made a deep impression upon the people. Every one was eagerly enquiring who John was; was he the Christ? There was not a little about him to suggest that he was the Messiah. And we read in John 1, 19-28, that a deputation was sent to interrogate him as to who he was. Was he the Christ? Elias? that prophet? He answered no to all. Though his ministry shook the conscience of the nation, the Messiah's should be far more penetrating—terrible. The coming One was "mightier," "for He was before him," (Jn. 1; 30)—divine, while John was but human. John felt himself unworthy to loose the thong of his sandals. John's baptism

with water represents purification; the baptism of Christ "with" or "in" the Holy Ghost effects it. The baptism of "fire" some understand as appointed for the unconverted; but the fate of the unconverted is declared in the next verse. Better to take the "fire" as here purifying the good: for fire has a double symbolic reference, (Heb. 12: 29.) The separation of the righteous and the wicked by and in consequence of Christ's ministry, is compared to the separation of wheat from the chaff. "The wheat"—the righteous—shall be gathered into the heavenly garner; "the chaff"—the wicked—shall fall under the action of unextinguishable fire. John's ministry is "a significant hint to those who consider a representation of the judgments of the Lord inconsistent with the full and free preaching of the gospel." What is related is far, however, from representing all that John said, (v. 18.) Verses 18-20 are peculiar to Luke. What is said in them is not inconsistent with Mk. 6-20, which see. Herod is son of Herod the Great. He married first the daughter of King Aretas; afterwards his brother Philip's wife. Mk. 6: 17-20. The courage of John in reproving the adulterous and incestuous King procured his imprisonment in the fortress of Machabrus, between Pernea and Arabia; where he was kept till he was beheaded. This was the climax of Herod's guilt. See Matt 14: 3-12. When "all the people," i. e., the great body of them were baptized, (for there were those who declined John's baptism, (ch. 7: 3)) the Lord sought and received baptism at John's hands. The Lord sought the "baptism of repentance," because, though sinless, "He was made sin for us." So also He observed the Passover, &c. His baptism may also represent His consecration of Himself. While Jesus was praying (Luke often mentions his praying) "the heavens were opened"—all that obstructs the vision of what is above, being removed to the spiritual eye, (Ezek. 1: 1) The Holy Ghost descended in the form of a dove, (not merely as a dove descends) representing the gentle and benign graces bestowed upon Him (See Is. 11: 2-3). The spirit "remained"—was not a transient visitor, (Jn. 1: 32.) Accompanying the descent of the Spirit is the "voice," recognizing the *sonship*; of the baptized—sonship as none else has it, (Ps. 2: 7.)

July 28th.] A. D. 31. [Luke 4: 16-30.

### JESUS AT NAZARETH.

The anointing of the Spirit which Jesus received at His baptism remained with Him. He had an early Judean ministry, related in the Gospel of John, though not in Matthew, Mark, or Luke. This immediately followed His baptism. In the power of the Spirit then conveyed He returns to Galilee, where His ministry was chiefly exercised. Preceded by the fame of many miracles, He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. Nazareth still lies on a mountain precipice from 400 to 500 feet high, above a valley half a league in circumference. He goes to the synagogue on the sabbath, as he had been wont to do, (v. 15: 44.) It was common for the ruler of the synagogue to ask any person of note present to read and explain, (Acts 13: 15.) Full of zeal, the Lord offers himself to read. His "fame" would lead those present to expect this of Him. The "roll" was handed Him. The custom was to read a portion of the Pentateuch and a portion of the Prophets every Sabbath. Whether the Lord read the portion for that very Sabbath, is not certain: if so, the Sabbath would be the great Day of Atonement. He "found" the place—was providentially directed to it. The passage read is Is 61: 1-2: the words "to set at liberty them that are bruised," being from Is. 58: 6. Jesus rolls up the book and sits down, (as was usual in explaining the scriptures.) All eyes were upon Him. He declares that the words read were fulfilled in Himself, the Spirit given at His baptism had resulted in a powerful and gracious ministry, such

as Isaiah describes. His hearers "bore witness" that it is so, and are astonished at His discourse—rather at the manner than the matter of it. His humble origin had given Him no educational advantages. But they were jealous as well as surprised. He knew what was passing in their minds, and suggests the proverb which would be upon their lips—"physician" &c. The Lord gives a reason for His conduct, v. 24, (see Mark 6: 4: Jn. 4: 44), and He gives instances in which Elijah and Elisha—two of the greatest prophets—did not observe the maxim "physician," &c. Not Jews, but a Sidonian and a Syrian, received the benefit of the miracles, (v. 25. compare James 5: 17: and 1 Kings 18: 1. It is not said in Kings from what time the 3rd year is dated.) The audience, greatly enraged, (see Acts 22: 22) hurry the Saviour to a precipice, to cast Him down it, "He came to His own and His own received Him not." He calmly—perhaps exercising miraculous power—passed through the midst of the crowd, and went His way.

August 4th.] A. D. 31. [Luke 5: 1-11.

### THE DRAUGHT OF FISHES.

Henceforth, the Lord's ministry is closely connected with the Lake of Genosetar, or Sea of Tiberias, or Sea of Galilee. This beautiful sheet of water, twelve miles long and five or six broad, in a deep basin, surrounded with a continuous wall of hills, with important towns, such as Tiberias, Capernaum, and Bethsaida on its shores—has been more honoured than almost any spot on earth.

On this occasion the Lord asks Simon—i. e., Peter, (Jn. 1: 42) whose boat was brought to shore in order to wash the nets, to push out a little distance. He takes His station in the boat and preaches. The discourse being ended, He will touch Peter and the other Apostles, and all who preach the Gospel, a great lesson regarding their ministry,—that all fruitfulness—all success—must come from Him. He will teach them the value of Faith. A lesson this, so important, that after His resurrection, another like miracle is wrought to enforce it, (See Jn. 21: 1-6. At the Master's word, Peter, little hopeful, owing to past ill-success, launches out and lets down his net. He already knows something of Him whose command He has received. For it seems almost certain that Peter and his brother Andrew, with James and John, have already been called, as recorded in Matt. 4: 18-22: and Mark 1: 16-20: and the interview of John 1: 40-42, had taken place. Though called as a disciple to follow Christ, he had not yet been asked to leave his occupation. "He brings his fishermen's theory as a sacrifice to his faith at Jesus' word alone." Such a draught of fishes is taken that the net breaks, (rather "was breaking" i. e., had begun to break.) Their partners are called to help them, and both ships are filled with fishes to the point of sinking. The impression on Peter's mind is overwhelming. Though, probably, he has seen other miracles wrought, this one, from the circumstances, is peculiarly impressive. Brought so near to the divine majesty, the sense of his utter unworthiness is borne in upon him; and whilst he would cleave to his Master in life and in death, he cannot refrain from saying "depart from me," &c. See Dan. 10: 7-8. The Lord hears his prayer in its deepest meaning, but He does not "depart" from Peter; rather He draws Peter nearer to Himself. The word previously spoken, (Matt. 4: 19) is repeated—"from henceforth thou shalt catch men" The term means to "take or capture alive"; but, probably, this is not to be pressed. See John 21, 15-17. Far higher work than that pursued on the lake was before him, and he must give himself wholly to it. Nor are Peter and his companions reluctant to leave both fishes and boat—all that the world has for them; "they forsook all and followed Him." In His kingdom they who have forsaken most for Him shall gain an hundred-fold.

## Our own Church.

### MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE fourth General Assembly of the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA, commenced its proceedings in the City of Hamilton, in the *Central Church* there, on Wednesday, the 12th of June, at half past seven o'clock p.m. The place of meeting was all that could be desired in point of situation and comfort. The Church is large and well ventilated. The arrangements made for the reception and entertainment of the members, under the supervision of Mr. James Walker, were exceedingly satisfactory and were fully implemented by the hospitality of the good people of Hamilton, who, we doubt not, were in many cases rewarded by the discovery that they had entertained angels unawares.

The Assembly was composed of 360 Ministers and Elders,—this being *one fourth* of the whole. At the opening meeting there were about 180 who answered the roll-call. On the succeeding Friday 156 Ministers and 117 Elders answered to their names, but we believe the number actually in attendance exceeded three hundred.

Owing to the absence of the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. McLeod, of Sydney, Cape Breton, by reason of severe illness, Dr. Topp, of Knox Church, Toronto—the previous Moderator—presided at the opening services and preached an admirable discourse from Colossians I: 27-29, “Christ in you the hope of glory: whom we preach, warning every man, in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus, &c.” It was noticed that, in deference to the conscientious scruples of such of the members as object to the use of instrumental music, the splendid organ with which the Church is furnished, was not used in the occasion. But the psalmody was effectively led by the well-trained choir of the Church. At the subsequent seditments, the Rev. P. M. McLeod, of Stratford, at the request of the Assembly, led the singing.

The Assembly having been constituted by Dr. Topp in the usual manner, the roll was called, and the election of a Moderator was proceeded with. The clerk read the names of persons nominated for the office by Presbyteries. These were Revds. Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Cochrane, Dr. Proudfoot, Principal Grant, Messrs. Thos. Duncan and Donald McRae. But when the vote came to be taken, it was found that the names of four were withdrawn. The choice now remained between Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Cochrane, and the former was elected by a vote of 96 to 61,—whereupon the election of Dr. Jenkins was made unanimous. Dr. Topp thanked the Assembly on his own behalf, and conducted the new Moderator to the chair. Dr. Jenkins acknowledged the honour conferred upon him in a few graceful sentences. A resolution was then adopted thanking Dr. Topp for his services, and for the sermon which he had preached, and expressing the deep sympathy of the Assembly with Dr. McLeod, the ex-Moderator, in his present affliction. After some matters of routine had been attended to, the Assembly adjourned.

### Second Day.

The Assembly met at 11 o'clock, Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Moderator, in the chair. The greater part of the sederunt was spent in devotional exercises.

#### SALUTATIONS.

Rev. Arthur NEVIN, D.D., LL.D., of Philadelphia, who was appointed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, was invited to take a seat on the platform.

THE MODERATOR gave the delegate a cordial welcome.

Rev. Dr. NEVIN, said he was glad to be present at this meeting for several reasons. One was that the presiding officer of this Assembly (Dr. Jenkins) was for many years the esteemed pastor of Calvary church Philadelphia, when he (Dr. Nevin) was pastor of Alexandria church. The next reason was because this was now a Union Assembly, as was the Assembly which he represented here to-day. We are now one, and know nothing of the past, and are hopeful for the future. Another reason why he was so happy to be present was

because he found so agreeable a body before whom to represent his Assembly. He was raised in the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania, amongst the Scotch-Irish people. He spoke of the happy results of union in his own country, and anticipated a time of still wider unions. Under the General Assembly of the United States, they last year had 37 Synods, 175 Presbyteries, 5,053 Churches, 43,068 members received on examination, 20,702 received on certificate, and 591,606 children in attendance at Sunday Schools. The total contributions last year, which were somewhat affected by the stringency of the times, were \$8,295,365. He rejoiced to see the Presbyterians of Canada prospering. He liked the country, and his visit to it convinced him that the kingdom of God knows no limits; and he went home now understanding better than ever, how, if God should take him away, he could be at home with those whom he had never seen before, because they were born of one spirit, had one faith and one hope.

DR. BELL moved, That the Assembly, having heard Rev. Dr. Nevin, delegate from the General Assembly of the United States, thank him for his excellent address, and request him to convey to his Assembly the cordial brotherly greetings of this Church, and express the hope that we and they may abound yet more fully in the advancing of God's work.

PROF. GREGG seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

#### PAN-PRESBYTERIAN COUNCIL.

DR. REID on behalf of Principal Snodgrass, presented that gentleman's report on correspondence with other Churches. The report stated that, as the committee could not be called together before the Assembly met, it had been written by Dr. Snodgrass, who was convener. An expression of the great value to the Church at large of such a gathering was contained in it. In conclusion, it stated that the next Council would be held at Philadelphia in 1880.

PRINCIPAL CAVEN said the other members of the Committee, of which Principal Snodgrass was convener, had thought it desirable that a report should be given by them to supplement that statement. He had to report on behalf of the Committee that, although no formal meeting had been held by them, yet their views had all been ascertained by correspondence. Commissions had been given to the Rev. W. Mitchell, of St. John, N. B., to represent the Presbyterian Church in Canada at the meeting of the Assembly of the Church of Scotland; Rev. J. Forrest, of Halifax, N. S. to attend the Free Church of Scotland As-

sembly; and to Rev. Dr. J. C. Baxter, of Montreal to attend the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland. It was not deemed advisable to issue any other commissions as no communications had been received from other Churches warranting such steps being taken. He condemned the method of members asking to be elected commissioners, as such applications were always sure to be embarrassing to the Committee; but stated that in this case the commissions had been granted without pressure, as the Committee believed the gentlemen sent were good men, and would worthily represent the Church.

MR. CROLL, Principal Caven, Principal McVicar, Dr. Robb, Mr. MacLennan, Messrs J. S. Black, R. Campbell, and T. Sedgwick gave briefly their impressions of the General Presbyterian Council held last July in Edinburgh. These impressions were on the whole very favourable. On motion of Principal Grant seconded by Dr. Waters, it was resolved: That the Assembly has listened with much satisfaction to the report of the delegates to the Pan Presbyterian Council, and commends the members of that delegation for their diligence; that the report of the Committee on Correspondence with other Churches be received, and their action approved.

#### STATE OF RELIGION.

This subject was before the Assembly in the evening. Mr. J. W. MITCHELL, of Mitchell, submitted the Committee's report. Reports had been received from 40 Sessions this year more than last. The fullest returns had been sent from the Synod of Hamilton and London. The Committee feared that judging by the returns a very considerable number of the families in the Church were not in the habit of observing family worship. The reports, as a whole, make it clear there are large numbers standing aloof from becoming communicants of the Church, partly from the raising of the standard of qualification for membership on one hand, and a fuller appreciation of the responsibility of becoming Church members on the other. Sabbath Schools and Bible classes exist in large numbers, and are efficiently taught; but it was to be regretted that many who left the Sunday School drifted away from the Church and were scarcely ever found in the Bible Class. Normal classes for assisting teachers were occupying the attention of the Church to a considerable extent. The distinctive principles of their Church had not been so prominently taught as they should have been, and it was not to be wondered at that many members drifted away



to fashionable places, and were influenced thereby rather than by the great truths on which the Church is founded. Special evangelistic services had been held in many of their churches, and great interest had been awakened in the communities where the services were held, and considerable additions to the Church had been the result. As to the supervision of the people, ministers generally visited once a year, whilst others only visited the sick; others visit twice, and sometimes three times. The committee recommended not only the preaching of Christ in the pulpit, but the carrying of the gospel from door to door. The eldership was not made to do so large a work as they might. Only one congregation reported they had no prayer meeting. The prevailing sins were reported to be worldliness, intemperance, pleasure-seeking, levity, and Sabbath-breaking. One of the great hindrances to the spread of the gospel is the crying tendency to resort to God-dishonouring methods of raising money for church purposes, which some of our churches have adopted. The evil of intemperance, the Committee believe to be on the wane. Very few cases of breaches of Church discipline were reported, whether because there were less infringements of the rules of the Church, or less tendency to put the rules in force, the Committee were unable to say. The report concluded with an expression of thankfulness that the Church was prospering, and that it had shown great advancement during the year.

PRINCIPAL CAVEN moved the following deliverance on the subject:

"That the General Assembly receives the report, and expresses its thanks to Almighty God for it, and for the encouraging facts which it reveals; but especially for the increase of interest shown on the part of Presbyteries in this great scheme of the Church, for the times of refreshing vouchsafed to many congregations, and the signs of spiritual life observed around us, and in reference to the complaints, such as neglect of family worship, the small share of labour taken in the Church by many from whom good services might be expected, the prevalence of sin in various forms, the large number living without God, the General Assembly deploras the same, and appoints that in the devotions during the Assembly, humble confession of these sins be made at the throne of heavenly grace, and that supplications be made for a large measure of the Holy Spirit, and that a Committee be appointed on the State of Religion for the ensuing year.

This was seconded by Mr. ANDW. WILSON, of Kingston. A discussion of much interest arose, which continued to the hour of adjournment. On Friday the discussion was resumed, and resulted in the report being recommitted.

### Third Day.

The Assembly appointed a Judicial Committee, to which all appeals, references, &c.,

before the Court were (after the reading of papers) referred.

Rev. R. TORRANCE presented a report from the Committee that had charge of the distribution of Probationers in the Western Section. After full discussion, the report was referred to a special Committee.

### HOME MISSIONS.

Friday evening was devoted to the all-important work of Home Missions. The Report for the "Western Section" was presented by Dr. COCHRANE.

Allusion was made to the prevailing depression and its effects on receipts. The usual grant of \$1,200 has been made to New Westminster, in British Columbia.

The operations of the Presbytery of Manitoba extended over a country measuring 750 miles by 275. The demands of the Presbytery are increasing with great rapidity from year to year. The first statistical Report of the Presbytery of Manitoba was made to the General Assembly in 1871. There were then 1 self-sustaining congregation and 8 preaching stations, with 1 settled pastor and 4 missionaries, including the Foreign missionary at Prince Albert; the whole amount for all purposes raised in the Presbytery being \$1 756 62. In seven years this work has grown to be 2 self-sustaining congregations, 44 preaching stations, which include 3 supplemented charges and a number more preparing for settlement, with 21 ordained ministers and several catechists; while the whole amount contributed from local sources amounted during the past year to some \$5,000 or \$10,000.

### PRINCE ALBERT.

This settlement has only during the past year come under the direction of the Home Mission Committee of the Church. It is a settlement of some 600 people; there are two commodious churches erected; and preaching is maintained at five points. It is greatly to be regretted that the Home Mission Committee had been unable to find a missionary for this field after the departure of the Rev. A. Stewart in July last. The whole work has been thrown on Rev. D. C. Johnston, who is under the direction of the Foreign Mission Committee, and who, having the school as his first duty, could only give partial attention to the Home Mission work. The Presbytery is decidedly of opinion that unless some more successful mode of obtaining missionaries for these isolated points is found, not only individuals but whole communities will be lost to the Presbyterian Church.

### BATTLEFORD.

This point is the present capital of the Northwest Territories; the importance of

occupying the new centres of population in their beginning cannot be over-estimated. Rev. Peter Straith, B.A., reached Battleford in the early part of November last, and has been accommodated for the present in Government House. He holds a service at Government House once a day, and a service in the village in the evening. He has also been usefully engaged in giving the rudiments of education in the absence of any school in the new capital. It is said houses are being erected to a considerable extent, though there are not wanting reports that some other site may yet be chosen as capital for the new District of Saskatchewan.

#### LITTLE SASKATCHEWAN REGION.

Much nearer to Manitoba, only some 50 miles from its western boundary, i.e., about 150 miles west of Winnipeg, is the little Saskatchewan, a small stream running southward into the Assiniboine. Upon its banks settlement during last summer proceeded rapidly, and in the region drained by this stream there are now many families of Canadians settled. The Presbytery has until this season been unable to supply the very urgent demand of the people there for service. Rev. George Flett, an Indian missionary at Okanasse in Riding Mountains, a few miles to the northwestward, has given occasional service; also the Rev. J. S. Stewart, of Palestine, and Rev. H. McKellar, have, by appointment of Presbytery, visited and preached in this secluded locality. A few weeks ago, Mr. A. McLeod, a catechist formerly employed by the Presbytery of Lindsay, arrived in this Province in company with several hundreds of settlers going to the Little Saskatchewan. He was employed to labour in the field under the direction of the regular minister the Presbytery was expecting to go to that region. The newly appointed missionaries having lately arrived, the Committee of the Presbytery have recommended that the Rev. A. Smith be sent to this region, whose settlements now extend over 60 miles, and have the catechist work in conjunction with him. The tide of immigration is still flowing strongly to the Little Saskatchewan.

#### WESTERN MANITOBA.

Into Western Manitoba a large number of the most enterprising of our Canadian farmers who have emigrated to this Province have gone. The large proportion of Presbyterians among them is shown by our having now four missionaries labouring in this district. The good harvest of the past year, although accompanied by a poor market in consequence of the isolated position of the Province, has resulted in steps towards advancement being made in the

coming year, for which estimates are now being formed.

A number of stations are carefully grouped so as to economize as much as possible the men and the funds at the Presbytery's disposal. All that could be done for South Manitoba has been done. The American Church contributes \$200 towards the salary of a young man at Pembina.

The Committee call attention to the large amount expended upon Mission work in Manitoba during the past year, and the absolute necessity for increased liberality, if our work in that distant Province is to keep pace with the immigration that is now going on. In spite of additional labourers sent during the last six months, the demand has not been met. That many new settlements will be formed during the present year, cannot for a moment be doubted; but unless the Committee is sustained in its efforts to provide the means of grace for the members of our Presbyterian Church who are daily entering the Province, the work of church extension must cease, and pressing calls remain unheeded. In many parts of Ontario our backwardness to enter and possess the field, has lost to the denomination thousands of members, who are now identified with other churches. The same result will occur, unless we follow up what has already been attained in this interesting and promising field.

The difficulty of securing suitable men for such important positions as the Canada Pacific Railway and the Prince Albert Mission, has been to the Committee a source of deep regret. The utmost diligence has been used during this year to secure approved labourers for these fields. The appointment of Mr. Cameron to the Railway Mission elsewhere reported, will, it is to be hoped, soon be followed by an appointment to the Prince Albert Mission.

The Committee have in obedience to the instructions of last Assembly, paid \$2,000. towards the indebtedness of Manitoba College.

#### NEARER HOME.

Great progress has been made at Thunder Bay, the prospect being that a Minister will soon be settled over the congregation at Prince Arthur's Landing.

The arduous work done in Muskoka district by Mr. Findlay, is noted by the Committee. A good work is going on in Manitoulin Island. The number of Mission Stations at which services have been held during the past winter is 15. On the north side, Little Current, Shequandah, Kagawong, Billings, Ice Lake, Gore Bay. On the south side, Bidwell, Manitowaning, Hilly Grove, Green Bush, Sanfield, Michaels

Bay, Providence Bay, Mindamoor, Kagawong South. The average attendance each Sabbath has been about 48, with an average Sabbath School attendance of 20. At Gore Bay a church is in process of erection, to be finished in July, capable of holding 300, and to cost \$700. The number of Presbyterian families at this point, is 25. At Manitowaning, it is also proposed to build a church during the present summer. About \$300 has been already subscribed by the people towards this object. Many settlers are coming into the Island and the number of Presbyterian families may be readily estimated in all, at 150.

The operations of the Committee are carried on in all the Presbyteries, and the scope for work is constantly widening. The Students of the Church's Colleges render invaluable service to this part of the church's work.

Comparing the revenue of the present year with the past, it falls below that of 1876-77 by \$3,607.76. It will however, be remembered that a special effort was made in 1876-77 to wipe out an indebtedness of nearly \$10,000, towards which \$8,000 was raised; so that the regular contributions for the year, from Presbyteries, exceed those of last year.

The special Thanksgiving Collection for the year realized \$1,098.

The donations received during the year include \$1,000 from an unknown friend, \$500 from the estate of the late Robert Ewing of Hamilton, and \$100 from Mr. McClive of Drummondville.

#### GRANTS FROM BRITISH CHURCHES.

The Committee have received during the year the handsome donation of £600 from the Free Church of Scotland, and £100 from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. These remittances have been duly acknowledged by the Convener, leaving it to the Assembly to record its grateful thanks for the continued interest manifested by these churches in our important mission work.

The Home Mission of the Western Section includes 120 distinct fields; 355 Stations; 80 Supplemented Congregations; 102 Churches; 24,400 Sabbath attendance; 7,906 families; 9,153 Communicants.

#### EASTERN SECTION.

The report for the Eastern Section (the Maritime Synod), was given, in brief, by Rev. DR. MCGREGOR. Of the 17 labourers in the field at date of last report, 12 have been settled. Whole staff of labourers last year, 44; this year, 53. Of the 53, there are 14 preachers, and 39 student catechists. There are, besides, a few Gaelic labourers,

who devote a portion of their time to the work.

Special efforts have been put forth with regard to these three fields,—Bay of Islands and Bett's Cove in Newfoundland, and New Kincardine in New Brunswick. *Bay of Islands* has been occupied over a year, and one result is a neat little Church, furnished and free from debt. This summer a manse is being built. The people give \$400 towards Mr. Creeiman's support. It is expected that in the course of this season Mr. C. will be settled as Pastor there. *Bett's Cove* is a mining region, barren and wild, on the East coast of the great island of Newfoundland. It is altogether a mining district. Mr. Cruikshank was sent there last autumn. He was cordially received, and the work has prospered in his hands. The people pay \$400 towards his support. These two important stations, one in the East and the other in the West of the vast island have been opened as a fruit of Union in Newfoundland. Previous to 1875 we had no Presbytery there, and no missions. At that date a Presbytery was formed, and mission operations have succeeded. *New Kincardine* is another special field. The people are making homes in the forest, and as is always the case with pioneers, they have met with serious hardships. For some time Rev. P. Melville had ministered to them with the greatest zeal and success. Four school-houses and a neat new church, all free of debt, are now open. The Established and Free Churches, as well as our own Home Board, have aided in the work. Dr. McGregor then sketched the Home Mission field in the Presbyteries of St. John, Miramichi and Halifax. The expenditure has exceeded the income by about \$200.

#### SUPPLEMENTING FUND.

##### (MARITIME PROVINCES.)

This Report was presented by Rev. THOS. SEDGWICK; 49 congregations were placed on the list for aid, 10 remained without pastors, and only 40 therefore received aid. This makes nearly one in every four of our charges. The expenditure was \$5353. The income amounted to \$5060, leaving an adverse balance of \$292 augmented by a small balance from last year to \$366. The sum of \$1805 was received from the British Churches. 111 congregations contributed, 52 neglected to make any contribution.

The whole sum designated is, say, \$5035. But a portion of this amount (\$1520) is contingent on the settlement of vacant congregations. The Committee make graceful mention of the sum of £200 sterling, from the Established Church of Scotland, £200

from the Free Church, and £100 from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

The Committee concluded by urging the duty of greater liberality.

The Reports of the three Conveners were followed by addresses from Mr. GRANT, of Ingersoll, A SIMPSON, Halifax, and the Hon. ALEXANDER MORRIS, late Governor of Manitoba and the North West. Mr. GRANT, who modestly claimed for himself the indulgence always extended by the Assembly to its junior members, delivered a telling speech, in which, while he referred in commendatory terms to the great work undertaken by the Committee, and the measure of success which had followed their efforts, he also showed very pointedly how much more will be done when the church as a whole shall adequately realize the vast importance of its Home Missions. His illustrations were happy and sometimes humorous. Altogether his address was interesting, and it was well received. Mr. SIMPSON, who seconded the adoption of the report, is also a young man. His address was also characterized by a warmth and enthusiasm which commended itself to the audience and drew forth repeated applause. Mr. MORRIS' appearance in the platform was greeted with evident manifestations of approbation. He referred in feeling terms to his long absence from this part of the Dominion while discharging the onerous and responsible duties confided to him by the Government, and his great satisfaction at now witnessing the consummation of his long cherished hopes in the spectacle before him—this great Assembly, the visible embodiment of one united Presbyterian Church in Canada. Speaking from personal knowledge and observation, he pointed out the greatness of the work undertaken by the Church in the territories of the North West, and the importance of doing it well. Mr. Morris spoke of the responsibility resting upon the congregations in the older Provinces to lend a helping hand to the people who were now repairing in large numbers to the new and fertile tracts which were opening up for settlement in Manitoba, Keewatin, and the vast territories in the North West, the capabilities of which could not be over-estimated and which were as yet very imperfectly understood. He referred to the duty we owe to the aborigines, and pointed out the invaluable fruits of the Union in connection with our Home Mission work in the West.

The several Conveners gratefully acknowledged the assistance received from the parent churches, and added emphatically their testimony that not one sixpence of the money sent to them had been expended

in "stirring up strife." The Reports were remitted to a Committee charged with the preparation of a suitable deliverance, and this most interesting sederunt was brought to a close amid every manifestation of confidence and satisfaction on the part of the Assembly and the great concourse of the public who were present to listen to the reading of the reports and the stirring addresses which followed. The occasion was felt by all to be a most delightful and encouraging one, and was marked by the utmost harmony.

### Fourth Day.

FATHER CHINIQUY

was now granted leave to address the Assembly, as he could not be present at a later date. He thanked the Assembly for what they had done for the evangelization of his fellow-countrymen. He did not think there was a single parish in the whole district of Quebec in which some persons were not to be found who had passed hours in his room asking him what they might do to be saved. The work was not confined to Quebec, but was spreading thence among Frenchmen all over the continent—in Manitoba, and even in Washington Territory. The result of the great change which had taken place in Quebec was that to-day they had a Protestant Premier in that Province, a state of affairs which would have been impossible five years ago. He learned, too, from the best authority that large numbers of priests in the United States were desirous of becoming protestants, only that they were afraid they would be coldly treated by Protestants, and would not be able to get support enough to keep them from starving. It was only by getting the priests to come over that they could hope to convert large numbers of Roman Catholics, as they had such a powerful influence over the people. At the present moment they had four converted priests working in Montreal. He wished to state to the Assembly that his health had become enfeebled from lung disease, and he had been ordered to take a long journey by sea. He proposed, if the Assembly granted him leave of absence for a year or so, to go to New Zealand and Australia, and he would be glad to convey to the Churches in those colonies the greeting of their brethren in Canada.

Mr. Chiniquy was very warmly received; and it was understood that his application would be dealt with when the subject of French Missions should be taken up.

## HYMNOLOGY

The Rev. Dr. REID read overtures on Hymnology from the Synods of Ottawa and Montrea', and Hamilton, and London, and from the Presbyteries of Hamilton, Paris, Miramichi, and Whitby. Mr Laing (Dundas) supported the overture from the first named Synod, which was as follows:

"Whereas, it belongs to the Supreme Court of the Church to deal with matters of common concern to the Church respecting worship, and particularly respecting the service of praise: and whereas, at the time of union it was resolved 'that further action' in this matter should be left to the legislation of the united Church: whereas, also, a great variety of collections of hymns are in use in the several congregations and Sabbath Schools, and some of these contain hymns of an objectionable character: whereas, further, it is expedient and dutiful that an effort be made to secure uniformity in the service of praise, as far as possible, and to have only such hymns used as the Church can approve; therefore, the Presbytery of Hamilton respectfully overtures the venerable the General Assembly indicted to meet at Hamilton in June next, to consider the best way for providing a hymn-book for the use of such congregations as may see fit to use hymns. At the same time taking order that no other collection than that so provided shall be hereafter introduced in the service of praise in the congregations and Sabbath Schools of the Church."

MR. LAING claimed that the Assembly had full powers to proceed in this matter. They were introducing no innovation. The use of hymns had been already tacitly sanctioned by the terms of the basis of Union, as well as by use and wont in many of the congregations, and it was now too late to attempt to disallow them. What was contemplated by the overtures was to attain, if possible, greater uniformity in the service of praise throughout the Church, and to prevent the introduction of hymns of an objectionable character which were finding their way into modern collections, especially in the books used in some of the sabbath schools. It was not sought, he said, to force the use of a hymn-book on any congregation, nor to prevent any from using the books they now had, but rather to provide a collection which the Assembly could recommend to congregations desirous of introducing the use of hymns, and he knew there were such congregations, his own being among the number.

MR. ARMSTRONG supported the overture from Synod of Montreal and Ottawa. He held that it was the duty of the Assembly to regulate the character of the hymns used in the Church, and hoped they would cater upon the consideration of the question at once.

MR. McMULLEN (Woodstock), who represented the Presbytery of Paris, could not see why he should be prevented from praising God in carefully prepared words of human composition and at the same time be

permitted to offer prayer in his own language. While he venerated the Psalms of David, and would be sorry to see them superseded altogether by hymns, he felt that it required christians of more than ordinary intelligence to sing some of these psalms to edification. He believed the church was now desirous of proceeding in the direction indicated by the overtures, and that they might as well try to drive back the genial influences of spring, as attempt to extinguish that desire by legislation.

MR. ROGER appeared on behalf of the Presbytery of Whitby. He held that there were only three courses open to the Assembly: first, to stop the use of hymns altogether, which could not be contemplated for a moment: second, to let things go on as they were, which was undesirable: and, third, to prepare a good collection, and that was what the Assembly ought now to do.

MR. MUNGO FRASER was thoroughly in accord with the last speaker. He would sum up all he had to say on this subject in one brief sentence: "Now's the day and now's the hour!"

PRINCIPAL CAVEN while frankly avowing that his sympathies lay in the direction of the overtures, was of opinion that the Assembly should proceed with the greatest possible regard to what was constitutional, and with tender regard to the consciences of the brethren who differed from them on this question. He thought the mind of the Church should be fully ascertained as to what line of action was the best that could be taken. He had unlimited confidence in the wisdom and forbearance of the Church at large, and was not afraid to trust the lower courts with the discussion of this, or any other subject that might be constitutionally brought before them.

MR. BLACK (Montreal) suggested that the remit be sent to Sessions also.

The MODERATOR said it struck him that Principal Caven's motion might be constructed with a more careful reference to what he might call in some respects, the constitutional position of the Church in regard to the subject. This remark brought both the learned clerks to their feet. Dr. Reid read from the Basis of Union, to show that the whole system of hymnology was subject completely to the legislation of the Assembly. The overtures pointed in a certain direction, and they must assume that the remit would be framed accordingly.

PROFESSOR MACKERRAS cited rules of order in support of the constitutionality of the procedure contemplated by Principal Caven's motion.

PRINCIPAL GRANT conceded the constitutional point, but questioned the expediency

of sending this matter down to Presbyteries who might, possibly, decide to deprive them of the right to use hymn books altogether. And he thought the inconvenience of using a variety of hymn books had been exaggerated. Would it not be better, in view of so much pressing business before the Assembly, to leave this matter alone for the present. He therefore moved, seconded by Mr. Croil: "that the overtures be dismissed."

#### THE DEBATE.

There were now three distinct motions before the house: (1) to take immediate action in the direction of the overtures: (2) to remit the whole question to Presbyteries and Sessions: (3) to allow things to remain in *statu quo*. The best part of two days was occupied in the discussion, a very large number of the members,—Elders as well as Ministers,—taking part in it. It was indeed the debate of the Assembly, and elicited no small display of learning and eloquence.

Dr. Ross led the opposition. But before he had the opportunity of delivering his opening speech, it had come to be a foregone conclusion that the advocates of the hymn book constituted an overwhelming majority. He nevertheless went into the discussion with his wonted enthusiasm and even elquence. He was supported at great length by Mr. Andrew Wilson, (Kingston), Mr. James Thompson, of West River, N.S., and Mr. John Charlton, M.P., of Lynedoch, Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell, Thomas Selge- wick, A. McL. Sinclair, J. A. F. McBain, R. Campbell, Montreal, D. McCrae, and Elders A. J. McKenzie, W. Adamson, J. B. Fairbairn, and others, expressed themselves in favour of Mr. Laing's motion—

Remitting the matter to a Committee with instructions to prepare a deliverance which may give effect to the prayer of the overtures in their general tenor.

At the close of this very long debate, the following Committee was appointed to prepare a hymn-book to be sent down to Presbyteries for their approval;—Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Gregg, joint conveners: Dr. James, Professor Mowat, Revs. D. McCrae, J. S. Black, D. J. Macdonnell, John Thompson, (Ayr), R. Murray, and Mr. W. B. McMur- rich. Dr. Robb and several other members entered their dissent.

#### COMPLIMENTARY EXCURSION.

Many of the members of the Assembly availed themselves of an invitation kindly extended by the young men of Knox Church (Rev. Dr. James'), to enjoy a sail on the Bay. Excellent arrangements had been made for this entertainment, which were

happily carried out. The fine steamer "Prince Arthur" was chartered for the occasion, and although her "sea going" qualities were not severely tested,—the water being as smooth as a mill-pond,—we had that feeling of perfect confidence in the vessel and its officers and crew which tended to remove the misgivings which sometimes attend crowded excursions. All went merrily as a marriage bell; and as we moved over the glassy sea, the loud refrain of "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" woke up the echoes of Burlington Bay, leaving no doubt that as yet, at all events, the General Assembly had not interposed its authority against the use of "uninspired hymns."

#### SABBATH.

It was a relief to have one whole day in the seven set apart for the public and private exercises of God's worship, by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days. In accordance with its invariable custom, the General Assembly made special provision only for the supply of the pulpits in the church, which for the time being, it claims to have "a propriety in." Accordingly, the Rev. Dr. McKnight, of Halifax, and the Rev. Patrick McFarlan McLeod, of Knox Church, Stratford, were appointed to conduct the services in the Central Church. At the same time, by private arrangements, the pulpits of most of the other churches were occupied by members of the Assembly. Principals Grant and MacVicar respectively preached in the McNab St. Church. In St. Paul's, Dr. Grant and Rev. D. J. Macdonnell. Knox Church was supplied by Rev. Thomas Duacan and Dr. MacVicar, and St. John's by Dr. Bain, of Perth, and Mr. Burton, of Belleville. The Moderator, Dr. Topp, ex-Moderator, and the Clerks of Assembly had seats provided for them on the platform of the Central Church, where we may be permitted to say, the services at both diets were of a highly interesting and instructive character; and so doubtless they were in all the churches. And in all the churches there were special services during the afternoon for the benefit of the children of the Sabbath Schools which were highly appreciated by the juvenile members of the Church. A number of the ministers also attended the service held in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association at a late hour in the evening, when stirring addresses were given by Rev. J. W. Mitchell, of Mitchell, and Mr. Wallace, of Toronto. It was a day to be remembered by the people of Hamilton and their guests, and

from the good seed sown there will doubtless come good fruit, even though it should be many days hence.

### Fifty Day.

The greater part of the day was occupied with discussing the questions of Hymns, the whole of which we have for greater convenience included in the fourth day's proceedings.

#### DELEGATE FROM FREE CHURCH.

In the evening the Rev. William Ross appeared before the Assembly as a delegate from the Free Church of Scotland. In an eloquent and earnest address, Mr. Ross conveyed to the Assembly the salutation of the Free Church, expressing his great delight in finding himself in the midst of so large and influential an Assembly, and in listening to the admirable reports that had been presented. He felt sure that the Church which he represented would continue to take the deepest interest in the Canadian Church. They would always deem it a privilege to give such pecuniary assistance as lay in their power in behalf of the Home Missions of the Church, especially in aid of the work in the vast North-Western territories. They were also deeply interested in our French Evangelization scheme. In these matters he felt that the Canadian Church had a strong claim on the sympathies of the Churches in the Old Land, for Scotland had sent, and was still sending out, a large population to this country who became the adopted children of the Church here. The Colonial Committee was extending its operations not only in the Dominion of Canada, but in New Zealand, Australia, the Malay Peninsula, North and South Africa, and even in South America. Referring to the financial condition of the mother churches, he said that notwithstanding the late depression, which had impoverished the means of their contributors, as well as imposed unusual demands upon some of their funds, the finances of the Free Church of Scotland were improving yearly. The Sustentation fund was now in such a position that £160 was the lowest amount going to their ministers, while two-thirds of them received £200. The amount contributed for missionary schemes last year was £575,718, an increase of over £10,000 over the preceding year, and of £80,000 during the past ten years. The amount contributed by the Established Church was £373,730, being a slight decrease on that for the previous year: by the United Presbyterian Church, £379,000, an increase over that of the pre-

vious year. In other words, the joint contributions of the three great branches of the Church were £1,323,409, or \$6,642,000. or, if the Irish Presbyterian Church were included, it would be found that the sum of over \$7,000,000 had been poured into the Presbyterian Church to carry forward her work there and in other parts of the world.

On motion of Dr. Topp, seconded by Dr. Gregg, Mr. Ross received a cordial vote of thanks from the Moderator, who added that he could never forget the very kind reception which the deputation from this Church, and of which he was a member, had received two years ago at the hands of the Free Church Assembly.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Central Church, large as it is, was well filled this Monday evening, when the reports of the Foreign Mission Committees, East and West were read. Dr. Mcgregor first read the report of the Eastern section, or rather an abstract of the report which was very long and minute in its detail. The report will appear in full in the appendix to the minutes of the Assembly. In the meantime the following reference may suffice:

Two Missions are conducted by the Committee, the first being the one to the NEW HEBRIDES, in which there were nine missionaries on eight islands. Three of these belonged to this Church, viz: Rev. J. W. McKenzie on Efate, Rev. H. A. Robertson on Erromanga, and Rev. J. Annand on Anietyum. There are 100 teachers, 39 of these being paid agents. This mission, which has existed over 30 years, is greatly hindered by the labour traders, who draw off the people to Queensland and Fiji. The second mission is that of TRINIDAD, in which there are three missionaries to the indentured labourers or coolies. The mission is of ten years' standing, having commenced with Mr. Morton's settlement in Jere Village in 1867. Mr. Grant followed in 1870 and Mr. Christie in 1873. At first the work had been met with stern and persistent opposition, and little success. For three years there had not been one baptism, while last year there over 70. There are three missionary districts:—Savanna Grande, Rev. J. Morton; San Fernando, Rev. J. Grant; and Couva, Rev. T. M. Christie. Each missionary has an assistant evangelist drawn from among the converts. Mr. Grant has three, and each missionary has several schools, with teachers, also drawn from the converts. The present balance against the fund was \$1,000.

#### WESTERN SECTION.

PROFESSOR McLAREN, Convener, presented and read the report of the Committee for the Western Section.

The work to which the report relates is divided into three departments:—The first being the mission to the Indians in the North West Territories. In Prince Albert the Rev. D. C. Johnson continues the Mission School there with efficiency and success, and had besides for some short time back the general oversight of the whole mission. Mr. Johnson is assisted by Mr. McKay, who acts as interpreter and missionary catechist. At Okanase, an Indian reserve 160 miles north-west of Winnipeg Rev. George Flett labours with zeal and success, and ministers to 40 or 50 Indians at the various points which he visits. Though his annual report has not yet come to hand, cheering accounts of his

work have been received through the Presbytery of Manitoba. The Indian school established on Rosseau Reserve, near Pembina, has had a measure of success, though the attendance did not average more than 124 pupils during the year, owing to a variety of causes. At Fort Ellice missionary work was being conducted among the Sioux Indians, by a native Indian, the Rev. Solomon Tunkansuioye, doing good service there. It was too soon to look for much fruit, but good results were expected.

The second department of the work is the mission in China, and though it has been attended by many discouragements, rarely has such abundant fruit been gathered in so soon after the establishment of any mission. Rev. Dr. Fraser was obliged, owing to the lamented death of his wife, to come home with his children, but Dr. Ringer and Mr. McKay were doing good work in the mission. In a letter dated March 11th, 1878, Dr. McKay states that he baptized thirty-two persons in one day, before an audience of two hundred hearers, and that 214 names were now on the communion roll at that point. There are thirteen chapels, he states, with a trained native teacher in each; six students, five elders, two deacons, two Bible women, seven schools with about one hundred children in all. Mention is made of the fact that it is intended to utilize the gift of \$1,200 made by Mrs. McKay, of Windsor, Ontario, for the erection of a mission building in Formosa by the establishment of an hospital in Tamsui. In this connection it was stated that the Rev. K. Junor with his family had reached Formosa after a very stormy passage.

The third division of the work is the mission in Central India, which, it is stated, has been greatly strengthened during the year. There are now two ordained missionaries and four ladies, besides native agents regularly employed in the field. A very large measure of success has attended the initial stages of the Indore work, and it was now in a prosperous condition. Mr. Douglas' services were attended by nearly all classes—Europeans, Hindoos, and Musulmans. He states that the natives who used to come to dispute about the Scriptures are gradually losing confidence in their own systems, and are privately studying the Bible. No less than 6,12 Gospel tracts and leaflets have been printed in the native language and a large proportion of them distributed. On the 7th of March, two Brahmans from the Court of Indore were admitted by him into the Church by baptism, and Rev. J. F. Campbell who is stationed at Mhow, has had several applications for baptism. It is stated that the ladies of the mission have done much valuable work, and that there is abundant room for more of their class. The necessity for the erection of suitable buildings is strongly urged by the missionaries, not only for the health and comfort of the workers, but for the actual continuance of the work. The Committee recommend that special efforts be made, under the sanction of the Assembly, to raise say \$8,000 for buildings at Indore and Mhow.

#### FINANCE.

The amount received during the year was \$21,646, the total expenditure \$22,654, leaving a debt of \$1,008.00. Notwithstanding the existence of this debt, it is pointed out that there has been a marked advance in the foreign mission revenue in spite of the prevailing depression. Last year the total revenue was \$15,039.00; this year it was \$21,177.04; an increase of \$6,131.56.

Mr. Thompson, of Sarnia, moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. Duncan, of Halifax. Principal Grant taking exception to a passage in the report, reflecting on the Juvenile Mission Committee, moved in amendment that the report be

recommitted to the Committee with instructions to strike out the reference. At a later stage it was further made a subject of complaint that the report was not sufficiently explicit in its reference to Dr. Fraser. It was not stated what were his exact relations to the Committee at the present time, and there was felt to be a vagueness in the allusions to the work he had done in Formosa. On both these matters there was a good deal of discussion. The latter was finally adjusted by the addition of a few clauses embodying a resolution of the Committee on the occasion of Dr. Fraser's return from China; and we believe the former difficulty was also satisfactorily got over.

### Sixth Day.

#### THE COLLEGES.

After some preliminary business, the Assembly proceeded to hear the reports of Colleges.

##### KNOX COLLEGE.

Rev. Dr. Torr read the report of the Board of Management of Knox College for 1877-78:

It is stated that in the Theological Department there have been 40 in attendance, viz., twelve in the first year's course, thirteen in the second, and fifteen in the third. In the Literary Department there have been 27 students, viz., ten in the first year's course, eight in the second, and nine in the third. "It is a matter of congratulation that an increasing number of young men, having the ministry in view, are setting in accordance with the encouragement given them by the Senate by taking a full course of study at one of the Universities before entering on their theological course. There are about 30 such in the University of Toronto, so that there are this year nearly 100 looking forward to the ministry." The amount of congregational contributions from the territory assigned to Knox College and to Queen's College Theological Department has been \$9,432.44; being a slight increase over that of last year. From this amount the sums of \$1,200.00 proportionately belong to Queen's College and that of \$700 ordered by the Assembly to be paid to Montreal College have to be deducted. There is thus left the sum of 7,385.55. Adding interest from the Endowment Fund and a number of small items, there is found the sum of \$12,402.65 as the available amount for the support of the College. The necessary expenditure is \$13,426, so that there is a deficiency. As stated in last year's report, there was then an accumulated debt upon the ordinary revenue of \$13,477.55. The Committee appointed by the Assembly to take steps to secure the liquidation of this debt have made such progress that they hope that by the end of this year the whole amount will, with the aid of the ministers of the Church, be raised.

##### QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

PRINCIPAL GRANT presented the report of the thirty-seventh session of the University of Queen's College, of which the following is an abstract:—

The Trustees of Queen's University and College respectfully submit the following report for the



year 1877-78, and state that since the foundation of the institution, no session has been more successful than the one just closed. This is all the more cheering because the friends of the College were rendered despondent by the resignation of the Principal, the Rev. Dr Snodgrass. The Trustees met at once and unanimously appointed the Rev. G. M. Grant, A.M., D.D., minister of St. Matthew's Church, Halifax, N.S., to the position of Principal and Primarius Professor of Divinity.

The number registered as actually attending last session was one hundred and six. Of this number forty-five are studying for the ministry of our Church. Five students of theology have completed their curriculum, and are under trials for license from the Presbytery of Kingston. All these gentlemen have taken the full University and Theological special course five years ago, sanctioned by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland.

The Library now consists of 11,000 volumes, but the success of the museum is impaired from lack of accommodation.

The general financial condition of the College is sound, but the estimated revenue and expenditure is justified by the result, except in one item of the amount received from the Church. The deficiency of revenue this year is \$1,930. The explanation is that the Church for the past two years has given us less than half the moderate sum we asked for. The sum required from the Church for those years was, in round numbers \$4,900. The amount received has been about \$2,000, or an average of \$1,000 a year. The annual grant of the Church of Scotland of £500 sterling could not much longer be expected to be continued, as the Union showed that the Church here had attained a mature growth. The report closes with a reference to the Endowment scheme, the facts of which are well known. The ordinary revenue of the College during the year amounted to \$15,264.59; and the expenditure \$17,193.96; showing a deficiency of \$1,930.37.

PRINCIPAL GRANT pointed out the necessity of endowing a third divinity professorship, especially in view of the probable withdrawal of the annual grant of £550 by the Church of Scotland. The endowment scheme so far had met with a wonderful degree of success. Forty thousand dollars and over had been raised from the little city of Kingston; and a great part of the \$50,000 required for the Arts faculty had been subscribed. Already a total of \$75,000 had been subscribed in a month, the whole of which came from Kingston, and ten not very wealthy gentlemen. The faculty of Theology was the only faculty which the Church as a Church is expected to contribute to; but individual members of the Church and other friends were at liberty to, and did, support the other faculties.

#### PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

MR. DAVID MORRICE, chairman of the Board of Management, read the annual report for 1877-78

There have been during the past session 77 students enrolled in the various classes in the College, 38 of these being in Theology and 39 in the Literary department. Six students have completed their course of study and are now ready to apply for license. The number of French students has been 16. Of these, one has completed his course and will make an additional ordained minister for the work of French evangelization. The financial position of

the College is reported to be somewhat more favourable than at last report, though still far from being satisfactory. The debt of \$3,384.07 which had accumulated against the ordinary fund has been diminished during the year by contributions amounting to \$1,835.55. The small debt on the scholarship fund has been extinguished, and that on the library fund somewhat reduced. The ordinary revenue of the year met the expenditure. The amount of the Endowment has not been increased by any considerable amount during the year. The Board recommend the re-appointment of Rev. John Scrimger, M.A., as Lecturer in Greek and Hebrew Exegesis, and Rev. B. Ouriero as French Lecturer.

The reports of the Senata and of the Board of Examiners were also presented.

REV. PRINCIPAL MACVICAR in a few appropriate remarks supported the report, and endorsed the appeal for the endowment of all the colleges made by Principal Grant and Mr. Morrice. The friends of the Montreal College had contributed about three times as much per member as any other portion of the Church had done for its colleges. In conclusion he expressed a wish that he might invade Ontario for the purpose of getting the assistance of his friends there in raising an Endowment Fund for Montreal College.

#### HALIFAX COLLEGE.

Rev. Dr. MCGREGOR presented the report of the Board of Superintendence of the Theological Hall of Halifax:—

Eighteen students were on the roll; eight for the first year, six for the second, and four for the third. The numbers in the sessions of 1875-6 and 1876-7 were thirteen and sixteen respectively. Six completed their course last year and four this year.

The library contains over seven thousand volumes and was increased during the year by valuable books and papers. The effort to raise \$100,000, \$5,000 for new college premises, and \$70,000 to increase the existing endowment, commenced in January, 1877. Nine months thereafter the Board reported that the sum of \$84,438 had been raised, and since that time large additions have been made to the amount. A college building and property, costing \$5,000, had been purchased in the neighborhood of Halifax. The shortcoming in the annual contributions are referred to with regret, and it is stated that the deficiency, amounting to \$1,161.9, is larger than ever before. This is, however, mainly attributed to the special efforts made to raise the \$100,000 above referred to, and the erroneous impression that they could at once dispense with the annual congregational collection.

#### MANITOBA.

Rev. Prof. BRYOE read the report of the Board of Management of Manitoba College:—

The Board report a larger number of students, and a more successful adhesion to the curriculum than ever before. During this the sixth year, seven students have been prepared by the College, and have gone forward to the University examinations. The number in attendance at the College for this year was 42: in the senior department 24, and in the junior 8. The ordinary revenue from local sources has increased somewhat during the year, and the mortgage on the building is reduced to some extent. The Board suggest that the amount required for the College could be chiefly met by a more organized effort to gain the assistance of the several British Churches and societies for the work

of the Church in the North-West. The receipts for the year were \$3,305.97; the expenditure, \$4,402.36.

Principal CAVEN said that matters of the gravest import were referred to in the College reports, and they should be referred to a Special Committee composed of representatives of every branch of the Church. It was satisfactory in a degree that the deficits in the ordinary revenue on the whole this year were less than last year, but it was desirable that some steps should be taken to prevent the annual occurrence of a deficit in some of the colleges. The position was very far from being hopeless. Within a very few years Queen's College had done splendid things for its endowment. On one occasion \$100,000 was raised for endowment under the directorship of Principal Snodgrass, and now another endowment was being raised by Principal Grant. In a few years Montreal College had risen, as it were, from its foundation. The Church in the west had raised \$130,000 for Knox College in five years, and between \$46,000 and \$47,000 had been funded on behalf of the College. All they asked was that the ordinary revenue of the Colleges be placed on a better footing. It was also desirable to harmonize the curricula of the various colleges as much as possible. He moved,

That the General Assembly receive and remit the reports of the several Colleges to a Committee to be named by the Moderator, with instructions to consider them carefully, and to report at a sederunt as early as possible to the General Assembly.

In accordance with this motion, a Committee of forty-five members was struck—of which Dr. Robb was the Convener. In addition to meetings held at frequent intervals, the General Assembly stood adjourned for one whole forenoon in order that this Committee might have sufficient time to consider the interests of the colleges and to frame such recommendations as they might agree upon. The result of their deliberations will be noticed hereafter.

## Seventh Day.

### FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

On Tuesday evening of the second week, Principal MACVICAR, the Chairman of the Board, submitted the annual report which had been printed for the use of members. It was in itself a volume of carefully digested materials, and embracing a vast amount of information respecting the operations of the Board, together with a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures. It was admitted to be the most complete report presented to the Assembly, and reflects much credit upon its compiler, the

pains-taking and indefatigable Secretary, Mr. R. E. Warden, of Montreal.

From this report Dr. MacVicar read copious extracts:

There are at present 44 labourers engaged in the service of the Board, among whom are six ex-priests of the Church of Rome. After referring to the work in the Maritime Provinces, and in the rural parishes of Quebec, the report touches on that in Montreal, and says:—Canning street church is well known as that in which the venerable Father Chiniquy, with a zeal undiminished by growing years, and a courage undaunted by persecution, fearlessly exposes the errors of Rome and faithfully proclaims the truths as it is in Jesus. During the past year, in addition to the Sabbath services and the regular Thursday evening prayer-meeting, Mr. Chiniquy has addressed meetings in the church, frequently three times a week during the winter months, to audiences numbering from fifty to one hundred and fifty, and sometimes two hundred enquirers from Rome. He reports he has visited during the past twelve months by upwards of 2,000 French Catholics, of whom 529 have publicly renounced the errors of Popery. He has distributed about 100 Bibles, 300 portions of the Gospel, 10 copies of "The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional," and 5,000 smaller publications, tracts, etc. Of those who abjured Romanism during the year, 73 were received by Mr. Chiniquy into the fellowship of the Church. At the dispensation of the Lord's Supper in March, 133 Communicants sat at the table. Mr. Chiniquy himself an ex-priest, was assisted on that occasion by Rev. Messrs. Internoscia and Cawlerie, two ex-priests of Rome.

It is gratifying to the Board to be able to report that the Rev. G. A. Doudiet, who has been connected with Russell Hall for the past seven years, was inducted as their pastor. About 29 families are connected with this congregation which is now thoroughly organized.

During the year mission premises have been erected at St. Antoine Abbe, and at Grenville. At St. Hyacinthe a site has been purchased, and the contract let for the erection of a commodious brick church and school-house, which, with the site, will cost upwards of \$1,200. There are now places of worship in the following fields under the care of the Board: Canning street, Montreal; St. John's (Russell Hall), Montreal; Dorchester street, Montreal; Quebec, Namur, Grenville, Joliette, New Glasgow, St. Antoine Abbe, Drogdale, Ste. Anne, Ill., Danville, and Grand Falls, N.B.—thirteen in all, or including the one in course of erection at St. Hyacinthe, fourteen.

MR. THOMAS DUNCAN of Halifax, moved the adoption of the Report, seconded by Dr. James, of Hamilton. Mr. C. A. Doudiet, Pastor of St. John's (French) Church, Montreal, was afterwards heard for a short time and rivetted the attention of the large audience, who manifested marked interest in the proceedings of the evening. It was pointed out by the Chairman of the Board that there were now twenty-one French Presbyterian ministers in charge of French congregations, with elders, deacons, and communion rolls, and all the other features of a Presbyterian Church. They had no less than fourteen church edifices, and he believed that, in regard to the French Evangelization scheme, the Presbyterian Church occupied a position such as no other Church in the world did relatively to a work of the kind. There were signs of intellectual

vitality in the Province of Quebec. Strange things were occurring there, and coming into such prominence that Churchmen and politicians and all other thinking men must at least give them their attention. He hoped, therefore, that the Presbyterian Church would continue its efforts to spread the Gospel in the Province of Quebec as the best means of bringing the spirit of peace among the people there. He wished the brethren to understand that Presbyterianism was the best agency in the accomplishment of this work.

#### JUVENILE MISSION.

Mr. JOHN BURTON, (Belleville), presented and read the annual report, of which the following is an abstract.

During the past year there had been an increase in the interest in this work shown by the children; also an increase in the amount contributed. Owing to the decrease in the number of orphans maintained by the Committee, and the difficulty in procuring others to take their place, the Committee resolved to direct the contributions of the children into channels connected with the Church. The Bible Class of St. Andrew's Church, Quebec, have undertaken the support of two Zonana teachers, as requested by Rev. James Douglas, at Indore. In January last circulars were sent to the various Sabbath Schools of the Church in Ontario and Quebec, announcing an increased number of objects towards which the children could contribute; and to these circulars a considerable number of replies were received. The Committee have determined to fulfil their old obligations, but they would not undertake others, except in connection with the Church in Canada as vacancies occurred. About fifteen orphans are still supported by the Committee; and besides these, the four high caste schools in Calcutta. Three hundred dollars have been remitted to Rev. Mr. Douglas to be used for the proposed schools at Indore; he has also been authorized to purchase founts of type to be used in printing the native language. Fifty dollars have been sent to Rev. Dr. McGregor towards the *Dayspring*. The receipts during the year were \$1,243.55, and the expenditure \$1,022.12, leaving a balance of \$221.43.

#### MISSION TO THE LUMBERMEN.

Rev. D. M. GORDON read the report of the Committee on the Mission among the Lumbermen.

It was stated that the work consisted chiefly of the preaching of the Gospel and the distribution of appropriate literature, such as tracts and religious papers in English and French, among the shantymen in the lumbering districts on both sides of the Ottawa from Pembroke downwards. The Committee regret that they were unable to secure the services of but one ordained missionary, viz: Rev. G. Gaudier, but that gentleman was assisted by the colporteurs of the Ottawa Bible Society and by the Rev. Geo. Wishart. They report a greater and more widespread distribution of suitable literature during the past year than in any previous season. Encouraging reports of the work were given by the clerymen and colporteurs who engaged in the work. The receipts during the year were \$333.25, and the balance on hand, \$2.52.

Rev. Dr. WARDROPE bore testimony to the value of the work being done by the mission to lumbermen and to the indefatigable labours of the Convener. He moved, seconded by Mr. Walter Ross (Beckwith)

That the report be received and approved, and that the thanks of the Assembly be conveyed to the Committee, and specially to the Convener; and that the objects of the mission be specially recommended to the congregations of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa.

## Eighth Day.

#### FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Rev. Mr. WILLIAMS addressed the Assembly on behalf of the French Canadian Evangelical Society, giving an interesting account of the success of the work, notwithstanding the difficulties attending it. The work was auxiliary and contributory to that performed in the same field by the Presbyterian Church, and it was on that ground that the Society asked for the continued recognition of that Church. The reason why it was thought necessary to address the Assembly on this important subject was, that it was in danger of being overlooked, owing to the multiplicity and importance of other schemes.

The following motion on the subject was adopted unanimously:—

That this Assembly expresses its continued sympathy with the work of the French Canadian Missionary Society; nevertheless, as this Church is fully committed to the work of French evangelization, the Assembly does not feel justified in doing more than generally commending the work of the Society to the sympathy of the Christian Church.

#### SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Rev. JOHN McEWEN presented the report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools. The report gave a statement with regard to the meetings of the committee and the efforts which had been made to impress upon Synods, Presbyteries, and parents, the importance of the Sabbath school work. It was proposed in a circular that Presbyteries should hold Sabbath School Conferences, and that Sabbath school meetings should be held in towns and counties. Fourteen Presbyteries had held conferences, and the report from Toronto indicated that important results had been arrived at. Reference was also made to the action of the Synods in the matter. Efforts had been made to secure the reading of the Bible in the Public Schools as a text-book, and the use of the Bible in the schools now no longer remained with the Government, but with the people. The report concluded by proposing that the Committee on the state of religion be instructed to leave out the Sabbath School work, and that the Sabbath School Committee be authorized to collect statistics; that the Moderator issue an address to teachers and children, to be read in the pulpits, on the matter; that the Sabbath School be dependent on

the congregation; that the Bible, and not the lesson papers, be the basis of instruction; that greater importance be placed on the shorter catechism.

Rev. Dr. BELL moved as follows:—"Receive the report; thank the Convener for his diligence in the matter; empower the Committee to issue schedules for the purpose of eliciting information, and urging on all ministers diligence in replying thereto; appoint the Moderator to press the recommendations of the report on the Church; instruct Presbyteries to give attention to the oversight of Sabbath School work within their bounds; and, where practicable, to hold Presbytery Sabbath School conferences, and to encourage the formation of classes for the training of Sabbath School teachers; authorize the conveners of committees of the General Synods to act as a committee, if they see fit, to enquire into and report on the subject of Sabbath School literature."

Mr. A. MATHESON, Elder, wanted to see the Assembly in earnest in this matter. He advocated the holding of Sabbath School conventions, composed of teachers and superintendents. Increased interest in Sabbath school work would be, in his opinion, a step towards keeping the young men and young women in the Church.

Mr. J. B. FAIRBAIRN, Elder, thought that a great deal of the teaching done in the Sunday school could be done by parents at home, and while all prominence should be given to Sabbath school work, the home work should not be neglected. He hoped the Moderator, in his pastoral letter, would dwell particularly on the duties of parents.

#### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Report of this Committee was now read by Rev. Mr. McMULLEN, convener. The report was eminently satisfactory, and we extract the following points. Last year the G. W. R. Company commenced running a Sabbath excursion train from London to Port Stanley. Ministers of all denominations, other individuals, and a portion of the press united, and the train had to be discontinued from want of public patronage. The Sunday trains between Hamilton and Toronto last year were also taken off from the same cause. The Committee had also great satisfaction in reporting that Parliament had caused Sunday labour to be discontinued on the canals.

Gratification was expressed with the change of day for sailing of mail steamers from Halifax for England. For some months the usual day of sailing was Sunday. The Evangelical Alliance of Halifax memorialized the Post-Master General on the subject, and the time of sailing was appointed to be Saturday afternoon. The report suggested that the Government be memorialized to close Post Offices in the Province of Quebec on Sabbath. The report was adopted.

#### STATUS OF REIRED MINISTERS.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Remits having been resumed, Mr. LAING moved that retired ministers be allowed to remain on the rolls, providing that the Assembly had consented on their retirement, and that they resided in the Presbytery, which received a vote of 50.

Mr. CROIL moved that such ministers should sit in the Presbyteries, that they should take part in the deliberations, but not vote, which received a vote of 67, and became the judgment of the House.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF PROBATIONERS.

Mr. McLEAN, of Blyth, presented the report of the Committee on Probationers. The report was considered clause by clause.

The following clauses were adopted:—

That the names of probationers and ministers who have remained on the rolls for the past four years be continued three months longer, and then, if not settled, be removed from the roll.

That the names of probationers and ministers on the roll for the past three years be continued six months longer, and then, if not settled, be removed. That those who have been on the roll for the past two years be continued for another year and then be removed.

That probationers and ministers hereafter to be put on the roll of probationers shall be allowed three years on the roll.

That all ministers resigning their charges for the first time be allowed two years.

That Presbyteries be recommended to induce congregations to pay probationers as liberally as possible, it being understood that the minimum be eight dollars and board per Sabbath.

That Presbyteries be instructed to regard probationers as having a prior claim to be heard in vacancies, and to secure such hearing for them.

That Presbyteries be instructed to consider the propriety of appointing probationers to vacancies for not less than two weeks, so that the duties of the pastoral office may be carried out as laid down in the regulations affecting the same.

That students be not appointed to vacancies save in exceptional cases.

That Presbyteries be instructed not to report as vacancies any congregation not prepared to call.

That Presbyteries be instructed to put all their vacant congregations prepared to call upon the list of vacancies, and that congregations be allowed to procure their own supplies through the Presbytery for half the time when they so desire.

That hereafter the Committee shall give employment to none save those whose names are presented to this Committee through some Presbytery of the Church.

#### MISSION STATIONS.

The following scheme for the continuous supply of mission stations, was presented by Mr. George Bruce, and adopted *ad interim*:

1st—MISSION DISTRICTS, in connection with this scheme, shall be such as Presbyteries have formed in new or necessitous localities, where there is a reasonable prospect of the formation of pastoral charges at an early date.

2nd—When a Presbytery desires any Mission District to be connected with this scheme, they shall apply, for this purpose, to the Home Mission Committee, and shall accompany the application with detailed information as to the extent, population, resources and religious condition of the field.

## MISSIONARIES.

1st—The Missionaries employed in such districts shall be:—

(1) Ordained Ministers; (2) Licentiates; (3) Students of Theology, who are willing to engage in this work; (4) Laymen, whose gifts for edification have been ascertained to the satisfaction of the Presbytery within whose bounds they are to be employed.

2nd—It shall be the duty of the H. M. C. to call the Missionaries to the work, and to appoint them to their several fields with the consent of the Presbyteries.

(1) At the close of each College year, the H. M. C. shall secure the services of as many students as may be by them deemed necessary for the work. (2) Students who have finished their theological studies, may, when employed under this scheme, be ordained by their Presbyteries as soon as convenient after leave has been obtained from the Superior Court. (3) Missionaries shall be appointed for a term of not less than two years, and the appointment may be renewed.

## FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

1st—The salaries of Missionaries shall be as follows, viz.:—

(1) The Ordained Missionaries, who are married, not less than \$700 per annum; for unmarried men, not less than \$610 per annum; (2) For Licentiates, 550 per annum; (3) for Students, \$450 per annum; (4) The salary of laymen shall be determined in each case by the H. M. Committee. The above amounts shall be held to cover board, house rent and all other expenses.

2nd—The mission field shall contribute towards the salary of the Missionary according to its ability, and the amount to be contributed shall be fixed by the H. M. C. in conjunction with the Presbytery.

3rd—When the contributions from any District exceed the amount promised by that district, the Home Mission Committee may augment the salary of the Missionary, if the circumstances seem to them to make such action advisable, to the extent of one half the amount of such excess, but the total increase of salary shall not exceed one hundred dollars.

## Fifth Day.

## THE EX-MODERATOR.

A telegraphic communication was read from Dr. McLeod, the ex-Moderator. It was as follows:

NORTH SYDNEY, Cape Breton.

To Dr. Reid, Clerk of the Assembly:

Dr. McLeod warmly thanks the Assembly for their affectionate sympathy by which he feels greatly strengthened. He prays without ceasing for the fathers and brethren, and rejoices that the blessing of God is with them.

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Presbytery of Newfoundland asked and obtained leave to retain on the roll the names of Rev. Messrs Harvey and Patterson, of St. John's.

## STATISTICS.

Mr. TORRANCE submitted the report of the Committee on Statistics for the past year. The following is a synopsis:

The total number of Churches and Stations is 1,389, or 347 more than reported the previous year. The total number of families is 60,466, as against

46,163 the former year, showing an increase of 4,303. The number of communicants is 93,371, an increase of 4,533; and the additions during the year were 7,212.

Turning to the financial statement, it is learned that the amount promised as stipend from all sources was \$492,732.34, being an increase of \$25,436.89 over the amount embraced in last report. This gives an average of more than \$800 to each minister, but not quite \$700 to each pastoral charge.

The total amount raised for all purposes was \$1,027,554.56, and of this sum, besides the expenditure for congregational purposes, \$17,997.794 were raised for college (ordinary) fund; \$28,297.14 for Home Missions; \$ 9,002.37 for Foreign Missions; \$6,507.11 for aged and infirm Ministers, and Widows' and Orphans' Funds; \$8,302.48 for Assembly, Synod and Presbytery expenses; \$14,184.08 for French Kvangalization; and \$5,000 00 for other religious and benevolent objects, whilst Sabbath School contributions were \$11,586.12.

Were the Committee to allow for congregations not reporting, the number of families claiming connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, would be upwards of 75,000; the number of communicants nearly 125,000; more than 635,915 would be the amount promised as stipend. More than \$1,000,000 have been expended for congregational purposes, and nearly \$1,300,000 for all objects.

## WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS FUNDS.

Dr. REID read the report of the Minister's, Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the late Canada Presbyterian Church. The total assets of the Fund are \$91,616. The number of annuitants is 37. Mr. CROIX presented the report of the Board incorporated under the name of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland. The fund now amounts to \$90,207. There are forty annuitants and 26 children deriving benefit. Dr. Mcgregor reported on behalf of the Church of the Lower Provinces late in connection with the Church of Scotland, which has a capital of \$9,000. The remaining branch of the church in the Maritime Provinces reports a capital of \$23,000. The four funds therefore represent an aggregate capital of \$213,823. On motion to that effect, a Committee was appointed to consider and report as to the amalgamation of the several Widows' and Orphans' funds of the Church, and it was agreed, that, in the meantime, ministers joining the church be advised to connect themselves with one or other of the funds.

## AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

Mr. MIDDLEMISS read the report for the Western Section. \$4,560.81 had been paid to the 20 annuitants on the roll during the year. Two additional annuitants had been admitted, but had not got any payments yet. The total expenditure for the year was \$4,834.91. The total receipts were \$3,580.70.

The report of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund of the eastern section showed the total receipts to have been \$1,095, and the expenditure \$1,343.80, leaving a balance

against the Committee of \$247.85. The amount invested is \$6,124.17.

#### PRESBYTERIAN RECORD.

Dr. JENKINS, the Convener, read the report of the Committee on the *Presbyterian Record*, in which it was stated that the circulation on the first of June last was 33,173, being a decrease of 1,296 on that of last year. The decrease was attributed to the prevailing depression, and was expected to be only temporary. The Committee urge the importance of increasing the circulation of the *Record*, so that it shall be taken by every family in the Church.

#### COMMITTEE ON COLLEGES.

As already mentioned, a large Committee had been appointed at an early stage in the proceedings to consider all such matters pertaining to the welfare of our Theological Colleges as were naturally suggested by their respective reports. The result proved the wisdom of this mode of dealing with a subject in which so many and important interests were involved. After many meetings, and the most careful deliberation, the report of this Committee was presented by Dr. Robb, the Convener, and considered clause by clause in the Assembly. It was adopted in its main features as follows:—It expressed pleasure at the manner in which the endowment of Queen's College is being carried out; recommended a preparatory class in connection with Queen's College; that Dr. McKnight be appointed Principal of the Theological Hall, Halifax; that the salaries of the Theological Hall, Halifax, be raised to \$2,000; that an earnest effort be made to secure the proper equipment of Manitoba College and that \$100,000 is required for the purposes of supplying a library, endowment, &c; that the mother country should take a part in the founding of Christian educational institutions in Manitoba; that Dr. George Patterson be appointed agent to go to Britain and lay the matter before the people there; that \$2,000 out of the funds of the Western Home Mission Fund, and \$500 out of the Eastern Home Mission Fund, be forwarded for the support of Manitoba College. That the Assembly instruct the treasurer of the Western Section to pay the sum of \$750 to the treasurer of the Montreal College, from the fund contributed by the territory assigned to Queen's and Knox Colleges. It also expressed a strong opinion in favour of increasing the endowments of the several Colleges, and urged upon the Boards the use of all proper means to that end. The concluding clause gave expression to the high opinion entertained by the General Assembly of the character and eminent services to the

Church of Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, late Principal of Queen's College. The paragraph referring to the increase of salaries in the Hall at Halifax was, after some discussion, amended so as to make it not imperative that the recommendation be immediately acted upon, but only as soon as it may be found practicable to make the salaries \$2000 each.

#### Tenth Day.

"It is a long road that has no turning." Had any one looked at the docket this Saturday morning, before the proceedings commenced, he might easily have imagined that there was a week's work yet undone. It is always so with General Assemblies. But, as the house becomes smaller by degrees, and beautifully less, the pace of business accelerates. There is no longer the temptation to indulge in oratory; a variety of matters of routine are speedily disposed off, and it is always thought better that any unfinished business of moment should be left over "till next Assembly," than that it should be hastily decided by a bare quorum. We do not profess to have given a full report of the proceedings. Indeed there are many topics of considerable importance that we have not noticed at all. Some of these, however, we shall take occasion to refer to at our leisure. Our readers will be able, from the outline we have given, to judge for themselves that the Session has been a very practical, hard-working, and, upon the whole, a very pleasant one. It is somewhat remarkable that in so large a Church as this, there was not a single case of Discipline. The number of references and appeals was very small, and these were settled with little trouble through the Judicial Committee appointed at the commencement of the Session. If our opinion is of any value, we have no hesitation in stating our conviction that, altogether, this has been a splendid Assembly; representing in its constituency an array of talent, both as respects the Clergy and Laity, of which we have no reason to be ashamed. The business was conducted throughout in a fine spirit. The Moderator won golden opinions from the Assembly,

and discharged the onerous duties of his high office with grace and dignity. The stated Clerks were alike conspicuous for their knowledge of Church Law, and the forms of ecclesiastical procedure, and for their courtesy to all who had business with them. The Press was well represented by reporters from the offices of the *Hamilton Spectator* and *Times*, and the *Toronto Globe* and *Mail*, who sent forth over the length and breadth of the land full and accurate reports of the proceedings. The authorities of the Central Church, and the citizens of Hamilton placed us under lasting obligations by their uniform kindness and hospitality. We have now only to refer in a very few sentences to the business of the closing day.

SATURDAY, 22ND JUNE.

The Moderator intimated that Rev. Dr Proudfoot had met with a painful accident last evening. In returning from the Assembly he had fallen and broken two ribs. He felt sure that Dr. Proudfoot had the sympathy and earnest prayers of the brethren for his recovery.

MANITOBA COLLEGE.

The following Committee was appointed to provide the funds required for the College over and above the \$2,500 voted by the Assembly :

Rev. D. H. Fletcher, (Convener), Dr. Reid, Dr. Grant, Mr. Moore, D. J. Macdonnell, Hon. Alex. Morris, D. McLennan, Hon. J. McMurrich, James Croil.

PROTECTION OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

The Assembly resolved :—

That authority be given to this Committee to resist in the Assembly's name, by petition or otherwise, any application to Parliament for legislation that might injuriously affect the interests of this Church as legally identical with the several Churches now known as the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

ECCLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE.

Dr. Bell, Convener, reported that it had been found impossible to hold a meeting of the Committee last year.

PRINCIPAL CAVEN moved as follows :—

Receive the report, reappoint the Committee on the Book of Forms, with instructions to avail themselves of the suggestions of Presbyteries for the purpose of making the book as complete as possible, and direct them to publish it thus amended as a useful guide to the office-bearers of the Church.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Gregg and adopted,

TEMPERANCE.

On motion of Dr. James, seconded by Mr. Fletcher, of Hamilton, the following deliverance was adopted :—

Whereas the evil of intemperance is one of the great obstacles to the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom on the earth; and whereas legislative action has recently been taken by the Dominion Parliament in passing a Bill entitled "The Canada Temperance Act, 1878," and whereas the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada has in former sessions given forth no uncertain sound on this subject :—Be it therefore resolved, 1st, That this General Assembly is devoutly thankful to God for the advance made in the direction of temperance reform in this and other countries, and commends the practice of total abstinence to the prayerful consideration of all connected with its congregations, especially the office-bearers thereof; 2nd, That this General Assembly expresses its desire to co-operate in all well-directed efforts to mitigate or remove, if possible, the evils of intemperance, and prays the Great Head of the Church to bless and prosper all such efforts.

MEMBER'S TRAVELLING EXPENSES.

The overture presented by the Elders, containing a proposal respecting the payment of travelling expenses, was received and referred to the Committee on Finance to report to next Assembly.

LOYAL ADDRESSES.

Dr. Topp, Convener, presented and read addresses to Her Majesty the Queen and His Excellency the Governor General, which were unanimously adopted.

THANKS.

On motion of Mr. Sedgwick, cordial votes of thanks were passed to the Managers of Central Church for the use of their building; to Mr. Walker and the Reception Committee for their unremitting attentions; to the ladies for their pleasant social entertainment; to the young men of Knox Church for their excursion on the Bay; to the steamboat and railway companies for travelling facilities; and to the Press for their excellent reports.

MODERATOR'S CLOSING ADDRESS.

The MODERATOR commenced his address by again expressing the deep gratitude he felt for the honour conferred upon him by his brethren of the Assembly. Next to an assurance of the Divine favour he regarded the estimation in which he was held by his brethren in the Lord. He did not covet the labour connected with the position, and he felt that in this respect he could already sympathize with whoever was destined to be his successor; but he had sincerely, and to the best of his ability, done what he considered was his duty. His rulings might not have been always correct, but he had endeavoured to conduct the business of the Assembly impartially, in kindness, and with due deference to the feelings of all.

Referring to the present mode of electing a Moderator, the speaker submitted whether some better method might not be adopted than that of selecting at a moment's notice, and without the slightest intimation or opportunity for preparation, a gentleman to fill the high position. He would also suggest that so long as the nominations continued to be made by Presbyteries, such nominations ought to have great weight in determining the action of the Assembly.

He had prepared an elaborate closing address, but felt that after the severe labours they had been called upon to perform during the past few days, he would not be justified in detaining them any longer. He felt that God was opening for them in this land a wide sphere of labour. They were called into His vineyard to cultivate it for Him, and to win souls for His Son. The greatness and glory of the work had done much to consolidate the various interests of the Church, and they had no time to look back on the past. The Moderator next alluded in earnest terms to the necessity of efficiently equipping the various Colleges in connection with the Church, and to the importance of sustaining the great Home Mission work which loomed up before them. He expressed his unbounded thankfulness for the assistance rendered him by his brethren in conducting the business of the Assembly, and closed an admirable address by commending all present to the care and favour of God.

Rev. Dr. Robb then engaged in prayer, after which a portion of 122nd Psalm was sung, and the Assembly was formally dissolved, to meet in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on the second Wednesday of June, 1879, at 7.30 p.m.

### British Columbia.

This Presbytery, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met at New Westminster in the beginning of May. There were present the Moderator (Rev. G. Murray), Revs. S. McGregor, R. Jamieson, A. Dunn, W. Clyde; and Messrs. A. Munro, Warren DeBeck, W. Gibson, and A. Macdougall, ruling Elders from the congregations of Victoria, New Westminster, Nanaimo, and Langley. The Rev. Mr. McElmon, Comox, was unavoidably absent. The retiring Moderator preached the Presbytery sermon, and delivered an able and eloquent discourse.

The Rev. Mr. Jamieson was appointed Moderator for the ensuing term. The Rev. Mr. Clyde resigned the office of Clerk of Presbytery, and the Rev. Mr. McGregor

was appointed. The reports of the various congregations and stations were carefully examined. The Clerk read the report of Comox, from Mr. McElmon; and reports were read and handed in by Mr. McGregor, from Victoria, Craigflower, and Cedar Hill; by Mr. Clyde, from Nanaimo; by Mr. Jamieson, from New Westminster and North Arm; by Mr. Dunn, from Langley, Maple Ridge, Mud Bay, Matsqui and Sumas; by Mr. Murray, from Nicola, Clinton, Cache Creek, Kamloops and Spillamcheen. Satisfaction was expressed with the state of matters generally, and the encouraging indications of progress in the work of the Church.

### SYNOD OF MONTREAL AND OTTAWA.

This Synod held its Annual Meeting at Montreal, on the 14th, 15th and 16th days of May, 1878. Dr. Bain, of Perth, preached from Eph. I, 22-23. The Rev. Wm. Ross, of Lochiel, was chosen Moderator for the current year. There was a fair representation of members from the five Presbyteries of the bounds. Next to the conference on the state of religion, the most important business was the erection of a new Presbytery, called the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew, and embracing the congregations and mission stations within the Counties of Lanark and Renfrew, together with the congregation of Kilty in the County of Leeds, and the mission stations of Palmerston in the County of Frontenac. The first meeting of the new Presbytery is appointed to be held at Carleton Place, and in St. Andrew's Church there, on the 3rd Tuesday in August next, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon; the Rev. Dr. Alexander Mann to be Moderator. The next Synod of Montreal and Ottawa is indicated to meet at Cornwall. J. W.

## The Presbyterian Record.

MONTREAL: 1 JULY, 1878.

JAMES GROIL,  
ROBERT MURRAY, } Editors.

OFFICE OF PUBLICATION:

210 St. James Street, Montreal.

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

ARTICLES intended for insertion, must be sent to the Office of Publication by the tenth of the month at the latest.

CORRESPONDENTS in the Maritime Provinces will address their Communications to Mr. Robert Murray, Halifax.



The names of the members composing the Standing Committees will be given next month.

#### FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

Sabbath the twenty-first of July, is the day appointed by the General Assembly for the Annual Collection on behalf of the French Evangelization Scheme of the Church. This is the first of the Annual Collections for the current Ecclesiastical year, and it is important that it should be taken in all the Congregations and Mission Stations of the Church on the Sabbath appointed. From the report of the Board of French Evangelization presented to the General Assembly, it will be seen that the work is making rapid strides, there being at present 44 labourers in the service of the Board. The sum of \$27,500 is required to carry on the work this year; about twenty per cent in excess of the Expenditure of the past twelve months.

We hope that from every Mission Station throughout the church, as well as from every Congregation, liberal contributions will be received as the result of the collection on the 21st July. Copies of the Annual Report of the Board can be obtained from the Rev. R. H. Warden, 210 St. James Street, Montreal, to whom all monies should be forwarded.

#### MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

British Columbia—Tuesday, 1st October.  
P. E. Island—Wednesday, 7th August.  
Quebec—Wednesday, 17th July, 10 a.m.  
Montreal—Tuesday, 9th July, 11 a.m.  
Glengarry—Tuesday, 9th July.  
Kingston—Tuesday, 9th July, 10 a.m.  
Peterborough—Tuesday, 2nd July, 11 a.m.  
Whitby—Tuesday, 2nd July, 11 a.m.  
Toronto—Tuesday, 2nd July, 11 a.m.  
London—Tuesday, 9th July, 2 p.m.  
Saugeen—Tuesday, 9th July, 2 p.m.  
Huron—Tuesday, 9th July, 11 a.m.  
Stratford—Tuesday, 9th July, 9.30 a.m.  
Ottawa—Tuesday, 6th August, 2 p.m.  
Barrie—Tuesday, 6th August, 11 a.m.  
Lacark and Renfrew—20th August, 1 p. m.

#### Literature.

**CHRIST, HIS NATURE AND WORK**: A series of Discourses: New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons: Montreal, Dawsons Bros. \$1.75. This volume is designed to be the first of a series of pulpit teachings presenting from different points of view the current opinions of the day on themes of essential

importance by representative protestant preachers. We admire the taste displayed by the publishers in the mechanical execution of this book which is quite unexceptionable, but we should rather not have Howard Crosby and Cyrus Foss, bound up in the same volume with Swedenborgians and Universalists.

**ETERNAL HOPE.**—These five Sermons by Canon Farrar fully attest the writers scholarship and literary taste, but they do not alter the opinion we have already expressed respecting his theology. His reasoning is not logical, and it is extremely unsatisfactory.

**BIBLE WORK IN BIBLE LANDS.**—The Presbyterian Board of Publication, Philadelphia. This is an interesting account of protestant missions in Syria, by the Rev. Isaac Bird, one of the earliest of modern missionaries in that country.

**POGANUC PEOPLE**, by Mrs Harriet Beecher Stowe:—Wm. Drysdale & Co., 132 St. James St., Montreal, \$1.50. Early New England scenes and characters are described in this novel in the author's peculiarly attractive style.

**CHILDREN OF NATURE**: by the Earl of Desart; Dawson Bros., Montreal. A story graphically told of modern London Society.

**THE SCHOLASTIC NEWS**: This new *Monthly Journal* in the interests of Education bids fair, under the able management of Mr. G. Maynard, Montreal, to supply a long felt want. Price only \$1 per annum. It ought to have a very large circulation.

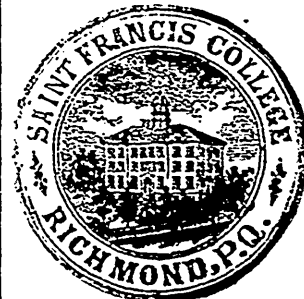
**25** Fashionable Visiting Cards, not two alike, with name, 10c. Nassau Card Co. Nassau, N.Y.

**OTTAWA LADIES' COLLEGE and CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.**

Rev. A. F. Kemp, LL.D., Principal, assisted by a large and efficient staff of Teachers.

The curriculum of the College is in every respect abreast of the age, and special facility afforded for the study of French and German. The numerous advantages of the Colleges are unequalled in the Dominion.

College opens Sept. 4th, 1878. For particulars and fuller information, apply to the Principal.



Four Departments: Arts, Preparatory, Commercial & Agricultural, 10 Professors & Teachers, Board, washing, Fuel, Light, &c., \$2.50 per week. Tuition from \$5 to \$20 per term.

Rev. CHAS. A. TANNER, Principal

## A Page for the Young.

### LOOK TO JESUS.

**E**YES that are weary,  
And hearts that are sore,  
Look off unto Jesus,  
And sorrow no more ;  
The light of His countenance  
Shineth so bright,  
That on earth, as in heaven,  
There need be no night.  
Looking off unto Jesus,  
My eyes cannot see  
The troubles and dangers  
That throng around me ;  
They cannot be blinded  
With sorrowful tears,  
They cannot be shadowed  
With unbelief fears.

### A STORY OF THE SEA.

During a terrible naval battle between the English and the Dutch, the English flag ship, commanded by Admiral Narborough, was drawn into the thickest of the fight. Two masts were soon shot away, and the mainmast fell with a fearful noise upon the deck. Admiral Narborough saw that all was lost, unless he could bring up his ships from the right. Hastily scrawling an order he called for volunteers to swim across the boiling water, under the hail of shot and shell. A dozen sailors at once offered their services, and among them the cabin-boy.

"Why," said the Admiral, "what can you do, my fearless lad?" "I can swim," the boy replied; "and should I be shot I am easier spared than any one else." Narborough hesitated; but his men were few, and his position desperate. The boy plunged in the sea amid the cheers of the sailors, and was soon lost to sight. The battle raged fiercer and as time went on defeat seemed inevitable. But just as hope was fading a thundering cannonade was heard from the right, and the reserve were seen bearing down upon the enemy. By sunset the Dutch fleet were scattered far and wide, and the cabin-boy, the hero of the hour, was called to receive the honour due him. His modesty and bearing so won the old Admiral, that he exclaimed: "I shall live to see you have a flag-ship of your own." The prediction was fulfilled when the cabin boy, having become Admiral Cloudsley Shovel, was knighted by the King.

### IMMENSITY OF SPACE.

A railway train travelling night and day, at the rate of fifty miles an hour, would reach the moon in six months, the sun in 200 years, and Alpha Centauri, the nearest of the fixed stars, in 42,000,000 of years. A ball from a gun, travelling at the rate of 900 miles an hour, would reach Alpha Centauri in 2,700,000 years; while light travelling at the rate 185,000 miles a second, would not reach it in less than three years. Light from some of the telescopic stars would take 5,760 years to reach the earth; and from some of these clusters, the distance is so great that light would take 500,000 years to pass to the earth; so that we see objects not as they really are, but as they were 500,000 years ago.

### DON'T TAKE IT TO HEART.

There's many a trouble,  
Would break like a bubble  
And into the waters of Lethe depart,  
Did not we rehearse it,  
and tenderly nurse it,  
And give it a permanent place in the heart.

How welcome the seeming,  
Of looks that are beaming,  
Whether one's wealthy or whether one's poor.  
Eyes bright as a berry,  
Cheeks red as a cherry,  
The groan and the curse and the heartache  
can cure.

### A GRAND EPITAPH.

Away down in the South Seas, on the Island of Aneityum, there stands a little chapel. On a marble tablet placed in the wall of it are these words.—"WHEN HE CAME HERE THERE WERE NO CHRISTIANS, AND WHEN HE WENT AWAY THERE WERE NO HEATHENS." There is no grander epitaph than this in Westminster Abbey or old St. Paul's. This is said of the late Rev. Dr. John Geddie, the first christian missionary who preached the blessed Gospel of "Jesus" on this Isle of the Sea, where there are now many hundreds of christian worshippers and sabbath school children. Dr. Geddie was a native of Prince Edward Island and a minister of this Presbyterian Church. We cannot all be missionaries like him, but we can all *help the spread of the Gospel*. Remember this when you drop *your mite* into the collection plate or Missionary box. Remember too, that "*They who turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever!*"

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

RECEIVED BY REV. DR. REID,  
AGENT OF THE CHURCH AT TORONTO,  
TO 2ND JUNE, 1878.

**ASSEMBLY FUND.**

Received to 2nd May, '78.	\$3119.81
Ingersoll, Knox Ch.	10.00
Wallacetown	8.00
Hamilton, St Paul's	14.00
W Nottawasaga and Dunroon	6.94
Norwich & Windham	6.00
North Maru & Longford	4.25
Ottawa, Daly St.	10.00
Uxbridge	4.00
Beckwith	3.00
Middle Stewiacke and Brookfield	5.00
Erin	6.00
Charlottetown, St Paul's	12.57
Paris, Dumfries St.	15.00
Toronto, Gould St.	22.59
Laguette, Calvin Ch	2.00
Galt, St Andrew's	6.00
Nassagaweya	7.59
Campbellville	5.00
Toronto, Knox Ch.	20.00
Ottawa	10.67
Bradford	3.07
Guelph, Knox Ch.	5.00

\$3316.24

Received for 1878 & 1879:	
Port Dalhousie	2.75
Hopewell	7.10
Vittoria	3.60
Chatham & Grenville	5.10
Saugeen, St Andrew's	1.20
Hespeler	2.55
Pakenham, St Andrew's	3.00
Southampton	6.14
Quebec, Chalmer's Ch.	10.00
Carradoc	1.25
Ashfield	5.00
Elora, Chalmer's Ch.	15.09

\$61.55

**HOME MISSION.**

Received to 2nd May, '78	\$2556.41
Hornby	2.00
Ashburn Sabbath School	6.52
Blakney & Clayton	10.00
Ingersoll, Knox Ch.	59.00
Wallacetown	17.00
Oro, Guthrie Ch.	8.00
Williamstown, St Andrew's	69.00
Pickering, St John's	8.50
Montreal, St Matthew's	4.50
Eldon	12.00
Bowmanville, St Paul's	50.00
Erin	6.14
do Sabbath School	2.59
Molesworth	15.00
Trowbridge	3.20
West King	14.00
Toronto, Bay St Sab Se.	21.00
Newmarket	26.54
Chingacousey 1st	24.53
do 2nd	8.00
Boston, Church Esqueving	9.75
Milton, Knox Ch.	4.25
Paisley, Knox Ch.	31.80
Boxfield, St Andrew's	4.00
Richmond, Add.	4.00
Freo Church of Scotland	2916.66

Presb Church of Ireland	482.22
Ayr, Stanley St.	30.45
Hampstead	13.65
Utica	10.55
Guelph, Knox Ch.	55.00
W Nottawasaga and Dunroon	14.00
Dunwich, Duff's Ch.	5.00
Orangeville, Bethel Ch.	5.00
Paris, Dumfries St.	37.00

\$29674.88

Less these amounts, Almonte & St John's	\$43.93
Pembroke, Calvin Ch	42.70
Transferred to Colleges	85.73

\$29589.15

**Received for 1878 & 1879:**

Dumblane	4.00
Owen Sound, Division St.	1.00
Kilbride	10.55
Martintown, St Andrew's	25.04
Melbourne	16.60
Procling	23.09
Normanby, Head Station	10.50
Friend, Watford	5.00
Saugeen, St Andrew's	7.20
Oshawa Sab Se	12.00
Plympton, Smith Ch	5.50
Pembroke, Calvin Ch.	37.20
Southampton	40.00
Mono West	14.00
Oro, Esson Ch	2.25
Oro, Willis Ch	2.00
Lachine	17.45
Allanford	5.00
Mosa, Burn's Ch.	33.52
Niagara, St Andrew's	5.00
Pembroke, Calvin Ch, for Mattawa Mission	17.30
Elora, Chalmer's Ch	55.60
Thamesville	31.00
Bradford	14.00

\$395.65

**FOREIGN MISSION.**

Received to 2nd May, '78	\$25610.50
Ashburn	33.00
Galt, Union Ch S S Formosa	18.50
do do do Saskn	18.50
Blakney & Clayton	10.00
Ingersoll, Knox Ch.	67.00
Wallacetown	10.00
Ottawa, Daly St Sab Se.	30.00
Bowmanville, St Paul's Sab Se, Zenana Teacher	60.00
India	60.00
Pickering, St John's Ch.	4.00
Montreal, St Matthew's	7.00
Beckwith	5.00
Bowmanville, St Paul's	50.60
Erin	3.00
Erin Sab Se.	2.50
Molesworth	15.00
Trowbridge	3.20
West King	15.00
Ashburn, addl	2.00
Toronto, Bay St Sab Se.	21.00
Chingacousey 1st	16.49
do 2nd	8.70
Petrolia	5.00
Ekfrid, Knox Ch.	12.00
Richmond	5.00
St Louis de Gonzague	5.00
South Kinloss & Lucknow	30.54
Hampstead	24.25
Utica	6.25

Guelph, Knox Ch	40.00
Lanark	15.85
	\$21154.19

Less these amounts, Paris Dumfries St.	\$37.00
Ayr, Stanley St.	30.45
Transferred to Home Mission	
	\$21086.74

**Received for 1878 & 1879:**

Avonton S Se Indians of Manitoba	16.70
Kilbride	5.05
Martintown, St Andrew's	12.00
St Louis de Gonzague	2.00
Scarborough, St Andrew's	27.65
Markham, St John's	14.76
Friend, Watford	5.00
do do China	5.00
Saugeen, St Andrew's	4.59
Friend, Hullet, India	2.00
do do China	2.00
do do Saskn	1.00
Oshawa Sab Se, China	30.00
Pembroke, Calvin Ch.	31.77
Pakenham, St Andrew's	4.00
Southampton	15.00
Oro, Esson Ch	1.00
Oro, Willis Ch.	1.00
Lachine	5.55
W Nottawasaga and Dunroon	12.00
Mosa, Burn's Ch.	17.00
Elora, Chalmer's S S India	5.00
do do do China	5.00
do do do Saskn	8.00
Bradford	25.00

\$267.31

**COLLEGES.**

Received to 2nd May, '78	\$5972.91
Ottawa, St Andrew's	50.00
Ingersoll, Knox Ch.	70.00
Wallacetown	7.00
Ottawa, Daly St	35.00
Present	11.00
Erin	5.00
Molesworth	8.00
West King	15.00
Toronto, Bay St Sab Se.	21.62
Chingacousey 1st	17.45
do 2nd	6.80
Paisley, Knox Ch.	41.75
Paris, Dumfries St, addl.	25.00
Almonte, St John's	43.63
Pembroke, Calvin Ch.	42.70
Pakenham, Victoria St.	10.00
Hampstead	5.25
Guelph, Knox Ch.	45.00

\$9432.45

**Received for 1878 & 1879:**

Kilbride	4.45
Saugeen, St Andrew's	3.50
Pinkerton	12.00
Caledonia, Argyie St, and Allan Settlement	20.00
Southampton	12.00
Oro, Esson Ch	2.00
Oro, Willis Ch.	1.00
Carradoc	2.75
Allanford	5.00
Bradford	10.00

\$82.74

WIDOW'S FUND.

Received to 2nd May, '78.	\$2511.20
Ashburn	7.65
Blakney & Clayton	4.00
Ingersol, Knox Ch	15.60
Wallacetown	10.00
Ottawa, Daly St	15.00
Union Ch, Esquesing	12.25
Erin	2.50
Molesworth	6.00
West King	15.00
Chinguaousey 2nd	5.00
Preston	1.61
South Kinloss & Lucknow	15.56
Guelph, Knox Ch	30.00

\$2650.77

Received for 1878 & 1879:

Ekfrid	8 83
Kilbride	4.05
Markham, Brown's Cor's.	1.70
Saugren, St Andrew's	1.43
Southampton	10.00
Markham, Melville Ch	6.00
Elora, Chalmer's Ch	8.00
Bradford	8.00

\$47.95

With Rates from Rev. Wm Park, J Porteous, \$16.00; A D McDonald.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

Received to 2nd May, '78.	\$2045.04
Ashburn	8.25
Blakney & Clayton	4.00
Beckwith, St Paul's	4.00
Paris, Dumries St	10.00

\$2071.29

Received to 2nd May, '78.

Rates	\$93.91
Received for 1878 & 1879:	
Rates from Revs Wm Blain, \$4 00; J S Stewart, \$4 50; P Straith, \$3 00; J Porteous, \$3 00; M Danby, \$3 14; A D McDonald, \$6 00; W D Ballantyne, \$5 00	20.50

AGED & INFIRM MINISTER'S FUND for 1878 & 1879:

Elora, Chalmer's Ch	10.00
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KNOX COLLEGE, BUILDING FUND.

Received to 2nd May, '78.	\$7918.56
Ingersoll, per Rev J M King	7.00
West Puslinch, per Rev N McDiarmid	12.00
Bluerale, per J Messer	35.00
Rev Jno Scott, N Bruce	25.00
Rev J Paterson, Chatham	5.00
Port Dover, per J Scott	31.53
Ashburn & Utica, per Jas Lawrence	7.00
W King, per Rev P Nicol	44.00
Rev P Nicol, Vaughan	25.00
Walter Watson, Vaughan	5 00

\$8115.24

Received for 1878 & 1879:

Rodgersville	59.00
Wincham	60.50
Aldboro, Argyll Ch	22.00
Kincardine, Knox Ch	23.00
St George	15.00
Norwich	33.00
Bayfield & Berne	25.00
Parkhill	32.00
John Esson, Garafraxa	1.00
John McClung, Carlisle	5.09
D Walker, Wroxeter	4.00
Kintyre	10.00
Elora, per Rev. A D McDonald	14.00
Elora, per Rev J Middlemiss	18.35

\$326.85

KNOX COLLEGE, ORDINARY FUND DEBT.

Received to 2nd May, '78.	\$3447.00
Peterborough, St Paul's, addl, per Rev Dr Robb	34.14
Port Hope, add, per do	4.60
Brucefield, do per Rev J M King	11.00
Senforth, add, pr Rev JMK	10.00
Goderich, do do	10.00
Paris, do do	5.60
Ingersoll, Erskine Ch do	12.00
Woodstock, do	94.50
Embro, do	98.35
London, add, do	20.00
Thamesville, do	72 00
Chatham, do	89.60
Bothwell, do	50.00
Listowell, do	17.00
Walkerton, do	57.00
Paisley, do	69.75
Port Elgin, do	34.40
Southampton, do	24.50
Harriston, Guthrie Ch do	54.50
Mount Forest, do	54.50
Wroxeter, do	42.75
Palmerston, do	2.00
Toronto, Gould St, do	450.00
Strathroy, do	11.00

\$4769.99

Received for 1878 & 1879:

Toronto, West Ch, per Rev R Wallace	32.80
Mrs G F Jones, Cobourg, Rev Dr Robb	15 00
Embro	25.70

573.50

MANITOBA COLLEGE, BUILDING FUND DEBT.

Received to 2nd May, '78. \$553.26

MANITOBA COLLEGE, ORDINARY FUND.

Received to 2nd May, '78. \$545.44

JUVENILE MISSION TO INDIA.

Received to 2nd Feb, '78	\$107.60
Whitby, St Andrew's	6.00
New Edinburgh	10.00

\$123.00

BURSARY FUND, KNOX COLLEGE.

Received to 2nd May, '78.	\$1120.00
Rev Principal Caven	10.60
Rev Professor McLaren	10.00

\$1140.00

CORRECTIONS.

For COLLEGES to May 2nd is \$8975.91, should have been \$8972.91.

HOME MISSION to May 2nd \$25664.96, should have been \$25669.41.

KNOX COLLEGE: Debt on Ordinary Fund is \$3346.50, should have been \$3447.00.

MANITOBA COLLEGE: Debt to April 2nd is \$266.21, it should have been \$333.21, the sum \$33.00 from Fullarton being for Church Building in Manitoulin Island.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

Received by Rev. R. H. Warden, Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of French Evangelization, 210 St. James Street, Montreal, to 1st June, 1878.

ORDINARY FUND.

Dresden	\$10.01
Friends in Avonmore	7.65
Caistor	2.70
J Hoolichan	35.00
E Cummings, Wilmot, per Dr McGregor	5.00
Cove Head, P. E. I, per do	17.00
Friend, per Rev A Ross	
Pictou	1.00
St Matthew's, Halifax do	40.00
Friend, Luther, Ont	6.00
Hampden	5.69
L O L 36, Burford	2.00
Ottawa, Daly St Sab Sc	30.00
Hampstead Sab Sc	6.56
Anonymous Ex-Prst fund	1.25
Mrs E McCormack, Currie's Crossing	1.00
St James Ch, Newcastle, N B	20.00
Lady friend, Lancaster	2.00

\$191.57

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL

Rev. R. H. Warden, Treasurer,

ORDINARY REVENUE.

Received to 1st May	\$3378.74
Chalmer's Ch, Montreal	25.00
Bristol	9.69
Inverness	6.00
Kirkhill	9.00
Desert	2.35
Winslow	2.00
J McLauren, E Templeton	5.00
Danville	3.00
Avoca & Harrington	5.00
South Finch	6.00

\$3451.69

**ORDINARY REVENUE DEFICIT.**

Received to 1st May	\$1284.89
Kenyon	53.00
Roxboro, add	3.75
Indian Lands	6.00
Kirkhill	11.00
Martint'n & Williamst'n.	3.50
	\$1862.14

**BUILDING FUND.**

Received to 1st May	\$929.75
John McGregor, Athol	4.00
Alex McRae, do	1.00
Mrs A McGregor, do	1.00
Jas Redder, Kingston	5.00
D Andrews, Picton	10.00
T Reid, Gananoque	5.00
Alex McKenzie, Kenyon	1.00
Daniel Parker, Leeds	5.00
R Dodds, Perth	11.00
J A McCrady, Brockville	5.00
	\$976.75

**LIBRARY FUND.**

Received to 1st May	\$127.09
Donation, per Dr Reid	40.00
	\$167.09

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND.**

Received to 1st May	\$1173.65
Rev Prof Campbell	45.00
Member Crescent St Ch, Montreal	50.00
Per Rev L McPherson	36.71
Brockville, 1st SS, French	52.43
W Drysdale, Montreal	5.00
Jas Croil, do	5.00
Rev R H Warden, do	15.10
Per K Urquhart	13.50
	\$1396.29

RECEIVED BY REV. DR. MCGREGOR, AGENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES, TO JUNE, 1878.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS.**

E Cumminger, Wilmot	2.50
Sab Se of Loch Broom	1.70
Bay Fortune, Souris and Grand River	9.00
Upper Londonderry	31.00
Prince William, N B	5.00
St Matthew's, Wallace	6.00
Stako Road, do	2.36
Fox Harbour, do	1.43
Ladies Soc'y, Springville	12.00
Middle Musquodoboit	6.45
D Ferguson, sn. 9 Mile Riv	2.00
Friend Missions, Charlot-town, for New Hebrides, per John Scott	3.00
Middle Stewiacke	9.00
Acadia, payment of debts	10.55

**Day Spring**

Springfield S. S., Brown's Creek, P E I	10.03
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**Home Missions.**

Middle Stewiacke	4.00
Rev D Neish to payment of debt	5.50

**DAYS PRING AND MISSION SCHOOLS.**

Five Islands	3.00
Boularderie, C B	4.00
Sarnia S S & Central PSS	
Toronto, per Miss Agnes Machar	50.00
Economy	4.50
	\$61.50

**HOME MISSIONS.**

Balance	\$171.26
E Cumminger, Wilmot	2.50
Tangier, Shect Har Cong	4.00
Bay Fortune, Souris and Grand River Cong	7.50
Upper Londonderry	15.25
Prince William, N B	10.00
Acadia Cong	20.00
St Andw Ch, Little River	5.00
Black River, Miramichi	9.25
Middle Musquodoboit	5.68
	\$250.44

**SUPPLEMENTING FUND.**

Bay Fortune, Souris, and Grand River Cong	17.50
Prince William, N B	20.00
Noel	10.00
Boularderie, C B	4.00
Sheet Harbour	12.43
St Andw Ch, Little River	7.00
Middle Musquodoboit	0.25
	\$71.18

**COLLEGE FUND.**

From New Building and Endowment Fund:	
Div on 80 shares Canadian Bank of Commerce	160.00
Div 2 shares Bank of N S	180.00
Interest on \$6000	360.00
Prof Pollok for Library	10.00
Kingston, N B, Thanksgivng col for Library	11.30
Coll at opening meeting of Theological Hall	25.00
Int for supplementing fund	40.00
do Bd of For. Mission	100.00

The above sums are included in last year's account :-

Bay Fortune, Souris, and Grand River Cong	5.00
Int on \$2:00, 1 yr to Ap'11	60.00
Interest	43.00
Middle Musquodoboit	0.20
Little Harbour	2.69
	\$115.89

**AGED AND INFIRM MINISTER'S FUND.**

Balance	\$141.69
Interest	1.00
Little Harbour	2.60
	\$145.29

**Minister's Percentage.**

Rev C B Pitblado	8.00
Rev Jas Anderson	5.00
	\$158.29

**FOR MANITOBA COLLEGE.**

Antigonish	10.00
Princeton, P E I	9.05

James Ch, New Glasgow	
Missy Association	8.00
Middle River, C B	2.62
	\$29.67

**ERRATUM.**

In July Record, 1877, under the heading French Evangelization, John Hattie, Caledonia, St Mary's is credited with 25 cents. It should have been \$25.00.

**THEOLOGICAL HALL BUILDING AND ENDOWMENT FUND, FARGUE & FORRETT & CO., TREASURERS, 173 HOLLIS ST., HALIFAX, TO MAY 31st, 1878.**

Previously acknow'g'd \$24876.71

Middle River	55.46
W J Stairs, Halifax	333.67
St Luke's Ch, Bathurst	189.75
Moncton, N B	83.00
Wm McDougall, Maitland	360.00
Capt John Allen, do	50.00
Campbellton, N B	93.10
A A McDougall, Maitland	100.00
Adams McDougall, do	25.00
John A Sinclair, Halifax	250.00
West River, P E I	22.00
Clyde River, P E I	41.00
Rev Wm Grant, West River, P E I	10.00
John Doull, Halifax	500.00
J S Maclean, do 2nd inst	333.33
J F Dunlop, M Stewiacke	16.10
Mrs J Kennedy, Brookfield	1.00
Antigonish	36.42
Dr J F Avers, Hfx, 2nd inst	160.00
Jas N Crowe, Truro	5.00
W S Crowe, do	7.00
A H Patterson, do	16.67
H J Atkins, do	16.71
J F Blanchard, do	20.00
Geo Campbell, do	40.00
Lake Ainslie	12.00
John Gibson, Halifax	250.00
N J Currie, do	35.00
Arch Fraze, Maitland	30.00
East River Cong, 1st inst	370.00
Alberton, P E I	20.00
Capt W Douglas, Maitland	100.00
French River, Picou	5.75
Carmel Ch, Westville	34.00
	\$28217.63

**MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.**

Late Presbyterian Church in Lower Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland.  
Geo. Mitchell, Treas., Halifax

St Paul's, Fredericton, NB	15.00
St Andws, St Johns, Nfld.	21.00
Rev J D Paterson, do	12.00
Rev J Anderson, New-castle, N B, for 2 years	24.00

**WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.**

Late in connection with the Church of Scotland.

James Croil, Montreal, Treas.

St Gabriel's, Montreal	\$50.00
Perth, St Andw Ch, on acc	15.00