



Contributors and Correspondents

For the Presbyterian.

ASSURANCE.

BY RODRICK HENDERSON, FLORIDA.

"He"—say one—"that believeth on the Son hath the witness in himself." There is the outward witness—the testimony of God. As soon as a man knows that he is a sinner, and believes in Jesus as the Saviour he needs, he has the witness in himself. The outward witness, as sure him that Christ is life—not merely the way that leads to life at last, but life now, even "eternal life."

As before stated, the witness is in the heart of every Christian, let him know it or not. But all are called upon to have full assurance. The apostolic language is, "I know in whom I have believed." "I am persuaded that nothing shall separate me from the love of God." "We know that we have passed from death unto life."

Encouraging Progress. Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN. Sir,—It is proposed in the following article to give a brief history of the rise and progress of a congregation of Presbyterians in the village of Brucefield, county of Huron. This history will extend over a period of eighteen months, since its formation, and will show what united effort and firm determination can accomplish on the part of comparatively few individuals, that the blessings of a preached Gospel and other ordinances of God's worship shall be continued and enjoyed by the present, and handed down to future generations in all the purity and simplicity which so eminently characterizes the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

God's Love. In 1867, Mr. Moody met in Dublin the boy preacher. The latter afterwards came over and preached seven successive nights from "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him might not perish, but have everlasting life."

The Death of the Christian. The angel slept; a light shone in the prison; An angel touched his side, "Arise!" he said, and quickly he hath risen, His fettered arms untied.



British American Presbyterian,

102 BAY STREET, TORONTO.

FOR TERMS, SEE FIRST PAGE.

F. BLACKETT ROBINSON

Editor and Proprietor.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters and articles intended for the next issue should be in the hands of the Editor not later than Tuesday morning.

OUR GENERAL AGENT.

Mr. CHARLES NICOL, General Agent for the PRESBYTERIAN, is now in Western Ontario pushing the interests of this journal.

British American Presbyterian.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1877.

ONLY ANOTHER MONTH.

The Books of the Treasurers of the various church schemes close on the 30th of April, so that but another month remains for congregations in which to forward their contributions for the current ecclesiastical year.

In an article, "The Senate Philosophically considered," the London Advertiser remarks: As at present constituted, the Upper Chamber of the Canadian Parliament can only occupy one of two positions.

CLERICAL INSURANCE.

The subject of the life insurance of clergymen has been prominently brought before the public by the bankruptcy of a number of offices in the United States, involving loss to ministers who had invested their savings in this direction.

But this brings up the whole subject of ministerial life insurance. It is a vital matter with clergymen, and when they know that the companies are solvent and able to meet their engagements, it is no small consolation to have their slender earnings invested in this manner.

The plan is often spoken of and in some instances carried into effect, of congregations insuring the lives of their pastors. In our day Presbyteries make particular enquiries as to the salaries which are promised by congregations to the pastors who are to be settled over them.

necessary matter of life insurance. We are sure of this that the congregations would be the gainers in such a transaction. It is an open and also a fair question, whether the Church should not itself establish some life insurance scheme for her clergy.

HARD TIMES AND THE SCHEMES.

TO DELINQUENT CONGREGATIONS.

It is difficult to believe that there is a single congregation of our Church that contributes nothing to any of the Assembly's Schemes, but even more difficult to believe that we have any minister so destitute of loyalty to the Church as to remain passive, or quietly permit his people to do nothing for any of the schemes.

To such we commend the following extracts from a letter addressed by a minister to the secretary of one of the American Churches' Missionary Boards:

"Our congregation had decided to take up no collection this year for any of the Boards for this reason: Notwithstanding the unprecedented stringency of the times, we have been making an onslaught on our church debt of \$6,000, and, thank God, have every dollar of it pledged, and most of it paid.

We are convinced that ministers injure home objects who seek to guard their people from contributing to outside schemes. "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

Many are now complaining of the scarcity of money, but we have yet to hear of any one attributing "the hard times" and the scarcity of money to the fact that too much had been expended in missionary operations, or in seeking to advance the Redeemer's kingdom.

THE Congregational Quarterly gives the number of churches of that denomination in the United States as 8,509, an increase of 71; of members, 850,658, an increase of 12,845.

COMING GENERAL PRESBYTERIAN COUNCIL.

Through the kindness of Dr. Snedgrass, convenor of the Canadian Committee, we are able to place before our readers the outline of proposed programme for the Edinburgh meeting of the Presbyterian Council, to be held on the 2nd July next.

MONDAY, 2nd JULY.

- 1. General Committee, to meet in afternoon.
2. Public reception of Delegates in evening, with Address of Welcome from Edinburgh, and short addresses by representatives of various churches.

TUESDAY, 3rd JULY.

- 1. Opening Sermon, at 11 a.m.
2. Luncheon, from 1 to 2 (daily).
3. Meeting of Council (private), at 2 p.m. Report of Committee to be submitted, Roll adjusted, and Officers elected.
4. Public meeting in evening. Report on Statistics, etc., of Presbyterian Churches, Addresses from representatives of various Churches, especially from United States and Colonies, on such topics as—Expansion and Adaptation of Presbyterianism, Simplicity and Scriptural Character, Recent Presbyterian Unions, Friendly Aspect of Presbyterianism to other Evangelical Churches.

WEDNESDAY, 4th JULY.

- PRINCIPLES OF PRESBYTERIANISM.
1. Meeting at 10 a.m.—"Harmony of Reformed Confessions." Two Papers to be read (or read in part), and the discussion to be opened by two appointed speakers, and continued by the members generally till one o'clock. Readers and speakers to be limited as to time.
2. Meeting at 2 p.m.—"Presbyterianism in Relation to the Wants and Tendencies of the Day," (e.g. Ritualism, Plymouthism, Rationalism, etc.) Similar arrangement for Papers, Speakers, and Discussions.
No evening meeting proposed for this day, as there may be congregational prayer meetings throughout the city, or other gatherings, at which members may be asked to be present.

THURSDAY, 5th JULY.

- HOME WORK OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
1. 10 a.m.—"Preaching and the Training of Preachers," (including Relation of Preaching to Worship and Sacraments, and other parts of Church Work).
2. 2 p.m.—"The Eldership: its Theory and Practice."
3. Public meeting in evening.—"The Reformed Churches of the Continent of Europe." Addresses (chiefly by Continental Delegates) on such topics as—The Reformed Churches of the Past and the Present; their Difficulties and Hindrances; Christian Work and Progress; Claims of the Continent of Europe on other Presbyterian Churches.

FRIDAY, 6th JULY.

- FOREIGN MISSIONS.
1. 10 a.m.—"Missionary Obligations, and how to be Enforced."
2. 2 p.m.—"Characteristics of Presbyterian Missions, Presbyterian Co-operation in Missions."
3. Public Missionary Meeting in evening.—Report on Presbyterian Missions throughout the world. Missionary Addresses by Delegates and Missionaries of various Churches.

SATURDAY, 7th JULY.

- It is proposed that on this day there should be only a morning meeting, distributed in sections.
Section A. "The Unbelief of the Present Day, and how to meet it."
Section B. "Spiritual Life, Hindrances and Helps."
Section C. "The Christian Training of the Young."

SABBATH, 8th JULY.

- Arrangements for this day might not need to be fixed by authority; but might probably embrace—
Address to Christian Workers, at 9, or 9.30 a.m.
Services in various city Churches, forenoon and afternoon.
Special Sermons in evening (e.g. to Young Men, on Temperance, on the Sabbath, etc.)
Evangelistic Meeting, in the Queen's Park, or elsewhere.

MONDAY, 9th JULY.

- 1. 10 a.m.—Forenoon meeting, again in section.
Section A. "Presbyterian Literature, in its Higher Branches."
Section B. "Use of the Press generally, Colportage, and Popular Religious Literature."
Section C. "Social Evils," e.g. Intemperance, Sensuality, Crowded Dwellings, etc.
2. 2 p.m.—General Meeting. Reports from Sections and Committees. Time and place of next meeting. Closing Exercises.
3. Public meeting in evening. Practical Objects of the Alliance. Valedictory Addresses.
N.B.—It is not thought desirable that the Meetings of the Council should extend beyond a week; but it is not unlikely that other meetings may be arranged for the second week of July, either at Edinburgh or elsewhere, in which most members of the Council will feel an interest.

Ministers and Churches.

(We urgently solicit from Presbytery Clerks and our readers generally, items for this department of our paper, so as to make it a general epitome of all local church news.)

The congregation at Melbourne has extended a call to Rev. R. W. Leith of Camden.

The London Presbytery has sanctioned a call from East Williams to Rev. J. S. Eskins.

Rev. G. G. McRobbie, of Mandamlin, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Tilsonton Presbyterian Church.

Rev. G. CUTHBERTSON has received a call to Wyoming and South Plympton Church. He will be inducted on the 19th prox.

The congregation of West Williams, 21st Concession and North Adelaide, are to have united services during the summer.

We regret to learn that the Rev. R. Hamilton of Motherwell, recently met with an accident which resulted in the fracture of one of the small bones of the leg. He is progressing towards recovery.

We are requested to state that the Rev. Geo. Cuthbertson continues to conduct the Home Mission business of the Presbytery of London. Address, until further notice, St. Thomas, as formerly.

A MANSE is about being built for the Rev. Mr. Macdonald, at Cambray. The new building will be roomy and commodious, as it will measure 26x40 feet, and be a story and a half high, and the internal arrangements are such that two stores will heat the whole house. The contract is for \$1,080.

The mission stations of the Lindsay Presbytery were visited and communicated with last week. The Rev. James T. Paul and Mr. Gilchrist, of Woodville, held meetings in Cobocoon, Uphill, and Digby, and found all in a very satisfactory state. It is likely the Presbytery may make some alterations for the summer work of the missionaries.

AFTER the induction of Rev. Mr. McLennan, the Victoria Road congregation held a fruit festival in the beautiful church which they have just completed, the proceeds, together with a subscription of \$200 the same evening, will go to liquidating the small debt still due on the building. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Murray, Hastie, McNabb, Sherin, Fox, Currie, etc., and Mr. Gilchrist, of Woodville, and Mr. McNabb, of Victoria Road Station, also addressed the people. Miss Fox kindly presided at the organ, assisted by an efficient choir.

THE annual soiree in connection with St. Paul's Church, Madoc, was held on the evening of the 22nd ult. Although the roads were extremely bad, there was a good gathering of the friends. W. Macintosh, Esq., P.S.I., in his usual happy and inspiring manner, occupied the chair, and gave a good address on "The social influence of soirees." E. D. O'Flynn, Esq., addressed the audience in a humorous and instructive way on "Luok." The Rev. J. Turnbull, of Melrose, gave a neat and attractive speech on "Department." The Madoc choir, led by Messrs. F. Seymour and J. G. Deans, delighted the audience with sweet and appropriate music. Apologies for non-attendance were given by the Rev. D. Beattie, the pastor, on behalf of the Rev. Messrs. Keleo of Roslin, and Maybee of Madoc, and A. T. Wood, Esq., Madoc. At the close the chairman, in name of the ladies, presented Messrs. Beattie and Turnbull with large, beautiful and toothsome presents. On the following day there was a large and happy gathering of children, who were feasted to their hearts content with many dainties, and addressed by the pastor, and entertained with music by an extemporised choir, led by Misses Beattie and Deacon on the organ.

THE Montreal Witness says: "It is understood that the Rev. A. J. Bray, in his sermon on the "Victims of Fate," in Zion Church, last Sunday evening, gave expression to some views very different from what is generally held to be orthodox, discarding the doctrine of eternal punishment, and holding that of final restitution. He stated that if there were one soul finally unsaved in eternity, it would render the light of heaven as black as night, and he should think that the love of his God had failed in its completeness of effect upon the human soul. He did not believe in fatality, but said there were hundreds and thousands who, as if by fate, were so situated that the light of the Gospel did not reach them; and did anyone mean to say that God never intended they should be brought back again from their condition of sin! He held that the sacrifice of Christ was not to appease an angry God, but rather to draw men up to Him. It is learned that Mr. Bray's sermon was the subject of a discussion at a meeting of Zion Church last evening, when he endeavored to reconcile his views with New Testament doctrine, and asked the members to wait for the other part of his exposition of the subject."

Dr. PARSON, when racked with pain, exclaimed, "O what a blessed thing it is to lose one's will! Since I have lost my will I have found happiness!"







