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# THE HOME AND FOREIGN RECORD

OF

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

No. 10.

AUGUST, 1864.

VOL. IV.

## CONGREGATIONAL ARREARS.

In our last number we spoke of the late meeting of Synod as being in many respects to be regarded as a "business Synod." One thing which justifies this term is the decided action taken on the subject of arrears of stipend. When the report on the statistics and finances of the Church was presented, it appeared that, although there was some degree of improvement, there were many congregations largely in arrears to their ministers, these ministers being in many instances, those whose stipends were the smallest, even if they had been regularly and fully paid. In former years the matter had been noticed, talked about, and deplored, but nothing was done. This year, however, a step in advance was taken. On the motion of the Rev. T. Stevenson, of Owen Sound, a committee was appointed to consider the matter and report at an early sederunt. The committee accordingly met, consulted, and presented a report which we consider of such importance that we subjoin it:—

"The committee appointed to take into immediate consideration the question, how to liquidate the large arrears due to ministers of this Church, and devise means for the better support of the ministry, having met and seriously deliberated on the matter committed to them beg to report the following recommendations:

"1. That the Rev. W. S. Ball be relieved for some weeks of his pastoral duties, for the purpose of raising a special fund to aid and stimulate congregations in arrears, to pay such arrears in full and at once.

"2. That this special fund be placed under the administration of a committee, consisting of the ministers of Toronto with their Synod Elders and the Rev. Mr. Ball, the Hon. J. McMurrich to be convener.

"3. That Presbyteries be enjoined to do their utmost to stir up the defaulting congregations to pay off the arrears of salary due, without application to this special committee; and that said committee shall entertain no application for aid from any congregation without the recommendation of its Presbytery, and without ascertaining that the Presbytery has previously used such diligence; after which the committee shall take such measures as they think necessary, either by proposals of aid through the Presbytery, or by deputations appointed to visit congregations in co-operation with the Presbytery.

"4. That whatever aid be given to any congregation to liquidate its arrears, shall be given only on the committee being furnished with satisfactory evidence that the congregation has promptly and fully complied with all the conditions laid down by the committee, amongst which conditions should be the previous payment of all it has promised in order to enjoy the help of the committee.

"5. That all existing arrears having, as is hoped will be the case, been wholly wiped away by the action of this committee, Presbyteries be enjoined to use diligence to prevent the accumulation of arrears for the future, that they make themselves acquainted with the financial state of the Congregations under their charge, by calling for exact returns from them, within the year, at such intervals as they think best, that when congregations are falling behind in the

payment of salary, they deal with them at once, and take measures to have these arrears immediately paid up by them, or have the aid which may be required to stimulate them furnished them from the Home Mission Fund.

"6. That Presbyteries further be enjoined, in the case of all defaulting congregations with which they have to deal, to satisfy themselves in the most particular manner regarding them, that they have each a regular and efficient congregational management, that their financial affairs are faithfully and diligently attended to, that the terms for payment of salary be definitely settled, and promptly attended to and that payment be made as frequently as possible, when salary is not paid in advance.

"7. With reference to means to be devised for the better support of the ministry amongst us, the committee beyond what they have already advanced, do not consider themselves in a position to make any further recommendations. They consider that any further regulations on this subject properly belong to arrangements connected with the Home Mission Committee; and they would content themselves with urging, that the supplementing of weak congregations shall always be made a special and very prominent work of the Home Mission committee, and that this committee make the most strenuous efforts to raise every salary to at least the minimum already fixed by the Synod, as the lowest that can be thought of with any tolerance, viz., \$600 per annum.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"T. STEVENSON, Convener."

With the view of carrying out the foregoing recommendations which were adopted by the Synod, the Committee referred to have prepared and issued the following circular to Presbyteries:

To the Clerk of the Presbytery of . . . . .

SIR.—As the Committee appointed by Synod, to take steps to pay up the arrears of stipend due to ministers, are anxious to proceed as soon as possible to the task assigned them, it will be apparent at once that the committee will be wholly unable to effect anything without the prompt and energetic action and co-operation of the several Presbyteries; and the Committee submit the following suggestions to your Presbytery, trusting that the importance of the subject will secure a full and careful consideration by the Presbytery as soon as possible.

1. That your Presbytery shall, in every case, use every possible means to bring the defaulting congregations to meet their own arrears, so that no case should be thrown upon the committee, except those absolutely unable to meet their own obligations.

And it is suggested that each Presbytery should, by deputation or otherwise, examine minutely every case of arrears within their bounds, to see that the settlement of arrears is correct, to see that arrears do not arise from inefficient management, and to take all care that arrears do not accumulate.

2. As each congregation is clearly bound to bear its proper share of the burden, it is suggested to Presbyteries to consider how far they may safely arrange with congregations to bring up their arrears in instalments, as has been done in some cases, paying the current salaries of their ministers as they become due, and the arrears in one, two, or at most three equal yearly payments, as many congregations may prefer to do this rather than appeal for aid to make up for their own neglect. It is also suggested for Presbyteries to consider how far it would be advisable to employ the pastors of defaulting congregations in convenient missionary duty, for a short time, till the arrears are paid up. This course has been tried in certain cases, with no discomfort to the minister, and with most stimulating effect upon the congregations.

3. That Presbyteries should furnish the committee, before the first of September next, with certified lists of those congregations that positively must have aid, and the amount required, so that the committee may appeal, not for the willing to help the indolent, but for the strong to help the weak.

4. That Presbyteries take this occasion to make a thorough examination into the organization of the several congregations, to see that they are in good working order, and that so arrears may be prevented for the future.

The committee will not engage to recommend any appropriations from any fund that may come into their hands, in cases where either Presbyteries or congregations shall neglect a proper effort to bring congregations up to their duty in meeting their own obligations.

(Signed)

J. McMURRICH, Convener.

It now remains that Presbyteries take up the matter with earnestness and vigour. The financial returns, with the arrears due, are now before them. The matter is of such importance that special meetings of Presbytery should be held, should the ordinary meeting not be near at hand. It will be a great pity if the work should not be done thoroughly and promptly. Should the present arrears be swept off, it is hoped that increasing promptness on the part of congregations, and vigilance on the part of Presbyteries will prevent the accumulation of arrears for the future.

Mr. Bal. contemplates commencing his part of the work—not the least important—about the beginning of September. Notice will be given of his visits to the different portions of the Church, and we trust that the more able congregations will be ready to bear their part in this most commendable and necessary work.

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## Missionary Intelligence.

### LETTER FROM REV. D. DUFF.

The following letter gives an account of the first part of Mr. Luff's voyage. We were in hopes of having heard of his safe arrival at Victoria.

ISTHMUS OF PANAMA, 2nd June, 1864.

REV. MR. BURNS, MY DEAR SIR.—On the 23rd May, I sailed from New York in the steamer "Northern Light," belonging to the Atlantic and Pacific Steamship line. The commencement of the voyage was favoured with very fine weather, which did not greatly alter for the worse, save that we had a steady head wind and occasional showers. There were on board as near as I could learn about 800 passengers of all grades, professions, and characters. In addition to these there were 200 coloured marines taken on the already well-packed boat, and rather adroitly so. This was done by a tug following us for some distance until we had got out of sight of shore and on-lookers, thus taking away the opportunity, should such be sought by passengers and friends, to offer any opposition to the movement. These are to equip a U. S. frigate somewhere in the Pacific. The complaint against this line of steamers heretofore has been "too much crowding" and this occasion could by no means be regarded as free from this serious and aggravated charge. I know not what terms to employ in condemnation of the barbarity of huddling together hundreds of human beings in such a way as to degrade them to the level of beasts. This was especially the case in the steerage part of the vessel, and in the second cabin the excess of passengers above the accommodation was such as to give rise to grievous complaint. But what use of expostulation? Where is correction to come from where self-interest exercises such omnipotent sway?

On the same day and at the same hour, another steamer belonging to what is known by the name of "the opposition line," left the same port for the same destination, also very crowded, giving evidence of a large and increasing traffic to the shores of the far west. Of our passengers not a few were old stagers returning to California, after having visited the eastern portions of the continent on purposes of business, relative both to material, and social comfort and happiness. Amongst our number all religious denominations were represented,

while no small proportion identified themselves with no faith, many being puffed up with an idea of independence, as foolish as it is often boastful, of being indifferent to all creeds. A few owned subjection to the power of Rome, and were headed by a priest who from his kind and affable bearing, acted toward all as though the genius of that religion were replete with the spirit of liberality and goodwill.

We had also a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church from New York, who had a charge in view in some part of the state of California, and was taking out his family to the new scene of his labours. Of three brothers who were recently licensed and ordained by the O. S. Presbyterian Church, New Jersey, two were on their way to Oregon as missionary ministers, both sent and to be supported by that Church.

An opportunity was afforded in this *sailing village* to put forth some evangelistic effort, and which I have reason to believe was appreciated. On Sabbath morning last we had services on the cabin deck in the forenoon, and on the steerage in the afternoon, the former of which was conducted by myself, and the latter by one of the brethren from New Jersey.

On this morning too, we first since the day we sailed sighted land. This was one of the Bahama Islands, near to which we were joined by a gunboat under whose convoy we continued our journey towards the Isthmus. Following in our wake a short distance from us, was our escort with deck as crowded as our own as we congregated together to hear the Word and to celebrate the praise of Jehovah. The pen fails to describe that peculiar interest which one incident and another according to its received importance causes to arise where the means of enjoyment are so limited. I may here say with regard to those amongst whom my lot has been cast on this journey, that I have never before been so long in the midst of such a crowd with so much order and decorum. The presence of a goodly number of ladies had no doubt something to do with this.

We are drawing near to the bridge of land over which we cross to the broad waters of the Pacific, and where I expect to post this note. The weather is very warm, and every cooling and refreshing expedient is resorted to. So far in safety has the good hand of God led and protected us, and abundantly grateful ought we to be to the Preserver of life and health when so many elements are at hand fitted to destroy both.

I may mention that at New York I was kindly received by the Rev. Mr. McGlashan, who insisted on giving five dollars as a contribution to our missionary scheme.

With kindest regards to yourself and family, I remain with kind esteem,  
Yours very truly,

DANIEL DUFF.

#### LETTER FROM REV. JAMES NISBET.

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT, April 13, 1864.

REV. R. F. BURNS, CON. F. M. COM.

MY DEAR BROTHER.—Although my work is so intimately connected with the congregations here, that the returns from them might also serve as my report, yet as I am here at the charges of the Church something in the form of a report from myself may be expected prior to the meeting of Synod. You need not expect, however, to find much in this communication of which you have not already been informed.

With the reasons for my visit to Canada, and my attendance at last Synod the Committee and the Church are already familiar. I am sorry that the object has not been attained, but I hope yet to see a mission to the Indians *exclusively* established by our Church. In this hope my brother Mr. Black fully partici-

pates, as you will learn from a letter that I understand he recently forwarded for publication in the *Record*. The openings for work among the Indians are numerous, as we learn by communications from missionaries, both in the Saskatchewan and McKenzie River districts, as well as the locality to which your attention was directed last year, viz., Beren's River. It is our earnest hope and prayer that the circumstances of our Church will soon be such as to warrant your entering fully into this inviting field of christian enterprise.

We shall hope in two or three weeks to hear the decision of your committee in regard to the Saskatchewan. I suppose you quite agree with us in thinking that it would not be wise to leave this place with only *one* minister for such a length of time as the Saskatchewan exploration would occupy; indeed it would be nothing less than suicidal. If it were possible to give more full supply to the out-stations our cause at them would be much more prosperous, and other nearer localities ought to get some attention.

The only other matter that calls for notice in this report is that of funds received and expended on account of churches, schools, and school-house for the current year.

## RECEIPTS.

Balance of collections for Fairfield Church.....	\$ 61 44		
Synod's grant.....	200 00		
Collections and subscriptions for school-house &c., received when in Canada.....	120 89		
		\$332 33=	£79 6 5
For books sold.....			6 6 7½
Paid of Red River subscriptions for school-house.....			8 3 2½
Draft on Mr. Reid, March 15, 1864.....			45 0 0
			<hr/>
			£138 16 3

## EXPENDITURE.

D. McLellan's ac.....	\$ 15 15		
Educational Department ac.....	37 25		
J. Campbell's ac.....	16 00		
Tract Society's ac.....	13 10		
Presbyterian Board ac.....	25 00		
Pulpit Bible.....	3 00		
Travelling expenses in Canada on account of the Mission	24 00		
Freight and charges.....	50 72		
		\$184 22=	£38 4 5
Paid debt on Fairfield Church.....			14 13 4
Accounting for maps and object lessons.....			0 15 1
Cotton for covering library books.....			0 16 0
Two stoves for churches.....			4 2 0
Preparing boarding for Fairfield ch. and nails for do...			7 3 1½
Paid towards the building of school house, stones, lime, boards, &c. &c.....			30 17 3½
			<hr/>
			£96 16 3
In my hands at this date.....	£42 0 0		

I hope you will find the above statement satisfactory. I have vouchers for the various items which can be examined here or sent to you if you so desire.

My dear brother, I do not feel that it would be prudent to trespass longer on your patience with this report. It is my prayer that the Spirit of Him who sent about *doing good* may guide the deliberations of the approaching Synod,

and that liberal things may be devised for this part of the mission field of our beloved Church.

Yours truly in the Lord Jesus.

JAMES NISBET.

## General Religious Intelligence.

### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

In a former number we referred to the meeting of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and to the result of the discussion on report on union with the Free Church. The following are the precise terms of the motion which, ultimately, was unanimously carried: "The Synod expresses its great satisfaction at the Christian courtesy and kindly feeling which have distinguished the conferences of the first committees, and its unabated sense of the importance of the object, and without giving any deliverance on the articles submitted in the Report, re-appoint the Committee, and re-commit the report with instructions to continue the conferences in terms of the original appointment."

The other proceedings of the Synod were in many respects interesting.

**HOME MISSIONS.**—At the Missionary meeting of the Synod, the Rev. H. M. MacGill gave in the report on Home Missions, which stated that the congregations receiving missionary supplements during the year had been 104, the average supplement being £39, and the whole amount thus given £4147. They have contributed for congregational purposes £1029 7s 3d. The congregations receiving pastoral supplement had been 44 in number. The average supplement was £18 and the total amount £763. They had contributed for congregational purposes £5652 9s 8d, and for missions &c. £635, in all £6287 16s 8d. The total income for Home Missions was £8794 7s.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS.**—The report was given in by Dr. Somerville, and gave an interesting account of the several Foreign Missions. The income was £19,624 14s 10d.

**FINANCE.**—The Treasurer, J. Peddie, W. S., stated that during the past year the income for Foreign Missions had been £19,624, and for Home Missions, including the support of the Gospel ministry, £8794, in all £28,418. This was somewhat less than the amount reported for the preceding year, in consequence of a deficiency from legacies, &c.

**THEOLOGICAL TRAINING.**—A report on Theological Training was approved of, suggesting, 1. That the Synod requires each Professor, in addition to the oral examination of his students, to examine them every week by written papers that the answers be valued, and that these papers and the results as valued be put into the hands of the Theological Committee, or of a Board of Examiners appointed by the Synod for this purpose. 2. That in the Senior Hall the homily at present required from students of that year be discontinued, and that an essay, to be given to the Professor be substituted in its place.

The Committee further recommended to the Synod to accept the certificate of a student's having passed the examination for M.A., in any particular branch of study, as equivalent to examination in the same branch by the Synod's Board. The report concluded with a scheme of resolutions for the institution of a Board of Examination for admission to Divinity Hall.

The Synod was closed with an excellent address from the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. King.

Interesting reports were presented on Sabbath Schools, Psalmody, &c. A deputation appeared from the English Presbyterian Church consisting of the Rev. W. Chalmers, and the Rev. J. C. Paterson, and met with a most cordial reception.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

This Assembly met in the usual place on the 19th May. The Rev. Dr. Pirie, of Aberdeen, was elected Moderator.

Among the matters which engaged the attention of the Assembly, was the Bill introduced into the House of Lords by the Duke of Buccleuch for the purpose of removing the disabilities affecting the Bishops and Clergy of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Dr. Bisset warned the Assembly against being actuated by little jealousies in this matter, and expressed the opinion that much advantage would be derived by those for whom it was intended, by amalgamating them with the "great, generous, and liberal Church of England."

UNIFORMITY OF WORSHIP.—Dr. Hill presented the Report of the Committee appointed last year to consider and report on the administration throughout the Church. The report stated that there was remarkable uniformity there being only one solitary instance in the metropolis, and one or two in the Provinces where differences existed.

MISSION TO THE JEWS.—Professor Mitchell gave in the report of the Committee on the conversion of the Jews. The address was received, and addresses were afterwards delivered by Rev. Mr. Yule, missionary from Alexandria, and the Rev. Mr. Spittler, secretary to the Pilgrim Mission at St. Chrischona near Basle.

FOREIGN MISSION.—In the absence of Dr. Robertson, Dr. Craik gave in the report on Foreign Missions. The income had amounted to £4300, while the expenditure had been about £1000 more than the receipts. The Committee were desirous of extending their missionary work, but an income of about £7000 a year would be required for this.

MINISTERIAL COMMUNION.—After a discussion of some length the Assembly adopted a motion to the effect that the Act of 1799, the object of which was to prohibit ministers of the Church from admitting to their pulpits ministers not qualified to receive a presentation to a parish, be repealed.

HOME MISSIONS.—The Report on Home Missions states that the income for the past year had been £4,616 16s, 4d, and the expenditure £4,423. Adding the local supplements and the expenditure on chapels, it was computed that the total outlay for Home Missions was alone £30,000.

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES.—It was agreed to receive the Rev. Mr. Brown and the Rev. G. Johnston, both formerly of the Free Church, into the Church as ministers, to receive the Rev. A. Begg in six months probation, and to reject the application of the Rev. W. Wright.

Various other matters of greater or less interest occupied the attention of the assembly, and the meeting was closed with an address from Dr. Pirie, the Moderator.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FREE CHURCH.

The following brief notice was prepared for last month's *Record*. We now insert it although somewhat late.—[EDITOR.

The Assembly began its annual meeting on Thursday 19th May. The Rev. Dr. Fairbairn, Principal of the Free Church College at Glasgow, succeeded Dr. McLeod in the moderator's chair.

The report on the Jewish Mission was given in by the Rev. R. Moody Stuart. The income for the year had been £4135, and the expenditure £4765, showing a balance of £630 against the Mission. In consequence of the discouraging state of the funds, the station at Haskjoy had been given up. In other places the Mission had been successful, although the converts were chiefly from among the class of Gentile Jews.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—The Foreign Mission Report, laid on the table by Dr. Sandlish, referred at some length to the retirement of Dr. Duff from the active work of the Mission in India, and his appointment as Convener of the Foreign



Mission Committee, and to the weakened state of several of the Missions in consequence of the death of Mr. Hyslop, and the failing health of some of the missionaries. The report stated that the progress of the work in Caffraria was most encouraging, while at the several stations in India decided progress had been made. In regard to female education, the progress is very striking. In the matter of funds there was a deficiency of about £2325, the income for 1863-64 being £12,493 8s 9d. The adoption of the report was moved by Dr. Murray Mitchell, and seconded by Mr. Brown Douglass.

**REPORT OF THE UNION COMMITTEES.**—The report of the Committee on Union was given in by the Rev. Dr. Buchanan. A motion was prepared by Dr. Candlish, adopting the Report and re-appointing the Committee for the purpose of continuing the conferences. An amendment was prepared by Dr. Julius Wood to the effect that any further conferences should be for other purposes than drawing up articles of an incorporating union. After discussion, this amendment was withdrawn, and the motion by Dr. Candlish was carried with acclamation. It is in the following terms:—"The General Assembly approve of the diligence of the Committee, and continuing to cherish unabated interest in the great subject of union among the Churches of Christ, re-appoint the Committee with its former instruction—to aim at the accomplishment of the object contemplated, by all suitable means consistent with the principles of this Church."

**THE FINANCES OF THE CHURCH.**—The following is an abstract of the funds raised by the Church during the year :

Building Funds . . . . .	£ 50,296 3 5
Sustentation Fund . . . . .	124,694 10 5
Congregational Funds . . . . .	107,396 18 0
Education . . . . .	15,800 19 2
College . . . . .	7,122 15 0
Home and Foreign Missions . . . . .	37,787 15 2
General Trustees . . . . .	35 7 7

Total . . . . . £343,134 8 9

Showing an increase on the total of last year of £1095 19s 2d.

**EDUCATION SCHEME.**—The Report on Education was given in by the Rev. Mr. Nixon. The report stated that there were in all 589 schools in the Free Church scheme, 610 teachers, and 61,019 scholars. The receipts for the year had been £15,787 0s 7d, being a decrease of £488 5s 11d as compared with last year. In the congregational collections there was an increase of £145 3s 1d.

**APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSOR AT GLASGOW.**—The Rev. Dr. Islay Burns was, by a vote of 292 to 215 elected colleague and successor to Dr. Hetherington in the new College. The Rev. Dr. Forbes of Glasgow was the other candidate proposed.

**SUSTENTATION FUND.**—The Rev. Dr. R. Buchanan gave in the Report on the Sustentation Fund, showing that during the year the receipts had amounted to £116,324 3s 5d, being the largest sum yet raised for this fund, giving to each minister £138. Dr. Buchanan expressed his conviction that the fund had not yet nearly reached the point which it is desirable to obtain. The Report was received, and the cordial thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Congregation.

**COLLEGE.**—The College Report stated that the income for the past year had been £4206 and the expenditure £3726. The debt on the new College building remains as before, £3206. The number of students in attendance last session in Edinburgh was 119; at Aberdeen 22; and at Glasgow 55. It is proposed by Dr. Candlish that £80,000 should be raised for the endowment of the three colleges connected with the Church.

**POPERY.**—Dr. Begg presented the report on Popery, and in doing so referred

to the various modes in which Romanists were seeking to extend their system in Scotland, and to the apathy with which Papal aggression is regarded by many of those possessed of influence and power. He referred to the rumoured intention of the Pope to appoint an Archbishop of Edinburgh, stating that the brother of a Peer, himself a nobleman, was indicated to be the person selected for this office. The report was received.

**COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL REPORT.**—The Report was given in by the Rev. L. H. Irving. The Report began by adverting to the lamented death of Dr. John Bonar the former Convener. It adverted to the progress of Presbyterianism in the British American Colonies, the West Indies, Madeira, Honduras, &c., and to the union of the various Presbyterian Churches in New South Wales. It referred too, to the differences which had originated in New Zealand at the very time when it was thought a union was about to be cemented, but stated that the matters in dispute were so trivial that it was hoped that the difficulties would soon be taken out of the way.

The Continental part of the report described the progress made during the year at Leghorn, Florence and other places.

The report was adopted. Mr. Irving and Professor Lunsden were appointed joint Conveners of the Committee until the next meeting of the Assembly.

**STATE OF RELIGION.**—Dr. Wood submitted the report on the State of Religion and morals. It related chiefly to the results of the late revival. It was stated that there were permanent fruits of the revival in the districts where its influence was felt, although the number of converts did not bear a very large proportion to the whole body of professing Christians. In not a very few instances the good effects of the revival appeared from the increased contributions of the people to religious objects.

After a suitable address by the Moderator, the Assembly adjourned to meet on the 18th May, 1865.

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## ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

**ASSISTANT TO REV. DR. CAIRNS.**—The congregation of the Rev. Dr. Cairns of Berwick have arranged to provide a preacher as missionary to assist in visiting the congregation, and supply the pulpit when necessary.

**DEATH OF A MISSIONARY.**—The United Presbyterian Record notices the death of the Rev. Jno. Baillie, a young, gifted, and devoted missionary who had recently returned from Old Calabar on account of the state of his health.

**MISSIONS IN BORNEO.**—The Bishop of Labuan reports that during the past year 143 heathen have been baptized at the stations held by missionaries of the Propagation Society at Borneo. The Jarebus Dyaks, the most powerful people in the country are desirous of having a missionary.

**THE GOSPEL IN LIBERIA.**—In Liberia there are about 50 Churches, embracing five different denominations, viz., Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Congregationalists, there being but one church of the last mentioned denomination. With a very few exceptions the missionaries and Church members are all coloured persons.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—The place of meeting of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church has been changed from Dublin to Belfast, in consequence of the church in which the Assembly was to meet not being ready. The Rev. J. Rogers was re-elected moderator. We shall in next number notice the proceedings of the Assembly.

**SCOTTISH ECCLESIASTICAL STATISTICS.**—The Rev. R. Stark of Glasgow gives, on data which he considers satisfactory, the following estimate of the number connected with the several Churches in Scotland, viz., Established

Church 894,591; Free Church 819,345, United Presbyterian Church 511,593; other Churches 386,262; not connected with any Church 501,213.

"ESSAYS AND REVIEWS" CONDEMNED BY CONVOCATION.—The Convocation of Canterbury at a recent session, condemned formally the Essays and Reviews. This act will have little or no effect, but it indicates a step in advance on the part of the Convocation, an assumption of new power without waiting for the warrant of the Crown.

SYNOD OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LOWER PROVINCES.—This Synod met at Picton on the last Tuesday of June. The Rev. D. B. Blair of Barney's River was elected Moderator. The Synod agreed to authorize the Mission Committee to send a missionary to the coast of Labrador during the summer. Their proceedings were interesting, and conducted in a spirit of harmony.

M. RENAN.—The Minister of Public Instruction in France has appointed M. Renan curator of Imperial Library, with the view of getting him out of the Professorship of Hebrew &c. in the University. Renan, however, declines to retire from his post, and intimates his willingness to teach Oriental Literature without salary. According to latest accounts he has been dismissed by Imperial authority.

SYNOD OF THE VAUDOIS CHURCH.—*Evangelical Christendom* contains an interesting outline of the annual meeting of Synod at La Tour. Several deputies from other churches were present, including Dr. Stewart of Leghorn, Mr. McDougall of Florence, Mr. Chapuis of Switzerland, and several ministers from Britain. Mr. Henderson of Park renews his offer of three prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50 for the best essays on the Sabbath.

REMOVAL OF EMINENT MEN.—Recent intelligence has been received of the death of two distinguished men, we refer to Prof. Ferrier of St. Andrews, and Prof. Miller of Edinburgh. The former was eminent as a philosopher and man of letters, the latter was not only an eminent surgeon and physician, but a popular writer, and an active, devoted member and office-bearer of the Church. He was the author of several popular treatises on the subject of temperance.

FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH.—A strong struggle is going on in France between the Orthodox and Rationalistic party in the Protestant Church. The probable result is to separate the movement party, including the Coquerels, Scherers, &c. from the Orthodox body. At a conference at Nismes, the Rationalistic party would agree to no declaration of faith whatever, not even the to the Apostles' Creed. The Evangelical party numbering about 120, protested and retired.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.—More recent intelligence has been received of Dr. Livingstone. He has it is understood, left the Mozambique for Bombay, and is expected to be now on his way to England. Several members of the mission together with Dr. Livingstone's little steamer the Pioneer had arrived at Cape of Good Hope.

THE CALVIN CENTENARY.—In Edinburgh the Calvin centenary was celebrated by a public meeting in the Free Church Assembly Hall. Earl Dalhousie presided, and the meeting was addressed by ministers of the Free United Presbyterian, and the Reformed Presbyterian Churches. Professor Lindsay of Glasgow, took for his subject "The character of Calvin." Prof. Fairbairn gave an address on "The Theology of Calvin." Dr. Thompson spoke on "What Scotland owes to Calvin," and Dr. Gould gave a "vindication of Calvinism against modern misrepresentations." At the close of the meeting Dr. Candlish made an appeal in behalf of the Calvin Memorial Hall, about to be erected in Geneva.

At Geneva, and at various places on the continent, the occasion was observed with great interest and effect.

**DEATH OF DR. CÆSAR MALAN.**—Recent intelligence has been received of the death of Dr. Cæsar Malan. He was one of the main instruments in the revival of religion at Geneva, and throughout the Continents, we might say throughout Europe and even the Christian world, his books and tracts have been read and approved.

**THE QUEEN OF PRUSSIA AND THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.**—The last meeting of the Evangelical alliance at Berlin was very largely attended, and was honoured by the presence of the Queen of Prussia. The Queen stated that she had always taken a deep interest in the alliance, and had endeavoured to prove the same by deeds. Dr. Krummacher, and several of the leading ecclesiastics were present. In the course of the meeting Count Von Kanitz, who is aide-de-camp to the king, gave an interesting address on the deputation of the Evangelical Alliance to Madrid of which he had been a member.

**UNION BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES.**—The two Churches—the Old School and the New—continue to cultivate friendly relations with a view to union. The late General Assembly of the New School sent to the Old School Assembly a paper, passed unanimously, expressive of their Christian friendship, and of their cordial welcome of all signs of increased love and union. The Old School Assembly reciprocated the sentiment of their brethren and expressed the satisfaction with which they had witnessed the happy influence of correspondence between the two bodies, and resolved that fraternal intercourse be maintained between them.

**DR. GUTHRIE'S FAREWELL TO THE MINISTRY.**—In consequence of the state of his health, the medical advisers of Dr. Guthrie have pronounced him utterly unfit for any public work, either in the pulpit or on the platform. The Dr. has taken farewell of his people in Free St. John's, Edinburgh, in a very touching address. He says: "I had hoped to die in, and not out of harness—preaching to the end of life, though with faltering tongue; but God, who knows best, has determined otherwise, and I desire to bow my head, saying, 'Good is the will of the Lord—Father, not my will, but thine be done.'"

The address concludes with the affecting expressions: "Now, and finally, brethren, farewell. Farewell to you; farewell to my pulpit. I preach no more; the voice is in my ear which says, 'Go thou thy way till the end be; for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.'"

Dr. Guthrie will be followed into his retirement with the affectionate and grateful regards, not only of his own brethren and people, but of the whole community.

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## Home Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

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**TILBURY.**—The congregation at Tillbury have addressed a call to the Rev. G. Grant.

**FLORENCE AND BOTHWELL.**—The congregations of Florence and Bothwell have presented a call to the Rev. W. Lothead, jr.

**OIL SPRINGS AND PETROLIA.**—The Rev. John Davidson has received a call from the congregations of Oil Springs and Petrolia.

**THAMES ROAD AND KIRKTON.**—The Rev. W. Lundy has declined a call addressed to him by the congregations of Thames Road and Kirkton.

**WEST ORO.**—The Rev. James Ferguson, formerly of Lobo, has been inducted as pastor of the congregation of West Oro.

**WHITBY.**—The congregation of Whitby have united in a cordial and unanimous call to the Rev. J. M. Gibson.

**THE LATE REV. A. McLEAN.**—The notice of the late Rev. A. McLean, of Puslinch is unavoidably postponed until next month.

**RATHO AND INNERKIP.**—The Rev. F. McCuaig having accepted a call ad-

dressed to him by the congregations of Ratho and Innerkip, has been loosed from the charge of Port Dalhousie and Niagara.

**KNOX COLLEGE.**—We refer to other columns in the present number for a detail of the arrangements made by the Board for conducting the classes during the ensuing session.

**REV. DR. IRVINE.**—The Rev. Dr. Irvine, before leaving Hamilton, was presented by the congregation of Knox's Church, Hamilton, with a purse containing upwards of three hundred dollars.

**AVON CHURCH, DOWNIE.**—Mr. W. Ballantyne, of Washington, U. S. A., has presented the congregation of Avon Church, Downie, (Rev. W. Doak's) with a choice selection of religious books, 164 volumes, the published price being \$87.

**STATISTICAL RETURNS OF CALEDON AND ORANGEVILLE.**—These returns were sent in in due time, but were accidentally overlooked. The following are the particulars:—Communicants, 78; additions, 9; baptisms 6; number in S. S., 80; week meetings, 1; visitations, 4; elders, 3; other office-bearers, 10; volumes in S. S. library, 220; sittings in church, 300; sittings occupied, between 200 and 300; stipend promised \$300; arrears, \$140; other congregational contributions, \$10; Home Mission, \$9; Synod Fund, \$4.

**REV. C. CHINIQUEY.**—We copy the following from the *Presbyterian*:—The Rev. Mr. Chiniquy, who, as our reader have been informed, is now in connection with Presbyterian Church in Canada, is at present on a visit to Philadelphia, with the view of awakening an interest in the missionary work among the French Romanists in Illinois. Various contributions have been made by churches and individuals. A committee, friendly to the object, has been formed, to adopt measures for the collection of sufficient funds for the permanent support of the Protestant Mission School of St. Anne, Kankakee, Illinois, which is under Mr. Chiniquy's supervision.

**MEETING OF COLLEGE BOARD.**—The College Board met on the 20th. There were present the following members; Rev. J. McTavish, chairman, Principal Willis, Messrs. Lowry, Hamilton, Kennedy, McRuer, W. J. McKenzie, Buras, King, Reid, Ball, ministers; and Messrs. McKenzie, and Parker, elders. The minutes of Synod with reference to the special duties devolved on the Board were read. Thereafter it was agreed; (1) That Dr. Burns be requested to conduct the class in Church History during the ensuing session. [2] That two ministers be selected to conduct severally the departments of Apologetics, and Exegetical Theology. [3] That the ministers be appointed for three months each, and that Apologetics be taken up for the first three months of the session, and Exegetical Theology for the last three months. [4] That the Rev. W. Gregg of Toronto, be appointed to conduct the class in Apologetics, and the Rev. W. Caven of St. Marys to be appointed to conduct the class in Exegetical Theology. (5) That the pulpits of these ministers be supplied during the time that they are engaged with the classes, and for one month previously and that they receive each the sum of \$400.

The Board appointed the following sub-committee to consider and report as to the keeping up of the Boarding House.—Messrs. Ross, Burns, McRuer, Kennedy, and Principal Willis Mr. Ross, convener.

The Board remitted to the following sub-committee the subject of the Financial state of the College, Messrs. J. M. King, R. F. Burns, Reid, A. J. McKenzie, and Hon. J. McMurrich.

With reference to Logic and Philosophy, the Senate at a meeting held the same day, appointed the Rev. J. Baird, and Dr. Ormiston to be examiners. Examinations will be held twice during the session, viz., before the Christmas vacation, and again before the close of the session, as follows:—

2nd Preparatory class, 1st examination, Whately's Logic; 2nd examination, Reid's Essays, to the end of the doctrine of Perception. 3rd Preparatory class, 1st examination, Reid's Essays, [Memory and Perception]; 2nd examination, Wayland's Moral Science.

**MISSION TO AMERICAN INDIANS.**—At the last Synod the Foreign Mission Committee were instructed to "take steps to establish a mission among the American Indians, in the event of the Committee feeling that the funds warrant such a step." The Committee will meet at Knox College, Toronto,

at the opening of the College to consider this important subject. Prior to that time the Convener will be happy to receive communications from any who are "willing to consecrate their service to the Lord," in this department of the great field. In the event of the committee agreeing to establish such a mission, the names of such volunteers will be submitted, and such a selection made, as to the wisdom of the committee may seem best.

**PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.**—This Presbytery met on the first Tuesday of July. A call from Florence and Bothwell in favour of Rev. W. Lohead was sustained, also a call from Tilbury, in favour of Rev. G. Grant. After going through the usual trials in a satisfactory way, Mr. H. Gracey, and J. M. Gibson were licensed to preach the Gospel. Few financial reports from congregations were received.

**PRESBYTERY OF GREY.**—This Presbytery met at Owen Sound on the 12th and 13th ult. A large portion of the time of the court was occupied with arrangements connected with the mission work. It was resolved to recommend to sessions that the commissions of elders terminate with the meeting of Synod. Messrs. Stevenson, Dewar, and Grant were appointed a committee for the examination of students, Mr. Stevenson, convener. Mr. John Ferguson, after passing the usual examinations was licensed to preach the Gospel.

**PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.**—This Presbytery met at Stratford on the 5th. ult. Mr. R. N. Grant gave a favourable report of the mission field in Wallace, and the Rev. T. Lowry was appointed to spend two weeks in Evangelistic work in that township, in order to strengthen the hands of the missionary. The clerk was instructed to correspond with congregations which are in arrears with their ministers, respecting the steps taken to secure payment of said arrears, and to report at next meeting.

**PRESBYTERY OF HURON.**—This Presbytery met in Willis' church, Clinton, on the second Tuesday of July. The Rev. W. Lundy declined the call addressed to him by the congregations of Thames Road and Kirkton. A reference to the Kirk session of Kirkton, occupied a considerable share of the time of the Presbytery. The Presbytery gave advice to the session. Financial returns from congregations were read and examined, and it was agreed to appoint a committee to examine the financial returns, correspond with congregations and see how far aid may be secured for weak congregations, the committee to consist of Messrs. McDonald, Duncan, and Ross, ministers, and Messrs. Pollock, Thompson, McAlister, and Kerr, elders. Messrs. Logie, Urc, and Ross were appointed to make enquiries respecting parties who may be, in their judgement, qualified to fill the vacant chair in the College, and to report.

**PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.**—This Presbytery met in Knox's church, Guelph, on Tuesday 12th July. After the reading of the minutes of previous meetings, a special minute in reference to the late Mr. McLean of East Puslinch, was read and ordered to be engrossed in the Presbytery record.

Deputations were appointed to visit congregations that have suffered arrears of stipend to accumulate to a large extent, and the clerk was instructed to write to certain other congregations which are less seriously in arrears.

Mr. Edward Graham, probationer, having accepted the call from the Woolwich congregation, and his trials having been appointed at a meeting held at Toronto, it was expected that they would be heard at this meeting, but a severe domestic affliction prevented him from being present.

Mr. E. Bauld having undergone his trials to the satisfaction of the Presbytery, was licensed to preach the Gospel.

Mr. Ball gave notice that he would move, at the next ordinary meeting, that the Presbytery nominate Mr. Torrance for the vacant professorship in Knox College.

**THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.**—This Presbytery met in Central Church, Hamilton, on the 12th of July.

Mr. McLean, of Freulton, was chosen moderator for the next 12 months, and was also appointed moderator of the session of Knox's Church, Hamilton.

Mr. Cheyne asked and obtained leave of absence for a few weeks in consequence of feeble health.

Mr. McCuaig, having accepted a call from the congregations of Ratho and Inner-

kip, in the Presbytery of Paris, was loosed from his charge of Port Dalhousie and Niagara in this Presbytery. The Presbytery recorded an expression of their regret at parting with Mr. McCuaig, and desire his happiness and success in his new field of labour.

Mr. Inglis gave notice that at next ordinary meeting he would move that Dr. Jno. Cairns, of Berwick-upon-Tweed, be nominated to the vacant chair of Apologetics and Exegetics in Knox College.

The Presbytery believe that there is an extensive field for missionary exertion in the Niagara District, and have appointed a committee to visit and ascertain the desires and wants of several congregations and stations, that at present are either isolated or inconveniently arranged, see what can be done to work them more efficiently, and report at next meeting.

A new congregation, consisting of about 30 persons, at Welland Port, has just been organized, it is believed with good prospects of success.

**PRESBYTERY OF ONTARIO.**—This Presbytery met at Columbus on the 12th of July.

A call from the congregation of Whitby to Mr. John M. Gibson was laid on the table. The call was unanimously sustained, and the Clerk was instructed to notify Mr. Gibson accordingly.

Mr. Riddell, as convener of the committee on the case of Mr. Peter Musgrave, reported that they had held repeated meetings with him, and had examined him on the various subjects provided for students before entering on their theological course, when they were highly satisfied with Mr. Musgrave's appearances. The Presbytery received the committee's report, discharged them from further responsibility in the matter, and remitted Mr. Musgrave to another committee for the examination of students who may propose attending Knox College. A committee was then appointed for this purpose consisting of Dr. Thornton convener, and Messrs. Baird, Smith, and Monteath; the said committee to meet at Oshawa on Monday the 30th of October next.

Mr. James Hubbert, a student of Knox College, was taken on public probationary trials. He went through the various exercises proscribed by Synod, afforded much satisfaction to the Presbytery, and in the ordinary way was licensed to preach the glorious Gospel of the blessed God.

Communications were received from Uxbridge and Leaskdale, and the following agreement was come to there anent, viz., that Mr. Smith be appointed to dispense the Lord's Supper in Uxbridge on the 1st Sabbath of August, or as soon thereafter as possible, and that Messrs. Baird and Heron be associated with him as a committee to hold a meeting at Leaskdale for the purpose of conferring with the two congregations regarding a matter of difference between them, the said meeting to be held on the Monday after the communion at Uxbridge.

On application made, Dr. Thornton was appointed to moderate in a call at Columbus and Brooklin.

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### CALVIN TERCENTENARY.

The following is the minute agreed to at the late meeting of Synod with reference to the Calvin tercentenary celebration:—

“The synod, having had its attention called to the recent demonstrations of respect for the memory of the illustrious Calvin, both on the part of those residing at the immediate seat of the labours of that Reformer; and of many churches or members of churches in Europe and America, embraces willingly the opportunity of evincing its sympathy with the feeling of veneration thus called forth in connection with the memory of so distinguished a servant of God, and one who was instrumental in so important a degree in the great Religious Reformation of the sixteenth century.

“The Synod without committing itself to an opinion on the propriety of observing anniversary or centenary celebrations of illustrious names, rejoices to declare its belief that the centuries that have revolved since the time of Calvin have proven, as they have rolled on, the wonderful measure of spiritual under-

standing, as well as holy zeal, divinely imparted to that great Reformer and Theologian; not the least of whose services was the transmission to posterity of such learned and accurate interpretations of Holy Scripture, and such correct definitions of doctrine, as have eminently aided students of the sacred writings in all countries in the exposition and defence of evangelic truth.

“While claiming for no mere man infallibility of judgment, nor identifying our own or any other church, popularly called Calvinistic, with every conclusion, doctrinal and ethical, even of that honoured individual, this Synod heartily acknowledges the distinguishing features of the system of doctrine and church government, so much associated with his name; believing that, whether as tried by Scripture or by the test of its fruits in the enlightened piety, practical godliness, and morality of individuals and communities, it has well vindicated its claims to the unabated attachment of all who would uphold a banner for truth, in the cause of the gospel of God generally, or in the maintenance at once of due freedom and necessary order in church organizations.

“That while it has long been a cause of pain to the friends of the Reformation to have seen its great doctrines so much lost sight of, or maintaining a doubtful struggle with various forms of anti-Christian error, in countries once so distinguished for attachment to Protestant and Evangelic doctrine: as Switzerland, France, Holland and Germany, the Synod recognizes with much interest the various symptoms, from time to time developed, of a remaining or reviving zeal for the true faith.”

“In this view they contemplate with cordial favour the appeal made to the members of this and other churches for some co-operation in the proposed erection, in the city of Geneva, of a monumental edifice commemorative of the name and labours of Calvin—including a select library, which shall comprehend especially the works of the Reformers,—Luther, Calvin, Zuingle, Farel, Melancthon, Knox, Cranmer, and others; the same to be accessible, on the most liberal plan, to all denominations of Christians.

“And, observing that the council of administration at Geneva, immediately connected with this undertaking, including such names as Merle D'Aubigne, and many evangelical Pastors, have, in addressing this appeal to the churches, asked, ‘Is it Geneva alone that is to take part?’ and that the proposed inscription on the monument contains these words, in anticipation of general concurrence: ‘Erected—besides inhabitants of Geneva and other towns and cantons of Switzerland, by the Christians of France, Germany, England, Scotland, Ireland and America,’ the Synod affectionately commends the object to the members of this church, not doubting that they will justify the generous confidence of this appeal; and that some will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity for contributing a stone to an edifice begun, beyond most in the spirit of giving glory to God, and which, while perpetuating the remembrance of the instruments he raised up and qualified for His work, is meant to subserve the revival and diffusion of a sound Christianity in those ancient centres of Christian and Protestant light.”

## Poetry.

### RICH POVERTY.

What matter now for promise lost  
 Through the blast of Spring or Summer rains?  
 What matter now for purposes crossed,  
 For broken hopes and wasted pains?  
 What if the olive little yields,  
 What if the vine is blasted? Thine  
 The corn upon a thousand fields,  
 Upon a thousand hills the vine!



Thou lovest still the poor—oh! blest  
 In poverty beloved to be!  
 Less lowly is my choice confessed,  
 I love the rich in loving thee.  
 My spirit bare before thee stands,  
 I bring no gift, I ask no sign,  
 I come to thee with empty hands,  
 The surer to be filled from thine!

## RECEIPTS FOR RECORD UP TO 20TH JULY.

W. McA., Belleville, 1.00; J. Y. M. A., Ramsay; J. McK., Fairfax; Miss G., Port Burwell, 2.00; per A. G. Withrop, 13.00, viz., G. R., J. K., J. B., J. K., A. F., S. B. S., Dr. R., 1.50 each, Dr. H., Mrs. S., 1.00 each, J. C., Belleville; G. A., J. L., T. S., J. A., R. M., J. W., A. L., P. R., A. McL., C. McP., A. McP., P. W., T. B., G. S., Mrs. McA., Nassagewya; Miss P., Seneca; J. R., Picton; J. M., Wing-	ham; J. McN., Ashtan; J. J. F., Ingersoll, 10.00; Mr. R. Lancaster, 1.00; Mr. L., Rev. J. D., Toronto; W. J., Yonge Street; G. J., Tara; J. A., Eden Mills; J. S., Holland Landing; Rev. J. McD., Walter's Falls: Rev. W. L., Toronto; T. McK., New Lowell; A. T., Loydton; Mr. S., Thornhill; T. H., Napanee; A. McK., H. McK., Bradford; J. B., Almonte, 2.00.
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## MONEYS RECEIVED TO THE 20TH JULY.

SYNOD FUND.		" S. S. ....	
Elora, Chalmer's ch. ....	\$ 10 00	Rockwood. ....	1 25
Hastings. ....	4 00	FOREIGN MISSION.	
Brucefield. ....	6 00	Elora, Chalmer's ch., 1st instal.	\$ 15 00
Kingston, Brock st. ....	9 00	" S. S. ....	5 00
Ayr, Knox's. ....	12 18	Avon Church, Downie. ....	9 00
KNOX COLLEGE.		Thamesford. ....	8 00
Lobo. ....	\$ 6 70	Kildonan, Red River. ....	24 15
Whitby. ....	10 64	Little Britain, Red River. ....	14 45
Brucefield, adl. ....	9 00	Fairfield, Red River. ....	2 83
English Settlement. ....	16 00	WIDOWS FUND.	
Proof Line. ....	10 08	Elora, Chalmer's ch., 1st instal.	\$ 15 00
	26 08	Rate from Rev. Arch. Stewart.	
FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.		FREE CHURCH MISSIONS.	
Elora, Chalmer's ch., 1st instal.	\$ 15 00	Brant S. S. (Calcutta). ....	\$ 8 00

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