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# HOUR AND PORRIGN RECORD <br> OF 

## THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

No. 9.
JUNE, 1865.
VOL. IV
REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL ON THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF CONGREGATIONS, ADOPTED BY THE PRESBYTERY.
The Committee would just express their conviction, that the unfayourable financial condition of several of the congre gations under the care of the lresbytery, arises from their followiog a bad system, and sometimes no regular system, in the management of their Finances. Some of the more prevalent evils are-The want of a regular Board of Managers; or, where there is such a Board, either they have no neetings, except at longl intervals, or the meetings are attended by a very few, to whom the whole business is left;

Dependence on a subscription list, bot up when the Minister was settled, o: at some other special time. In this way each indivdual becomes personally responsille to the minister, and when some fail to pay their subscriptions, the stipend falls into arrears : and, as congregations too often have no alequate sense of responsibility for the amounts thereby lost, the arrears are allowed to remain unpaid, and to increase from year to year ;

The irregular and infrequent collection of subscriptions;
The ignorance, and consequent apathy, of some congregations in reyard to their own liunncial affairs, no information bein. supplied to them : and, finalls, the lach of Christian liberality on the part of many individuals, who ate content to enjoy the religious ordinances, while they contribute little or nothing to the support of them.

With a siew to remedy these and other similar evils, the Committec would recommend the following regulations for the guidance of Congregations.-

1. That every Congregation should have, fur the management of its Financial affairs, a regular staff of officebearers, either Deacous or Managers, with a Secretary and a Treasurer; and that these should be partly changed every year, a certain portion of them retiring in rotation, (with the exception of the Treasurer and Secretars, whose offices ought to be more permanent), and others chosen in their place, so that the work of the Church may not be confined to a few, but may occupy and interest as many of its members as possible.
2. That the Secretary should record, in a book kept for the purpose, minates of the proccedings of each meeting of the Managers. That the Treasurer also should keep a book, in which all receipts and disbursements should bo regularly entered.
3. That each Congregation should be divided isto convenient Districte, and Collectors appointed for these districts.
4. That these Collectors should go round their districts every quarter to take up the subscriptions.

The Committee would strongly urge that yearly, and even half yearly payments should, if possible, be avvided; and that the subscriptions should be
called for at least once a quarter. They would, however, recommend, where it can be practised, the ssstem of weelily offerings, which, as it is according to Scriptre precedent, so it has been found, by many congregations that have adopted it, to be the most efficient.
5. That the Deacons, or Managers, should mect once a Quarter, to receive the reports of the Treasurer and Collectors.
6. That the subscriptions should he paid to the 'Ireasurer, and not io the Minister directly. Much evil has arisen, in some cases, from tho Minister acting as Treasurer.
7. That the Minister should be paid Quaiterly, and with all possible regularity.
8. That the stipend should be paid in Money, and not in kind. Paying the Minister in produce is exceedingly likely to give rise to more or less of misunderstanding and dispute; and ought, if possible, in all cases to be avoided.
9. That the Managers should see that cvery member and every sitter contributes his share to the support of the Caurch.
10. That an Annual Mecting of the Congregation should be held, at some fixed time, at which the Treasurer should present a full Report of the Financial state of the Congregation; which report the Committee think it would be generally expedient to have printed and circulated among the members.
11. That, if it should be found that the stipend has not been fully paid, a special effort should be made at once, to have the deficiency made up so that there may be no arrears due from the Congregation to the Alinister; and that those individuals, who bave failed to pay their subscriptions, should be dealt with by the Managers, so that they may be induced to pay up with the least possible delay.
12. That the Congregation should look upon itself as jointly and collectiveIy responsible for the whole of the Minister's stipend, as it is for the other expenses of the Church. When a Minister is called, he is called by the Congregation, as a Congregation, and the engagements they enter into, as to stipend, uught to be regarded as made by the Congregation, and not by the members as individuals; so that any deficiency caused by failure on the part of individuals, the Congregation shall feel itself bound to make up.
13. That, in order to make provision for possible deficiencies that may arise from the remova! or the death of subscribers, or other causes, the Subscription List should be revised every year, by the Managing Committee, and efforis made to have it in such a state, that the calculated inconie of the Congregation, including subscriptions, seat rents, Sabbath collections, and any other ordinary source of incorae, may be more than equal to the sum required for the Minister's stipend, and the other ordinary expenses.

The Committee, in conclusion, would urge the members of the Church to look upon their subscriptions and collections, not as so much money promised or given to a particular Minister, but as what they are able and willing to give for the support of the Church of Christ, so that the Gospel may be preached, and Divine ordinances dispensed amongst them; and to endeavour to act, in this matter, so that their Pastors may not be embarrassed with pecuniary perplexitios, but may be free to give themselves to Prayer and the Ministry of the Word; which desirable end, the Committee believe would, by the Divine blessing, be greatly promoted, and the cause of Christ furthered, it the Members of the Church were universally to act on principle in giving: if, rememberiag the grace of our Lord Jesus Shrist, who, though "He was rich, for our sakes became," they were regularly to "lay by them in store," for His cause, " as the Lord hath prospered them :" and if they were to take a deeper interest in the management of their own congregational affairs, and proceed systematically, in the manner above indicated.

1 Cor. ix. 14.-Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel. I Cor. xvi, 2.-Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as the Lord hath prospered him. Gen. xxviii. 22.-Of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto ther.
Mal, iii. 10. - Bring ge all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of beavea, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.
The Committee, lastly, would recommend the following brief regulations be printed and prefixed to blank forms, which have been prepared and are herewith submitted to the Presbytery.
D. Paterson, Convener.

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## MISSIONS OF FREE CHURCH.

Caffraria.-An interesting letter in the Free Church Record, from the Rev. Mr. McDiarmid, gives the gratifying intelligence of farther accessions to the Church by baptism. Seven adults and one infant had been baptized by the Rev. Mr. Laing. It was intended that two other adult females should have been baptized, but one of them had been prevented by force and contipued persecution from attending church or religious classes for several weeks.
Isdia-Chinscran.-The Rev. Prosunna Kumar Chatterjga makes the following remarks with reference to female education in India:
"Of late I have been much impressed with the importance of female education as a great means of elevating my countrymen. For so long as our women are not blessed with an enlightened and liberal education, the meral tone and civilization of the people of this country will not be advanced to any great degree. It is a lamentable thing to see how many of our fine and intelligent young men are vitiated and degraded by forming matrimonial alliance with ignorant and barbarous females. It often grieves me to see bow many persons, who in their youth gave a bright promise of nseiul aud hap:y manhood, have, owing to early marrigge to uneducated and superstitious women, become burdened with a multitude of cares under which their once brilliant intellectual powers and high moral sense have been nearly buried. Such men think and talk of nothing except how to make money, and to make themselves and theirs comfortable in this life. This melancholy phenomenon of the prostration of the intellect and conscience of many of my countrymen is very much owing, I am fully persuaded, to unenlightened and illiberal female influence. Numbers are at present passing the university examinations, and many of them are getting honourable titles, and some are filling high offices; but, alas! in a moral and spiritual point of view they are not much elevated above the vulgar mass whom they despise.
"I am now trging my best to improve the little girls' school which meets in my house, and I am glad to mention that I have succeeded in establishing a Zenana school in a neighbouring village. The latter at present contains nearly twenty young women, who are learning to read Bengali, and who, in course of time, will be able to read the Scriptures. In both these schools there are about forty girls who are under Christian infuence and instruction. May the Lord bless then, and make them the means of enlightening their relations! If I had the means I could try and establish some more female schools in some of the neighbouring villages. The applications that were made to me several times to establish female schools in the villages in the vicinity of this town I could not attend to for want of means. I trust that you will be able to assist me in establishing at least one or two more female schools.

## mission of United presbyterlan ceurch.

Old Catamar.-The Rev. William Anderson, in a letter published in the last number of the Nissionary Record, sass:
FIeard good news to day,-viz., that two days ago King A. called his peopie together, and publicly declared to them his disbeliet in Idiong and all the old superstitions of the country : his belief in the truth of God's word, seeing his own heart tells him that what the missionaries teach from that is true; and his resolution to become a 'good man' himself, as soon as his brother's "ikpo" is over. He called upon all his people to witness that he had done everything that could be done, according to Efik fashion, for the recovery of his brother, and that all had failed, because God 'no will that his brother get better.' This sentiment was, God onls is to ise feared and prayed to. I earnestly pray that his feeling may be permanent.

British Cafframa-Emgwal:-The Rev. Tijo Soga describes a visit recently paid to a Kraal fiifteen miles from the Emgwalistation, where he found fifteen women hopefully inquiring after the way of salvation. In the course of a detailed account of his visit to the Kraal village he says:

In the evening, when the people retumed from their gardens, we held a meeting, which both Mr. Sclater and I addressed. At the close of the meeting, which was held outside, wear the cattle enclosure, we met with the seven awomen, to judge for ourselves as to the state of their minds and the nature of their religious convictions. So far as my own experience was concerned, I was satisfied with the uuaffected simplicity of their convictions. There was no extravagance of any kind ; no effort to appear to be what they professed. By as careful, and at the same time delicate probing of therr consciences and inward feelings as I could make, I found thers all concerned about the salvation of their souls, the way of relief from this anxiety, and being reconciled to God, whom they felt they had offended by their sins. While we strove to point them to the Lamb of God tbat taketh away the sin of the world, we felt they needed much light and guidauce; and no wonder, when we remember that gross darkness had but lately covered them, and that the little of the truth of the gospel they knew, was only now enabling them to see that they too were blind. But in connection with this, their eagerness for religious insruction is very great indeed.

## MISSIUNS OF ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCII.

Cums. - Missionary operations are again suspended by the advance of the rebels, as will be seen from the extracts from a letter written by the Rev. W. S. Swanson:

Amuy, February 25th, 1865.
My dear Mr. Mathibsox,-You mill see by Mr. Douglas's letter that we are not yet freed from the presence of rebels. One of our stations, that at Ching-chew, has for some time been closed against us, and now I am deeply grieved to have to report that another has become sealed to us for a time.

On Friday morning of last week I started for Khi-boey with the view of passing the Sabbath there. When I got to Pechuia, I heard various rumours to the effect that. the rebels were in the vicinity of Khi-boes, and most persons I met tried to dissuade me from attempting to proceed thither.

As you know, in gomg to Khi-hoey we have a journey by boat up the river to Kwan-jin, a point some twels? miles above Pechuia; I determived to go on so far at any rate, and try to leain something more definte as to the state of the country. We (for I was accompanied by Mr. NacGregor) went on during the night. Early on Saturday morning I sent on two Chinese a mile or two shesd to get some more definte. information. They came back with any amount of vague rumours, but with nothing definite. All who were with me strongly dissuaded me from proceeding any.further, and refused to go forward.

At last I resolved to go on for some distance, and one of the boatmen volun teered to $\mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{y}}$ with me. We set unt, and I found the whole region in the mosfearful state of excitement. I was still ata distance of fifteen or sixteen milet from where the rebels at the moment ware, but it seemed to me as if all the filth of the whole region had suddenly come to the surface. Every one we met had but one storg, and that was that the whole region was most unsafe, and that the road was infested with thieves and robber.. Of course this information made me all the more anxious about vur brethren there, and we were doubly eager to go on and try to learm something of them. We walked to a distance of four or five milos from the boat, whe. I began to feel that further progress was out of the question. Before us were all the dangers of the road, and excited crowds around us were maiifesting in no equivocal way their hatred and bad feelings. They could nat understand how we would dare to go forward while not one of themselves would think of such a thing ; and they began to get upa cry that we were relel ssmpa 'izers. In che excited state of the people it was evident to me that we were not by any means safe. I turned back, and in the kiod mercy of Goid we got safely back to the boat, and started away for Pechuia, where we arrived late on Salurday night. I need not say how sad we all were that we had to return without any news of our brethren at Khi-boey. At Pechuia also I found the greatest panic prevailing, people removing their wires, chiidren, and valuables, with the greatest haste.

We met on Sabbath morniny in the Pechuia Chapel, all dull and sad enough. I tried to commend our little flock at Khi-bory to their Fathei's merciful care. $J u s t$ as I was elosing the sermon, who should come in but our two preachers from Khi-boey, worn and ti-ed, along with the wite and three little ones of one of them. Such an answer to our piasers seemed marvelious. I bastily closed the service, but how I got through the closing prayer I cannot tell. All our hearts were too full ; I wish you had seen the scene when the service was over. It would have moved the heart of any one, however callous he might be. Truly these troubles have shown me, more than ever I knew before, how these Christians love one another. We learned now that Chang poo city was taken on Thursday night, and that on Wednesday the head columns of the rebels rested on Kibi-boey. The people fled to the hills. Tbe Christians collected in one spot, and then on the top of the hill above Khi-boey they passed that long cold night. The rebels passed on to Chang-poo on Thursday morning, and the people returned to their homes. The two preachers made their way out on Saturday, and afteı most merciful escapes got safely to Pechum. How glad they were to see me safely there after my attempted journey! They report that our danger was greater than I at the time had supposed. They also said that, beyond the necessaries for an army on its march, the rebels did no damage. Only one person was kilied by them in the region, and the fault was their own; but the local thieves plundered right and left. The rebels entered the chapel, but left it unharmed.

There are many more things I might have added to this, but I preter to state it thus briefls. Mr. Douglas has told you of the rumours that are coming to us, but we know nothing certainly. Most of our Fechain female members are now in Amoy. You thus see how on all sides we are tried and troubled, and how much we need the prayers of all friends at home.

With kindest love, I am, jours ever truly,
W. S. SWANSON.

## 

## SYNOD OF THE ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Synod of the English Presbyterian Chureh met th's year in Liverpool. After a sermon by the Moderator of last Synod, the Rer. Juhn Fraser, the

Rev. R. H. Lundie of Birkenhend, was unanimously elected Moderator. The Reports from the various Committees showed progress. With reference to the College, it was stated that legal proceedings were still going on in respect to the Brown!ey bequest, but that even if the Synod lost the property in suit, there would still be left them $£ 900$ a year for the ICollege, whle, if the suit were gained, there would be a permanent income of $£ 1,600$. The salary of a resident Tutor is provided by some friends of the College. The scheme for Church building and Debt extinction, has gone on successfully, the amount promised being $£ 25,000$, and the amount actually contributed during the year $\mathcal{E} 9,17445$. Twenty five congregations had obtained grants amounting in all to $£ 400168$, and luans (generally without interest) had been granted to the extent of $£ 3,534$, the congregations assisted being required to raise a farther sum of $£ 8,576$. In this way, by the grants and loans, the Committee had provided for the extinction of $£ 16,112$ of debt. Dr. Hamilton presented the Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions. About $£ 4,000$ had been raised for Foreign Missions. Interesting accounts were given of the missionary work especially in China. On the subject of Union there was an interesting discussion. The special point engaging the attention of the English Presbyterians is the nature and extent of the union, - whether the united Church should be purely English or comprehend Great Britain. The Synod appointed a committee to continue the union negociations. There was some discussion on an overture for an eniarged Hymn Book. On this subject there was considerable difference of opinion, and ultimately the overture was withdrawn. Deputations from the Free Church, the Irish Presbyterian Church, and the United Presbyterian Church, were in attendance, and addressed the Synod. Another legacy to the Church was announced by the Rev. P. Lorimer, one of the executors of the late Daniel Robertson, Esq. Legal proceedings have been instituted by the heir-atlaw ; but even if the suit resulted adversely to the Church, there would still be a sum of $£ 5,000$ for the various objects of the Church. The next Sjnod is to meet in London in April, 1866.

Irish Presbyterian Chirci--Special Meeting.-A special meeting of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Chuich was lately held to decide upon the mode of electing Professors for the Magee College, which is now to go into operation. There is an endowment of $£ 250$ for each chair, and the fees are proposed to he fixed at $£ 200$ for each class. Applications are to be received up till the first Monday of July, when the Assembly in its regular meeting will proceed to the election. The Professors must all sign the Confession of Faith. The College session will probably be six months, from October to March inclusive. The Assembly at the same meeting accepted the resignation of the Rev. Jules Ferrette, one of the Jewish Missionaries. He had printed an Arabic liturgy, to which exception was taken, and from which he declined to withdraw, lest he should damage the Protestant cause in the East.

The Sabbath Qrestion.--The question of the Sabbath is beginning to attract attention in Scotland. Dr. Norman McLeod has expressed his opinion very freely, declariug that " he liked to see working men taking a quiet walk on the Sunday evening. It was his greatest delight to do that. He valued the Sunday with his heart, soul and strength; he valued it as a day of rest; he valued it above all as a day of worship; but was he to be told that a working man's taking a quiet walk with his wife and family on a Sunday evening was inconsisent with the design of the Lord's day, which was rest for body and mind and with the worship of God?" This speech has not passed without animadversion.

American Presbyterian Carrch.-The General Assembly of the Presby. terian Church in the United States, cld school, bas just met at Pittsburgh. It is expected that the business will be interesting. The Rev. J, C. Lowrie, D. D., is Moderator. The next meeting of Assembly is to take place in Missouri:

The New School Assembly has met in Brooklgn, New York. The Rev. Dr. Shaw of Rochester, was elected Moderator.
Rev. J. Gendie.-The Rev. J. Geddie, Missionary from the New Hebrides, has been visiting a fer of the leadiug points of the Province. Wherever he has been, his simple but deeply interesting statements have made a deep impression. Mr. Geddie intends, D. V., to be present at the meeting of our Sgnod in Montreal. We trust that much goc ' may result from the visit of this devoted missionary.

Generai Assembir's Cohlege, Belfast.-There has been a considerable addition during the session just closed to the number of students attending the College of the Irish Presbyterian Church at Belfust. In the class of Systematic Theology the students $m$ attendance numbered fifty, being an increase of fourteen, as compared with the preceding year. There was an increase in each class connected with the College.
death of Pastor Phet.-Pastor Pilet, the most noted preacher in the Free Church at Geneva, has recently been removed by death. He was also Professor of Homiletics. He was a man of great ability and experience and exerted an extensive influence.

Circeiftion of the Bidie in Italy.-The total issue of Scriptures in Italy, mainly if not entirely throurh the British and Foreign Bible Society, was, last year, about. 28,000 . The larger proportion was circulated by Colporteurs, the number thus distributed being 17,668.

## zinue Crelesiastical iditalligente.

Wuitby.-The Rev. J. R. Scott, formerly of Perrytown, having received a call from the Congregation of Whitby, has been inducted into the pastoral charge of the congregation.
Lachute:-We are glad to hear of the good progress unde by the congregation now under the care of the Rev. John Eadie. During the last three years no fewer than seventy-eight new members have been added to the Church. A gallery has been erected is the church, and the pews are generally occupied. The congregation have also at various times and in different ways manifested, by substantial tokens, their appreciation of the Pastor's services. While there has been no special outpouring of the Spirit, appearances indicate that his influences have been vouchsafed in the quickening of believers, and the ingathering of souls to Christ.

Verolas.-This small congregation, consisting of about forty members, about one-third of whom are said to contribute almost nothing, has, during the past year, raised the following sums for religious purposes: $\$ 200$ as its share of Minister's salary; $\$ 89$ in liquidation of some remaining debt on the manse; and $\$ 32$ for the schemes of the Church, in all $\$ 321$. None of them are weelthy; they have no money to lend out at high interest; they are dependert on their annual clops for supporting themselves and families, and bearing up under losses and unfavourable seasons, of which they have all had their full share. On a fear being expressed that they would not be able to maintain thi standard of cuntribution, the uniform reply has been that when the now small amount of debt has been paid off they will be able to pay the required salary without difficulty. What has been dunc has been effected of their own accord without prompting from others except in the ordinary form of appeal at Missionary meetings, or otherwise among themselves. This is published not by any means from a spirit of ostentation - Derish such a thought but to show to the Church and the world whit a small congregation in a remote part of the country, and where Presbyterianism is certainly not one of the prevailing isms, can do, readily and by pure self-action, in supporting the cause of Christ. If Church members are to act upon one another in stimulating each other in the way and work of the Lord, ought not congregations to do so too? And this can be done only by pmblishing their doings. The Synod's annual report is seen by comparatively few and does not meet the case. The Master himself says: "Let your light so shine before men that they seeing your good works may glorify your

Father in hearen." It is also a prominent A postolic injunction: "And let us consider one another to provoke unto good works." Every one knows that example is better than precept. It is gratifying indeed to observe the liberality cisplayed by some congregations, as presented in last Synod's report ; but it is lamentable to observe thepdeadness of others. Making a tew calculations from that Report, it is found ibat the average rate of contribution per member ranges from \$40 to $\$ 2$. These, course are extremes. But the great discrepancy in the rate of contribution shows that as a Cburch we are very fur from having attained perfection, and that there is much need for laying to beart Paul's injunction: "See thet ye abound in this grace also"-the grace of libernlity....-Com.

Presbytery of Tononto.-The Presbytery of Toronto met on the 2 rd of May.
The Act for the Constitution of a General Assembly was considered. The Presbytery were unanimously of opinion that the organization of a General Assembly with subordicate Synods, is, in the circumstances of our Church undesirable, and agreed to overture the Synod to reconsider the expediency of departing from the present organization of the Church. Messrs. Gregg, Mitchell and King, were appointed to support the overture before the Synod.
Nr. Albert Simpson, student, was examined with a view to license, and the Presbytery resolved to make application to the Synod for leave to take him on trial.

Mr. Fletcher was appointed to moderate in a call from the congregation of York alills and Fisherville.

Presbytery of London.-The Presbytery of London met on the 2 nd day of May last in St. Andrerr's Church, London, and was constituted for business.

A special case occupicd nearly three days, so that very little business fit for publication was transacted.

Th: following are the items:
The Rev. John J. A. Proudfoot was nominated Moderator of Synod for the ensuing trelve months.
The foilowing records of Kirk Sessions are to be called for at next ordinary meeting, to be examined-riz. : Saint Andrew's Church, London; lat Presbyterian Church, London; Carlisle, Busion, and Adelaide St. Church, Chatham.

A Committee, consisting of Messr3 Proudfoot and Scott, were appointed to yrepare a statement regarding Buxton Mission for next meeting of Synod. and to report at a meeting of Presbytery at Montreal.
The Presbytery approre simplicitor of the "Act for the Constitution of a General Assembly."

Prasbrtery of Montaeal, -This Presbytery met at Montreal on Wedaesday, the 10th of Nay. The following are a fer of the items of business:

Mr. Mackic, Minister, and Mr. Becket, Elder, were appointed members of the Committee on Bills and Orertures at next Synod.

The Presbytery agreed to apply to the Synod for leare to receire Mr. John Jones, a bicentiate of the American Psesbyterian Church, Old School, into this Caurch.

A peti.ion from Cote des Neiges praying for the moderation of a call, and the dispensation of the eacrament of the Lord's Supper, was presented. The Presbytery deferred the consideration of that part of the petition regarding a moderation tull next meeting; but agree to grant the other part of the prayer, and appoint Dr. Taylor and Messrs. Redpath and Paton Elders, to dispense the ordmance of the Lord's Supper at Cote des Neiges, at an early day.

A call from the congregation of Sarnia in the Presugtery of London, C. W., and addressed to the Rev. A Young of English River, was, with other papers, received from said Presbytery. It mas agreed to cite all the parties in the case to appear for their interests at a Special leeting of the Presbytery to de held at Montreal, with permission of Synod, on Thursday the 8th day of June next.

Mr. Mt:Conechy was appointed moderator of the Session at St. Sylrester ad intertm.

Mr. McQueen was reliered at his own request of the moderatorship of the Session of Alesandria, and Mr. Anderson appointed in his room.

The Report of the Committee on the Presbyterian College, Montreal, was read by the Conpener, Dr. Taylor. It was theu moved and unanimously agreed-That
the Report now read be received and adopted; and, with such alterations as aro necessary, prescated to tho Synod as the Presbytery's Report.

Tho Presbytery agreed to delay the consideration of the book of Discipline and Forms in the meantime as the book had just been issued from the press.

Leave of absence for four inonths was granted to Mr. Gordon of Indian Lands, on the ground of the stato of bis health.

Pagsbytray of Paris.-Tho Presbytory of Paris held its usual quarterly mecting in Knox's Charch, Woodstock, on the 2nd of May, when there was a very full attendance of Ministers and Elders.
Mr. Inglis introduced the subject of the debt on the Church at Beachville, and intimated that a gentleman to whom a debt ol $\$ 1,600$ on that property was owing, proposed giving tho sum of $\$ 4,000$ to the funds of Knox College, providod the Presbytery would assume und discharge the debt ; the Presbytery however, considered themselves unable to raise the amount and resolved to refer the matter to the Synod for advice.
Mr. Robert Grant passed his preliminary trials for license to the satisfaction of the Presbytery, and the Clerk was instructed to make application to Synod, for leave to take him on his public probationary trials for license, and the usual exercises were prescribed to him.
Mr. James Robertson gave in the report of the Committee on contributions to Knox's College, from which it appeared toat the whole amount of the debt and current expenses, allotted to this Presbytery had been realized, with a fers dollars in excess.

The half yearly financial statements of the congregations were called for and examined-and the Presbytery had the gratification of recording, for the third time, that there were no arrears of stipend within the bounds

The Presbytery adjourned to meet in River Street Church, Paris, on the first Tuesday of August at $100^{\prime}$ clock.

JOHN GILLESPIE, Pres. Clerk.

## Select extracts.

## PAUL'S CONVERSION-BY ADOLPHE MONOD.

A young Jew whose religious prejudices had been carefully nurtured from his birth, belonging to the most rigid branch of the rigid sect of Pharisees, a disciple of Gamaliel, but more ardent than his master, or roused to a higher pitch of zeal by the results of the boldness of Stephen in preaching the Gospel, believes that he is doing good service by persecuting to the death the followers of Jesus Christ. His first effort in this way is at the martyrdom of Stephen, the sight of whose blood seems only to add fresh fuel to bis rage. The work of menace and murder being finished in Jerusalem and Judea, he asks authority of the Sanhedrim to bring hither new victims from more distant cities. Armed with letters and a formal commission, he starts for Damascus, where the gospel had won many converts from among the Jews who were numerous there, the Gentile proselytes, and especially the women of the city. But when near the end of his journeg, there is a sudden and extraordinary change in his convictions and plans, and after a fast of three days, he appears in Damascus, not in the character of Paul the persecutor, but of Paul the apostle. Such is tie moral fact, stripped of those supernatural circumstances, with which it is attended in the narrative ofit by Luke. How is this fact to be explained? for in the moral as the physical word there can be no effect without a cruse.

If the gospel is true, if Jesus Christ is tae Son of God, all is clear. God is indeed, never prodigal of miracles, but the one wrou ht in this case is easily comprehended, if we suppose that $\mathrm{II} e$ designed to give such a proof of the gospel, and to seal the commission of this man as His minister. But if God has made no revelation of Limself, Christ is not the Son oi God, if the grospel is not true, how, now I ast, is this change in Saul tu be accounted for?

Some may say that it is explained by self.intereat-the motive that so powerfully controls the actions of the unregenerate, and too often even those of renewed men. But the conversion of Saul too manifestly compromised all his interests to admit of this supposition. Instead of the brilliant career of honor, renown, iortune, which was open to him, thas change rendered the very name of Saul hateful to the people; his most powertul friends are at once turned into bitter enemies; his own family is, probably, in arms against him; his person would hecome the taryet of persecution; his life would be spent in perpetual peril, and sooner or later would end in martyrdom. All this is so obvious that it is needless to stop and argue it. In a word, in the conversion of Saul, all was disinterestedness, renunctation, sacrifice. Or, it may be said that it was the result of influence-to which the most sincere men are apt to be the most accessible. May not Saul, at the moment of his great mental trouble, have allowed himself to be persuaded by the wise and virtuous Ananias, that his own system was false, and the gospel true? Grant that it was so, we have still to explain the cause of that mental trouble which preceded Saul's interview with Ananias, and how any human power could effect a change so prompt, so radical, so complete. Ananias certainly, might have persuaded Saul, if he had good and strong reasons to lay before him; in other words if the rospel is true. But we have never known a man like Saul, active, passionate, self-willed, selfloving, yield himself to anybody without the most solid reasons. Here, however, we have a man of singular energy, accustomed himself to command influence rather than yield to it, one, too, who had taken his position with his whole mind and heart devoted to its maintenance, and this the position the very opposite of that occupied by the bumble Anauias.

There remains a third explanation, perhaps a little more plausible than the preceding. Religious enthusiasm was the cause of the change, it being quite easy for a man so ardent as was Saul to pass without mature deliberation from one kind of fanaticism to another. But this theory will not bear five minutes' examination by oue who recalls the character of the apostle Paul. He bad the means of satisffing his natural enthusiasm in his Jewish and Pharisaic faith, but when he became a disciple of Christ, he laid it wholly aside; instead of entering into a new fanaticism, he broke entirely from the old one. A strange fanaticism that, which makes a man, on occasions the most exciting, use language whose every spllable is marked by "truth and soberness;" which prompts him to take his measures with the most consummate prudence, and to be jealous ot his social and civil rights, when be can by so doing promote the cause of the gospel, or spare himself a useless vexation. A strange fanaticism that which leads him in the fulfiment of his ministry, to go to the extreme limit of concession-that wisdom counselled and conscience allowed, so that " to the weak he became as weak, to the Jews as a Jew, to those without law, as without law; therefore fanaticism of a man, who for thirty pears steadily prosecuted his work, never waking from his dream, not even in the presence of martyrdom, which he is at no pains to abun, but like his Master is ready for the sacrifice whenever it may please God to demand it.

No, do what you will, faith furnishes the only reasonable answer to this question. But, if unable to explain the marvellous change in Paul, and in despair of your cause, you deny the fact itself and insist that the account of it is a fable, do you not see that you simply involve yourself in far greater diffculties, inasmuch as this conversion is the Apostle Paul's point of departure, and "alone explains all he accomplished." Deny, if you please, the change in Saul of Tarsus, but gou must go farther and deny the existence of Paul the apostic. and of that immense recolation wrought by him in the whole of the then known world; you must deny that that enduring prodigy of which humanity is the witness, the theatre of which is Europe and Asia, the result of
which is a regenerated civilization, a renovated history, the fruit of which is that I an speaking to you, and you are listening to me, if not through the faith taught us by the apostle, at least through the countless beuelits we owe him. Deng the conversion of Saul, you may, but you must also deny the conversion of the half of Asia, of the whole of Europe; you must give back Ephesus to Diana, Athens to Minerva, Paphos to Venus, Rome to all the gods of her Pantheon, the Pagan world to its dissoluteness and decay, and our own France to her druids, her human sacrifices, her barbarism.-Christian In. structor.

## INDIA-PRESENT ASPECT OF HINDU SOCIETY.

The following is an extract from a statement of Rev. ar. Bartin M. A. Cambridge, Princrpal of the Church of England missionary college at Cal. cutta, an institution recently erected through the efforts of the present Bishop of Calcutta.
"Native Hindu Society in Calcutta and Lower Bengal may be now divided into tiree classes, each presenting a very distivet and remarkable moral as pect.
Tere Poxdirs.-First, there is the old Conservative party of Sanskrit Pundits and orthodos Hindus, who still cling devoutly and tenacious! to their old systems and try, vainly, though bravely, to defend what they feel to be not merely morally, but also intellectually, untenable; --embarrassed by a gross and corrupt mythology, and feeling but too bitterly that the day is fast approaching when they and their systems will be swept away by the advancing tide of intellectual inquiry. Listen to one such professor of the old school at Bombay, sadly acknowledging his own impotence to check the onward movement.
"Hinduism is sick unto death," are his memorable words: "I am fully persuaded it must fall. Nevertheless, while life lasts, let us minister to it as we best can."

Youxg Bexgat.-Secondly, there is the party of Ultra-Radicals, "Young Bengal," as they are often called, who have cast off, not only the follies and superstitions of the past, but, in too many cases, its wholesome restraints also, and made the spirit of scepticism so universally prevalent, a cloak for unbridled licentiousness.
The Bramas Sumaj.-Last of all, between these two extremes, we have a third party, who seek to combine the new and old-to restrain liberty from degenerating to licence, and, retaining the current mythology as a system of symbols and allegories, to express by them the pringiples of pure Theism. This new party has of late years increased very remarkably, both in nambers and influence, and its part:sans have receatly adopted the name of the "Brahma Sumaj."' They now number more than five thousand adhereats in Calcutta and Lower Bengal ; and have issued tracts in English and Bengali; to explain their principles and theolurical creed, which is alnost entirely derived from the writiogs of Theodore Parker, and Fraucis Newman. They have closely imitated, in many points, the rights aud observances of Christianity; they have a weekly service, with a regular liturgy, hymns, and sermon; oflate, they, have adopted an initiatory rite, something like baptism; and specially set apart one or more of their number, by a solema and reli,jious service, to the oftice of Priest. This Priest performs marriares amongst the members of the Sumaj, with a religious service appointed for the purpose.

The attitude of these Deists toward; Christianity is fer from unfrieadly. Their scepticism is indeed positive only as regards their own original creed; as regards Christianity it is merely ne gative, and often they advance beyond thrs.

The whole cerem nial of the Bohmes Sumaj must indeed be rezarded as a markel tacit avowat of the truth and superior exellence of Ch:is:anity. It
is a mere make-shift with which huudreas of its professed adberents are seeking to stife their convictions, and satisfy these spiritual longings and religions needs, of which they are so painfully conscious. That this is the true aspect of :his very remarkable relgious movement is evident, not raerely from the indications on its surface, but from what its adherents say of it themselves."

PREIN.-The following description no donbt will be read with interesting:
"Pekin is surrounded by wall within wall. The outside wall is sixteen miles in circumference. It is of massive masonry, being sisty feet high and forty feet broad, with nine great iron gates, each surmounted by a lofty tower. It is a proof how much prejudices are being softened down, that foreigners, who not long ago were refused admission to the gates, are now allowed to enjoy a promenade on the ramparts. The central space is called Kinchang, or 'Torbidden city,' because it contains the palaces, and cannot bc entered witnout permission from the emperor. The roofs of the buildings being slated with yellow porcelain, gleam in the sunshine like burnished gold.
"In other parts of the city several long streets run parallel to each other ; they are broad and dusty, a.dd throw off on either side numberless alleys, where are the private residences, the broad thoroughfares being occupied with shops. These shops are not attractive in appearance, being low and shabby, not a few of them displaying old furniture and old clothes for sale. But the throng of people at once arrests attention. [it is so motley, and unlike all to which an Eurapean ege is accustomed. Here comes 'a high Mandariu,' riding in a green scdan, borne on the shoulders of eight men. Numerous borsemen lead the way, with their heads dressed with peacocks' feathers and precions stones, while several carts, drawn by miles, and destitute of springs, briug up the rear, and convey the other attendants of the great man.
"Youder comes a caravan of Bactrian camels. They have long hair, and two mountainous hummocks, between which a Tartar wedges bionself as naturally as it he had been bom there.
"Turn now into an alley, or smaller street, and inspect the architecture of private dwellings. A low brick wall on either band is all you see, with ranges of small windows peeping out like the loop-holes of a battery. These windows are glazed with paper. Whatever is rich or beautiful within, . is jealously concealed from view.
"The houses, none of them more than one story in height, are hidden by these blind walls. They are covered with eathen tiles, floored with brick, and supporied by wooden pillars. The rooms are usually ranged in a hollow square around on paved court.
"Pekin was a fine city once; but it is now in a slate of sad dilapidation. It still contains a large population-wnolly given to idolatry. Every square has one or more Pagan temples; and every family has its household gods! When shall these temples be supplanted by the churches of Christ, and household gods give place to the family alar?-Church Missionary Gleaner.
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## APPENDIX.

## APPENDIX.



PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA-Continued.


PRESBYTERY OF ONTARIO-Continued.




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 Derry West. Kildonan.
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## APPENDIX.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON-Continued.








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PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.-Continued.





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## PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.



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Alpendix.
PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH-Continued.


PRESBYTERY OF HURON-Continued.


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## NODE OF REPROOF.

Soms persons pride themselves upon being blunt, or, as they call it, "honest;": but such very bunt people do little good to others, and get little love to themselves. The Scriptures recommend gentleness and kindness. Reproof should fall like the gentle dew, and not like the rushing bailstorm. The oil insinuateth itself: the stone wounds and thor: rebounds. (Ps. cxli. 6.) Christians should take heed of getting fond of the work of "rebuking." Such "spiritual constables" do a great deal of mischief without intending it. They are in a church what $\Omega$ very witty and sareastic person is in soeiety, or what a telltale is in a school; and approximate very closely to that class which thes apostle terms "Busybodies in other men's matters."
Our manner must be tender and winning. The nail of reproof (says an old writer) must be well oiled in kindness before it is driven home. The great thing is to show the person that you really love him; and if you manifest this in the sight of God, he will give you favor in the sight of an erring brother.

## EIGHT FEARS.

A pastor, in a Congregational paper, has the following fears respecting himself:-

1. I fear that I am not sufficiently thankful for the privilege of preaching the Gospel.
2. That I think too much of the trials of the ministry.
3. That I am not entirely devoted to my work as a minister.
4. That I have given my people occasion to utter just complaints respecting my sermons.
5. That I have needlessly caused them to feel dissatisfied with my prayers.
6. That I have not visited them as I ought to have donc.
7. That some have already gone to hell through my unfaithfulness.
8. That others, wha may now form a part of my charge, winl perish in like manner.

## THE SPIRIT OF MISSIONS THE SPIRYT OF CHRIST.

When the ascending Lord bade the assembled church "Go and do these evangelical works," he only commanded them to follow his footsteps. He came to our wo-ld on an unnatched mission of love. That same love must be the main-soring of our obedience. Just as truly as Panl, we are "debtors both to the Greeks and to the barharians, both to the wise and to the unswise." In the behalf of Christ, we are to communicate his dying love to lost men. We are to carry it to them, and urge it upon their acceptance:--tven as Ile "came down from heaven, not to be ministered unto, but to minister." The Gospel is essentially missionary in its principle: and precepis; in its spirit and inspired examples. Its foundation is love, imspired by suffering and danger. Its great commanl, "Go to the lost and press the motives of redemption upon them," cven as God became man, and worked out the great salration in the midst of human frailties and infirmities. Its spirit is one of holy devotion to others' good. Its brightest lights and best examples sparkle with missionary zeal, and burn with benevolence as a consuming fire. The true type of Cbristianity undoubtedly is found in the missionary are end achievements. Certainly the missionary work is our only defence against the encroachments of the rorld, and the baleful roign of selfishuess. Gur piety demands some such unworldly work and sacrifice to save it from utter carnality. We want a protest, sharp and vivid, arainst the despotism of sense, and fashion, and manifold sin. The world is falling into scepticism, for want of attractive goodness, the power of a holy sacrifice, and the blazing light of disinterested love.-J. M. Hickok, D.D.


[^0]:    ${ }^{42} \mid$ Brooke ................... 13 Vienna and Port Burwell.

