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THE

HOME & FOREIGN RECORD

OF THE

CAÑADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

No. 9.

SEPTEMBER, 1871.

Vol. X.

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THE SAGUENAY.

Written while sailing down the river during a thunder storm.

Hail to thee, Saguenay! deepest of rivers,
Wild is thy grandeur, and awful thy gloom;
How tremendous the force that rent mountains to shivers,
When thy long pent-up waters rushed forth from their tomb.

The thunder is rolling, the thick rain is falling,
Gloomy the dark mist, and straitened the view;
But what is this storm to the earthquake appalling,
Which rent the stern rocks, when thy waters rushed through?

Bare are the wild rocks which skirt thy dark waters, Grim in their loneliness, rugged and wan; Rifted and torn with the lightning that shatters The glories of nature—the proud works of man.

But the scenery changes; the wild banks that border The river are higher, and mantled with green; And scattered like hillocks, in graceful disorder, They rise with sweet glades of rare beauty between.

Again the scene changes, the prospect is grander,
As the two glorious Capes from the water arise;
I have witnessed scenes brighter and fairer and blander,
But none so sublime ever burst on my eyes.

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At the sight swells my heart with sublimest emotion;
These rocks! what a proof of God's power they afford!
Let me stir up my soul to more ardent devotion,
As I gaze on these wonderful works of the Lord.

Cape Trinity! name how sublime and suggestive! Why doubt the great power that could elevate thee? Let me never again be distrustful or restive, But hide in the rock that was smitten for me.

Let me lean on the power, mighty rock, that could raise thee, In all thy wild grandeur, aloft to the sky. O God, while I live, let my soul love to praise thee, And cling to the rock that is higher than I.

Cape Eternity! higher, but not so impressive, Less sheer thy great cliffs lift their heads to the skies; Thy outline is fairer, but not so aggressive, Projecting and broken, thy lofty rocks rise.

Great Saguenay! wild and mysterious river,
Whose waters in deepness a thousand feet roll;
Wherever I wander, forget thee I'll never,
Nor the lofty emotions which rose in my soul—

As I sailed on thy bosom, alone amidst laughter, And music and talking and youth's merry glee; But nought could distract me, or lessen the rapture Which I felt, as I gazed, mighty river, on thee.—W. B. C.

THE LIGHT LITERATURE OF THE DAY.

Changes in literature are now as rapid as changes in political situation or commercial progress. There was a time when the books of half a century could be classified together, and distinguished by some one appropriate name; now people are not satisfied, unless every year at least displays a literary novelty. There is a limit to solid dishes in literature as well as in food for the body; the variety consists simply in some three or four ways in which the truth that God has given for inward digestion is presented before the mind. But light dishes are innumerable; for the whole spicery of imagination, caricature, and falsehood, is at hand, to so flavour and disguise an infinitesimal and small-stored element of truth, that thousands who partake never know that it is there. Each time they partake they fondly imagine that their present portion is something new and good. Sabbath-school literature has so changed its character that its originators would fail to recognize the features of their nursling, and start in horror from the monster they have been the innocent means of throwing on the world. A universal cry among serious people, who have the true interests of the young at heart, is rising against the Sabbath-school books of the The General Assembly of the American Presbyterian Church took the matter of providing an antidote for the wide-spread poison into its consideration, and pressed action in connection with it upon its Board of Publication. An article by the Rev. Sandford H. Cobb, in the last number of the Princeton Review, deals with the subject in an able manner. A single extract will suffice to show the stand taken by him as a representative ·

uman: "As a general remark, it may be said that the Sunday-school library, as now most frequently composed, seems to have been selected on the principle of one who would administer to the same person both a poison and its antidote, with the idea that the two together would do no harm. posing that a case should arise where such a physico-chemical treatment would be proper, it by no means follows that a moral equilibrium can be sustained in the same way. The experiment might prove harmless in the case of one whose moral nature was untainted; but, as it is, the one scale is already too heavily weighted with sinful tendencies to admit the thought that a certain amount of good literature will counterbalance an equal amount of evil. The evil possesses far more attractions for the general mind than that which might counteract it, so that it is used greatly in excess of the other. It is hardly necessary to say that such a method of selection is wrong. It is not desirable that the poison should be given at all, even if its antidote is measured out and administered in well-balanced quantities. The minds of children are in no such state as could render Their habit is not so much to judge this treatment other than injurious. and divide, as to receive. Unable to discern between the false and true, the hurtful and beneficial, they should have put into their hands only that which is true, and should be subjected only to those influences which are improving." It is almost impossible to exaggerate the lengths which the desire to supply Sabbath-school children with light literature has reached. We have heard of a bookseller in a town in Canada who had done his best to satisfy a Sabbath-school customer with suitable books for his library, and, failing utterly to press upon him the books recommended by the General Assembly's Sabbath-school Committee, and more of a similar nature, at last in despair placed in his hands "Robinson Crusoe" and other books of travel-fiction. To his astonishment the teacher received them books of travel-fiction. with delight, and stocked the library of his Sabbath-school with books whose sole merit, in a religious point of view, is that they contain here and there a reference to God and Bible truth, without attempting to teach any lesson of faith or godliness. The criterion by which people judge a book suitable to place in the hands of a child for Sabbath reading has come to be, that it contains a little divine truth, or reference to it, simply. The old criterion was, that it should contain little or nothing else. old is far better than the new. The miserable excuse that children read their library books during the week, and ought thus to be provided with entertaining week-day reading, will not serve those who profess to feed the lambs. It is not their business as Sabbath-school teachers, having the oversight of the children's spiritual and not of their intellectual training, to provide them with what the common school section libraries are intended to furnish.

In what we have said we have taken somewhat different ground from that usually taken by those who assail the Sabbath-school literature of the day. They charge upon this literature the crime of displaying before the minds of children an unnatural kind of religious life, consisting of "goody books," exhibiting a weak and sentimental piety. This is not true of the present race of Sabbath-school books. There has been a change. The "goody book" has passed away withall its faults. Poor picture though it was of Christian life, it made an attempt to pourtray a believer in Christ; weak and sentimental though its piety may have been, it did not dare to dispense with piety. Teachers and writers became tired of and disgusted with this namby-pamby class of literature, and the scholars' minds, we are

told, revolted from the unreal life it had chronicled or created. naturally expect that the children, having been furnished with unwholesome bread, would now have placed before them the genuine article. There had been a good deal r. Scripture language in the old books Henceforth it should be left out altogether, and some moral misapplied. sentences put in its place. The name of Jesus Christ had been too often upon the lips of children to be reverently used. It should be dispensed with entirely, and salvation be merged in providence, as the personality of the Saviour should be lost in the general name—God. Good children who loved the Saviour had been made to do good deeds, and the hearts of the cheap-jacks of Sunday-school literature revolted from such an injustice. Henceforth good deeds should be disjoined from all reference to divine grace, and made the natural outcome of the human heart under favorable conditions, and the result of a sickly sentimentality that abjures the nameof Him who was the only Holy One and is the only source of goodness. Thus it is that "Gates Ajar" and "Little Women," and other non-Christian books, have found their way to places where they should not be. The children who read these books will grow up, are growing up, to be men and women. Is it likely that they will listen to the old-fashioned humdrum talk that their grandfathers went to church to hear from the lips of a Chalmers, a Cooke, or a Hamilton, or that their parents are enduring now? A great change must take place before this can be; unless that change take place, the sensationalism of the most attractive unevangelical preacher of the present day will be too low a standard for their satisfaction.

If the light religious literature of the day is found to be unchristian in character, the light secular literature is as thoroughly anti-christian. Many examples of British publications might be cited; but the books which best illustrate the statement are by American authors. The irreverence which displays itself in the professedly religious writings from nominally Christian pens in the New England States, degenerates into blasphemy in the rhymes and sketches of western journalists. The great aim of the latter class of productions seems to be, to belittle the enormity of sin, and to extol the excellencies of unsanctified human nature. The lowest and most degraded characters that disgrace society are held up as patterns of manly heroism and more than womanly tenderness; while it is either openly stated or implied that such qualities are altogether wanting in the true Christian professor. If moral there be in any of these caricatures, it is so bound up in language and idea with that which is irreverent and profane, that the moral effect produced by it is analogous to the physical effect that wholesome food overspread with poison has upon the eater. The child, educated up to a certain standard of literary taste and moral discrimination by the Sabbath-school literature already spoken of, desires more highly seasoned food for the mind, when the higher stage of manhood or womanhood is nearly attained. The exaggerated, frivolous, and altogether irreverent account of travel in Europe and the East, under a title that parodies the best of our Christian classics, licentious sketches of low Californian life, and the rhymes, disgusting and blasphemous, of a Western poetaster, are re-printed again and again for such an one in ever-increasing editions. Canada, unable as she is to consume a single small edition of a really valuable and interesting book, can yet take her place among the most voracious in devouring this moral garbage.

"Who reads these books?" is a question frequently asked. The better question, as having a nearer approach to the truth, would be, "Who does

not read them?" They find their way everywhere among young and old, male and female. Many, who would not calmly sit down to the perusal of a volume of the character described, are attracted by the extracts which the newspapers give, and undeterred, like the editors of the same, from handling what is known to be pitch of a very black and sticky kind, by the consideration, elaborately stated, that it is a sample of the very latest style of pitch. Sober and earnest men unconsciously advertise the writings which they ought to condemn, and in conscience do condemn, by quoting the clever or ridiculous expressions they put into everybody's mouth; and we have been present in public meetings for missionary and social purposes, at which ministers (not, indeed, of the Presbyterian Church,) repeated, to the great delight of the audience, sentences from the funny books of the day, every one of which undid some part of the work which

their pulpit ministrations had been the means of accomplishing.

Irreverence is the great rock against which the moral character of the western world has already been broken. Every new book of the kind alluded to is, like the returning wave, again dashing it with greater violence upon the iron-bound coast, and the laughter that hails it, glad sound as it may seem to some, is the noise of crashing timbers and falling spars, betokening a speedy and a total wreck. Anything that tends to diminish, in the hearts of young or old, sentiments of reverence, whether the object of that reverence be God or man; that makes man think lightly and speak flippantly or with selfish pleasantry of human life, and happiness, and character, and aspiration; that causes him to forget that in God he and all others live and move and have their being; that He has sovereign claims upon His creatures for fear and service, and that He will bring all things into judgment;—anything possessing such a tendency brings into the moral constitution seeds of consumption and death. This is the tendency of the light literature of the day, and its universal acceptance shows plainly that in great part it reflects the thought of the day.

The currents of thought can be turned. Even weak human efforts have brought about great changes in modes of thought and expression; a single book has moulded numberless minds in regard to a question of morals, expediency, or taste. What power, infinitely exceeding that of man, is in the hands of the faithful servant of Him in whose hand "the king's heart is as the rivers of water; He turneth it whithersoever He will." What responsibility is laid upon him, be he minister, Sabbath-school teacher, parent, or the possessor of any kind of authority and influence over others, in regard to the reverential convictions and feelings of his charge! Happy the man who learns this, in whose own heart reverence and humility dwell, and who, commending what he preaches, sees himself instrumental in pro-

moting the true glory of God and the good of man!

It seems strange that a utilitarian spirit should promote the folly and irreverence of the day in thought and language, and yet it is so. Erasmus says: "Among the Thessalians it is a capital offence to kill a stork, for no other reason than that it kills serpents; in Britain kites are spared because they cleanse the cities by carrying away the offal; so many people are honored, not because they are worthy, but because their works are useful to us." He might have added that oftentimes no honor is given to those that are worthy of it, because human blindness does not discern in them a beauty which is useful, and a usefulness which is beautiful. The love of low literature and that of filthy lucre which debases, are nearly allied. Whey they hold sway it may be said that

"Plain living and high thinking are no more:
The homely beauty of the good old cause
Is gone; our peace, our fearful innocence,
And pure religion breathing household laws."

Sadder than all, the thought that they drive far away from men the Kingdom of Heaven; that the light literature of the day is part of the great flood which roars against the citadel of the saints; and that professedly Christian people, far from lifting up a standard against it, are striving to break down the great barriers of zeal for God's word, love for the person and work of Christ, esteem for their fellow-man, true reverence and deep humility which separate them from the world that lies without. It is part and parcel of the great flood, and cannot be separated from it. Let the dyke be pierced, let the breach not be quickly repaired, and nothing shall hinder the breaking up and total overthrow of Churches that were strongholds for the truth. Light reading may yet work heavy woes, and so may everything like it, in which the Church is found pandering to a low vitiated taste.

Missionary Intelligence.

FREE CHURCH MISSIONS.

CAFFRARIA.—At Lonedale a new church was opened on the 2nd April. It is a commodious structure, capable of containing from 400 to 450 people. Most of the missionary labourers in the neighbourhood, of various denominations, were present. At the opening services there was a collection of £77, leaving but a small amount of debt. Of the whole sum, about a fifth was contributed by Europeans, the rest being raised by the natives. It is trusted that the opening of the new church will be followed by much good in the neighbourhood, and that it may be a place of light for those who are in darkness, of consolation to the mourner, and of hope to the dejected and fallen.

India.—The Rev. W. Gardner, writing to Dr. Duff from Puna, gives an account of the baptism of a convert, a pupil of the Mission Institution, of the name of Digumbur. He had been long receiving instruction, and some months ago expressed the desire to profess Christianity. He continues in his class at the Institution. As is frequently the case with new converts, he is subjected to severe trials to his faith and stedfastness on the part of his father and relatives.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.

OLD CALABAR—DUKETOWN.—At Duketown, where was the first building erected in connection with the Mission, there is now a spacious church, in which three services are conducted every Sabbath, one in English and two in Efik. The audiences vary from 150 to 300. A large class of females meets for instruction twice every Sabbath. Tokens for good conduct are granted from time to time, and it is humbly expected, as well as earnestly desired, that when He makes up the number of His chosen ones, it will be said of Duketown Church, "this man and that man were born there."

South Africa-The Misssonary at Glenthorn, where the work was discontinued for a time, writes very interesting accounts of the admission into the Church of two women, who gave very satisfactory evidence of true discipleship. The missionary, after referring to the cases of these two converts, says: "These cases are of a very cheering and encouraging nature, to be followed I trust by more of similar kind, in connection with the Glenthorn cause. After the baptism of these two converts and some children of members, the congregation was dismissed for a few minutes, then met again, when 105 sat down at the communion table. It was a most impressive and solemn service, and I believe most profitable to the numerous onlookers, as well as to those for whom it was specially intended.

INDIA-JEYPORE.-Dr. Valentine, who is stationed at Jeypore, says, with reference to his labors during the past year: "During the past year I have had more open doors for real mission work than I have had since coming here. The seed has been in much prayer, cast upon the waters: some one may find it springing up many days after we are gone. But what a privilege to be allowed to be a sower in God's vineyard!

"During the last year I opened a new school at a place called Sambhur. As perhaps you are aware, this is one of the largest salt marts in Upper There is a large lake, from which many thousand tons of salt are annually produced. People from all parts of India were attracted to it to purchase the salt. It has recently been taken over from the Maharajah by the British Government, for the consideration of £35,000 annually. When a regular establishment of commissioners and other British officers was transferred there, I thought it a pity that such an important station should be left empty. I therefore sent a teacher (a Christian), who has opened a school with about fifty boys. He also preaches in the bazaar, and reports that he finds the people very attentive. The commissioner. Mr. Adam, a Paisley man, takes a great interest in the school. The great want is good Christian agents. I have only one theory about mission work | and one of my brethren told me the other day he thought it wrong ! It is this, that in every mission school there should be at least one Christian teacher. I have not been able to establish schools, for want of Christian teachers. In my first city school there are about sixty boys, in the second school about forty. Mr. Martin examined them as he passed through. He will have told you his impression of them, so that I need not detain you with that subject. Of course the Scriptures are read, and carefully explained. I am very anxious that this should form one of the principal features in my schools. I have seen so much in other quarters of the Mission element becoming a secondary concern, and the degrees of the Calcutta University occupying the chief place, that perhaps I am running to the opposite extreme. Munshi Husun Ali has meetings with the teachers and pupils every Sabbath morning in the school. Our Sabbath aftermoon meeting at the bungalow is oftentimes attended by people from the city, who stop behind to speak with us. An old guru of the Dadi Panthi sect expressed a desire to come, but as he walks about in a state of perfect nudity, it was somewhat difficult to manage at first. He was prevailed upon to put on a pair of cotton drawers, and sit and listen. He is an old man I should say nearly seventy years of age—a confirmed opium eater. He listened in his own half-stupid way. At the end of the service he threw off the drawers, and stalked away in his native majesty. What impression, if any, was made upon him, I have no means of knowing, as he has never returned. Several of the very interesting sect, which is confined to

Jeypore, named Dadi Panthis, have called upon me of late, and we have . had long conversations together. A follower of Guru Nanak came to our morning worship a few Sabbaths ago, and we had a long and interesting conversation with him. I merely mention these circumstances, to show you that the people are of themselves seeking us, and that there is a decided spirit of inquiry abroad. O for the Spirit of the Lord to breathe upon these dry bones, and make them live! I have had more satisfaction this last year with the conduct of my native church than in some previous years. Our agents have, on the whole, worked well, and entered with much interest into the various questions that have come before us. May I mention that my wife has got up a little school of twelve or fourteen little boys and girls, at the bugnalow. Speaking the language like one of themselves, she has drawn them out wonderfully. Mr. Martin was particularly pleased with the little school, and I am sure you would be pleased with the intelligence manifested by them, and the zest they take in their hymn-reading and singing. On the whole, in reviewing the past year, we have much, very much reason, with thankful hearts, to raise our Ebenezer and say, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us,' and to wait, work, and pray for a fuller manifestation of His kingdom in Jeypore."

ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.—OHINA.

The Rev. Geo. Smith, writing from Swatow under date 17th May, says: "Since the commencement of the year we have had from twenty to thirty baptisms, chiefly in the Kitje district. At Miow, Phusua, and Ungkung there has been a considerable increase in the stated attendance on Sab-At Ungkung, for a good many weeks, from three to five hundred people regularly meet together in an orderly and attentive manner for worship, and remain, most of them standing, the whole day. There is reason to fear, however, that, with some measure of intelligence of the difference between idolatry and Christianity, most of them have but very · imperfect views of the spirituality of the Gospel, and that they associate the hope of a better political and social status with a Christian profession. Much and special grace is needed for missionaries and native assistants, on the one hand to set forth the grace of God in the gift of His Son Jesus Christ as the Divine and all-sufficient remedy for man's ruined state, so as to abundantly satisfy all the cravings of the human soul; and on the other to detect and eliminate all those carnal and worldly motives which actuate fallen humanity, and which, if interwoven with a professed interest in the truth, will be the occasion of corruption and disaster to the Church. need, and all the native Christians need, a Pentecostal effusion—a baptism with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

"NATIVE STUDENTS FOR THE MINISTRY.—Since the Chinese new year we have been attempting to get a class of Christian students, and two months ago it was formed with seven youths, all over twenty years of age. One of them, after a short trial, was sent home, as being somewhat slow in capacity. Of the remaining six, two take the Sabbath services at Ampow and Toasuathau. Other two devote Saturdays to evangelistic work in the neighbourhood of Swatow, while the last two are as yet hardly suited for working. Two of them are Hakkas, one is from Chanan in Hokkrey, the others are Tiechew.

"THE HAKKAS.—The number of members belonging to the Hakka population has considerably increased. A missionary ought to be sent out

specially for the Hakkas. No doubt the Committee feels no small burden in maintaining the present staff of missionaries. In providence, however, we are clearly called, it seems to me, to this department of work, and we must look upward believingly, and forward hopefully, casting our cares upon the Lord, and He will provide. I may soon take occasion to bring this proposal more definitely before the Committee.

"ELDERS AND DEACONS ELECTED.—Last week, after election by the native Christians, Dr. Thomson was ordained an elder, and three native brethren were ordained deacons of the Swatow congregation. This is the first formal step that has been taken in the Presbyterian organisation of the native church in Tiechew. I trust several other stations will be organ-

ized before a long time elapses.

"Mr. Duffus is getting more and more into harness, and a considerable

share of the burden is now borne by his shoulders."

"At Newchwang, where Mr. Wm. Burns died, the Irish Presbyterians planted a mission last year, as we then reported. After long delay and difficulty, they obtained most suitable accommodation for themselves and their work. They had despaired of finding such, but Providence put them in possession unexpectedly of all they required in this matter. A house was obtained in which they could live and carry on their missionary labour. But the light was sudderly turned into darkness. The opposition to Christian missions that appeared in other parts of China reached the station of these brethren. The authorities warned them to desist from preaching, saying that if they persevered in doing so the Government could not engage to protect them. This is the last intelligence received."

Ceneral Beligious Intelligence.

England.—There is no prospect of tranquillity in the Church of Eng-Some time ago the Bishop of London addressed a letter to his clergy, urging obedience to the judgment of the Privy Council in the Purchas case. The two senior canons of St. Pauls, (canons Gregory and Siddons,) wrote in reply, intimating their purpose to continue, at all hazards, the practice, which has been judicially condemned, of consecrating the elements standing in front of the "holy table," with the back to the people. They boldly challenge the competency of the civil court to deal with such a question. They state further, that in the event of the bishop using his authority to enforce obedience, conscience would constrain them to refuse to obey. The bishop, in reply to this letter, says that, while it is not his duty to commence proceedings in any case of alleged violation of ecclesiastical law, and while he might even refuse to proceed when a case was brought before him; still, there must be a limit to forbearance, and that when the offence is avowed and paraded before the public, the Bishop who should refuse to take cognizance of it when duly called on, would only shift from the offender to himself the responsibilities, the consequences, and the sin of disobedience.

SCOTLAND.—The Free Church of Scotland calls for a liberal collection from all the congregations, in behalf of her Territorial Mission operations. It is stated that there is no branch of the work of the Church more impor-

tant than this, and that at no period have the Territorial Missions been

more prosperous than now.

The August number of the Free Church Record contains biographical sketches of the late Rev. G. McLeod, of Lochbroom, and of the late Rev. Dr. N. Paterson, of Glasgow. The latter is father c? the Rev. N. Paterson, of Martintown and Williamstown. He was a minister of distinguished ability, and highly respected.

The meeting of the British Scientific Association was held this year in Edinburgh, Sir Wm. Thomson, President. In his inaugural address, he

spoke strongly against the theory of spontaneous generation.

IRELAND.—A special meeting of the General Assembly was held on 13th July, for the purpose of adopting by-laws for the guidance of the commutation trustees. The Assembly adopted a minute expressive of their feelings with reference to the death of the Rev. J. R. McAlister, of Armagh, Convener of the Committee on the Sustentation Fund. Mr. McAlister was universally respected and greatly beloved.

THE CONTINENT.—The Waldensian Synod took place about the middle of May. When the report of the Commission of Evangelization was presented, and reference was made to the opening of Rome to the Gospel, the whole assembly as one man rose "to give thanks to the Lord of Hosts for having, by a series of marvellous providences, led them to the very gates of the Vatican to publish the gospel of peace." The other reports on the state of religion, schools, colleges, etc., were interesting.

It is felt by all that the removal of Dr. Revel, so long identified with the Waldensian Church, is a great loss. May God raise up others to sus-

tain and advance the cause.

AMERICA.—The next academic year in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J., being the fiftieth of the Professorate of Dr. Charles Hodge, it is intended to observe the occasion by holding a great mass meeting of those who have been formerly students of the Seminary. An Alumni Association is then to be formed, and Dr. Hodge's Chair, of Exegetical, Didactic and Polemic Theology, to be permanently endowed, as Meanost fitting memorial of this half century of faithful and distinguished lakor. It is expected and desired that as many as possible of the Alumni of the Seminary, or friends in their name, should contribute to this object, and thus render it as nearly as possible a unanimous testimonial from all who have enjoyed the teaching of Dr. Hodge. Further information on this matter, and printed circulars, can be obtained by writing to Prof. W. H. Green, Princeton, N. J.

The deputation of the American Evangelical Association to the Emperor of Russia has had an ungracious reception. The object of the deputation was to intercede in behalf of Lutherans in one of the Provinces, who are denied religious freedom. They received an answer from Prince Gortschakoff, to the effect that Russia could not tolerate the shadow of in-

tervention, from whatever quarter it might come.

The General Assembly's Committee of Finance has made an estimate of the amount required for the year for their various objects. The total

amount required is \$1,550,000.

Home Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

CALLS, &c.

The Rev. G. Sutherland has been called, we understand, to Lucknow; Rev. J. Milloy has been called to Argyle Church, Aldboro'; Rev. J. B. Watt has been called to Trenton.

The Rev. J. Thomson has declined the call to Beamsville; Rev. John Eadie has declined the call to Prescott, and is now inducted as Pastor of the

congregation of Boston Church, Milton.

The Rev. J. Donaldson was on the 3rd ult. inducted into the pastoral charge of the congregation of Port Burwell and Vienna. The Rev. J. Baird, of Port Stanley, preached, Rev. G. Cuthbertson addressed the minster, and the Rev. W. Reid, at the request of the brethren of the London Presbytery, addressed the congregation. A meeting of the congregation was held in the evening, and addresses were delivered by the brethren already mentioned, and by ministers of other denominations. The congregation, not by any means large, has do to remarkably well in the erection of a commodious and neat church. Their contributions would bear comparison with those of any congregation in the Church. We earnestly trust that the connexion formed may be productive of much good.

The Rev. J. Baikie has been ordained and inducted as pastor of Knóx's Church, Brampton and Milton; the Rev. R. Stevenson has been inducted into the pastoral charge of Admaston, Douglas, and Grattan

SOUTH GOWER.—The Rev. R. McKenzie, of South Gower and Mountain, has been translated to Morriston, N.Y., in connection with the Pres-

byterian Church in the United States.

ORDINATION OF A MISSIONARY.—The Presbytery of Toronto will meet in Knox's Church on the 19th September, at 11 o'clock, for hearing the trials of Rev. G. L. McKay, missionary. A public meeting will be held in the same place in the evening, when Mr. McKay will be ordained, and suitable addresses delivered. It is expected that the Rev. W. McLaren, Convener of the Foreign Mission Committee, will address the missionary. Mr. McKay will shortly leave for his mission field in China.

Manitoba.—Presbyterian College.—The Rev. G. Bryce, M.A., at present labouring in Quebec, has accepted the proposal made to him to undertake the charge of the Collegiate Institute in Manitoba. Mr. Bryce will proceed before the end of the season to enter on his important work. We trust Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Bryce may be eminently successful in obtaining funds for the proposed College.

REV. Dr. WILLIS:—The Rev. Dr. Willis sailed on the 26th ult. We-earnestly hope he and his partner may have a safe and pleasant voyage.

STATISTICS.—Additional copies of the Statistics will be forwarded to the parties to whom the Minutes of Assembly were addressed. We have to request that they will be circulated as extensively as possible.

DEGREE CONFERRED.—We have great pleasure in noticing that the degree of LL.D. has been conferred on the Rev. A. F. Kemp, M.A., by Queen's University, Kingston.

NEW MISSIONARIES.—FREE CHURCH.—Several appointments have lately been made by the Foreign Mission Committee. Rev. J. Robertson has been ordained by the Presbytery of Turriff, and proceeds to Calcutta; Rev. A. Templeton goes to superintend the newly established Mission to the Santals; Mr. Wm. Ross goes to supply a vacancy in the teachers' department in the Madras Institution. It is expected that these will be accompanied by Dr. W. Elder, who has been appointed Superintendent of the Medical Mission at Madras.

Fenale Schools in India.—The statistics of the female schools at all the stations of the Free Church in India are as follows: Bombay, 399; Puna, 113; Nagpur, 69; Madras, 830; Calcutta, 120; Nahanad, 100; Culna, 49; Julna, Indapur, Chinsurah, not stated.

Correction.—In the May number of the Record, \$34.70 are credited to Mount Forest, in behalf of Knox College, and in the June number \$2.65 are credited to the Gaelic Station. From these statements, one would be apt to suppose that \$2.65 was all that the Gaelic Station contributed; but that is not the case. The truth is, that the \$34.70 ought to have been credited to Mount Forest and Gaelic Station together, and the \$2.65 ought to have been noted as additional, making in all, from both stations, for the College, \$37.34. It may also be observed, as bearing on the above, that, to the end of May last, Mount Forest congregation represented, ecclesiastically, the village and the Gaelic Station in the township of Arthur; but the congregation so increased, and the claims for additional services in the village became so urgent, that a separation became necessary, and did take place in May last. Henceforth, therefore, Mount Forest will only represent the congregation of the village.—Com.

COLLECTION FOR FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.—SECOND SABBATH OF OCTOBER.

The footing on which this important part of our Church's work now stands, will best be understood by the following extracts from the last General Assembly's deliverance, at Quebec.

2. "That the Assembly gratefully recognizes the evidences of progress and success in the work of French Evangelization furnished by the report.

3. "That the resolution of the French Canadian Missionary Society, expressive of thanks for the liberality of this Church, and asking, for reasons assigned, a withdrawal of their application for a share in the collection annually taken up for the French Canadian Mission, be respectfully acknowledged, and that the request therein contained be granted.

4. "That a collection for French Evangelization, including the training of missionaries, be taken up on the 2nd Sabbath of October, in all the congregations of the Church, excepting were missionary associations exist, in which cases a liberal appropriation is recommended, and that all congregational collections hitherto made for the French Canadian Missionary Society, be exclusively devoted to French Evangelization, as conducted by our own Church, unless special instructions be given by congregations to the contrary."

The confidence of the Church in our work, and her sense of its growing

interest and importance, are thus unmistakeably expressed.

Other Churches are looking at us. In the August number of the Record, of the Free Church of Scotland, special attention is directed (Editorially) to our work. Among other things, it speaks of our Montreal College as "the only institution in Canada, which trains both French and English speaking students as missionaries and ministers to the million of French Roman Catholics in the Province of Quebec," and says that "The students in the colleges at home may well read with advantage" the record

of our "Missionary work." We are now but commencing. The preparatory expenses are considerable, with every effort on our part to economize. We have a thoroughly accomplished lecturer in French Literature and Theology, at a very moderate salary. Last year we had to expend a considerable amount in supporting the students, as but few of them were in the mission field, and they had no private means. In some instances parents and friends are poor, and in the rest their hostility is so keen, as to cut the young men entirely off from home supplies. The Kankakee students who used to be supported from that fund, now come upon ours. This season nine (9) out of the eleven (11) French students are engaged in missionary work, most of them supported from outside sources, but the rate of remuneration is so low, that they are likely to have very little, if anything, on hand when they return to the college. It will be necessary therefore to render them aid, and this is to be looked upon, not as a special favor to them, but rather as a supplement to their salary for summer services, so as to bring it up to about the same standard at which the other students are paid. They are worthy for whom we should do this. We have reports from all of them, some of them very minute and deeply interesting, which fully attest the zeal and efficiency with which they are prosecuting their labors. In connection with the services of one exclusively supported by your committee, some 21 adults have signified their abjuration of Popery, and another also directly under our supervision, writes of addressing audiences of 40 and 60, mainly Roman Catholics, till the bishop and curé interfered, and that in the face of their ban one family was on the eve of leaving Rome, and two or three were feeling their way.

A third gives the following outline of his work, and it represents others besides. "Sabbath morning, preaching in French. Afternoon, Sabbath school. Evening, preaching in English. Monday evening, alternately at the G., 15 miles from here, or at St. M., 18 miles from here. Tuesday and Friday, a Bible class in English and French, at the day school. Wednesday, 13 hour, prayer meeting in French and English. Friday evening,

class for singing.

A fourth, who has sent us four monthly reports, filling 67 note pages, tilled with exceedingly encouraging details, and who has sold hundreds of portions of the Word of God, and religious books, has just written us-"Quebec, Aug. 21st, 1871. Last Monday, a week ago, about 10 o'clock at night, as I was looking for a place to sleep, I fell into the hands of half a dozen ruffians, who tore part of my clothes, and beat me as well as they desired. I had received, that day, a good supply of books from Quebec, and they were all destroyed. I was happy to get away with my life, and to find shelter in a hay shed. This happened at St. Anne's, on the G. T.R.R., about 70 miles below Quebec. I will resume my work (D.V.) on Thursday. I have met, during this month, with trials and oppositions as I never did before. Pray God for me." This cruel and cowardly repetition of the Muraire atrocity on this brave lad of 17, far from rousing in

us that wrath of man which worketh not the righteourness of God, should stimulate us more tenderly to pity, and more ardently to pray and labor for the deliverance of a people who are the dupes of an interested priesthood, and who think that they are doing God service when they breathe out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord. The strong man armed is enraged that he cannot always hold his palace and his goods in peace, and begins to tremble before the might and the mastery of a stronger than he. We hope in next number of the RECORD to give some extracts from the reports of our student missionaries; meanwhile we would remind our congregations, that by an understanding with the French Canadian Missionary Society, no further congregational collections are to be taken up for its benefit, and that, by appointment of the General Assembly, the special collection of the second Sabbath in October is to be devoted exclusively to our own Mission. It is earnestly hoped that, as far as possible, the collection be made on the day mentioned, as funds are immediately required, and other collections coming on afterwards, it runs the risk of being neglected. Where Missionary Associations exist, it is hoped that they will make a liberal appropriation for this important object at their earliest convenience. Let our Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes also remember this Mission of our Church. What should hinder some of them to unite and support a French student at our college? The circumstances of the country and of our Church; the doors of usefulness that are being opened; the hopeful youth who are willingly consecrating themselves to a work which appeals alike to our piety and patriotism; above all, the heart and mind of Jesus, which we believe to be in full sympathy with our work, unitedly and urgently appeal to us for more fervent prayer, earnest labour, and enlarged and enlightened Christian liberality.

ROBERT FERRIER BURNS, Convener.

N.B.—Contributions to be sent to Warden King, Esq., Treasurer, 645: Craig Street, Montreal.

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

The Foreign Mission Committee will (D.V.) meet at Toronto, on Tuesday, 19th September, at 3 o'clock, p.m., in the office of the Church, Colborne Street.

Mr. George L. Mackay's ordination and designation to the Foreign Mission work are appointed to take place on the evening of that day, in the

Gould Street Church.

At this meeting of the Committee it will be necessary to consider and decide upon a variety of important points connected with Mr. Mackay's Mission. and to devise the ways and means of raising the funds necessary to pay for Mr. Mackay's outfit and passage to China. Important questions, also, connected with the work in British Columbia and on the Saskatchewan, will require to be dealt with.

It is hoped there will be a full attendance of the members of Committee, and that they will come prepared to devote two entire days to the work.

before them.

WM. McLAREN,

Ottawa, 8th Aug., 1871.

Convener. .

Proceedings of Presbyteries.

PRESBYTERY OF PARIS.—The usual quarterly meeting of the Paris Presbystory was held on Tuesday, 1st August, in River Street Church, Paris. There was a good attendance of Ministers and an average attendance of Elders. The minutes of former meetings were read and sustained. Commissions from various Kirk Sessions in favor of representative Elders were received, and the names added to The Rev. William Donald, of Port Hope, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member. Minutes of a congregation meeting of Wellington Street Church, Brantford, were read, asking leave from the Presbytery to mortgage or sell a portion of their church property if necessary, for the purpose of erecting a new church. Con missioners having been heard in support of the request, the application was granted. Application was made on behalf of the congregations of Drumbo and Princeton, for leave to dispose of the old church building on the 4th concession, Blenheim, the proceeds to be applied to liquidating the debt upon the new churches. A committee was appointed to attend to the matter, and report at next meeting of Presbytery. Application was also made on behalf of the new churches at Drumbo and Princeton, that they should in future be known as "Willis Church," Drumbo, and "Young's Church," The Presbyterys anctioned the names sought. Princeton.

Mr. Dunbar, of Glenmorris, was appointed repesentative at the Foreign Mission Committee for the current year. Mr. Wright, of Ingersoll, having intimated his desire to retire from preaching at Beachville, the Presbytery had under consideration the future supply of said pulpit. Commissioners from the congregation appeared, offering the sum of \$250 per annum to aid in securing regular service. Presbytery finally agreed to ask aid from the Home Mission Fund to the extent of \$150, in order if possible to secure stated supplies for the next year. Mr. Cochrane was appointed to enquire after such supply as might be suitable,

and report.

The supply of the pulpit at Beachville was meanwhile placed in the hands of Messrs. Grant (Convener), Wright and McMullen, Ministers; and Messrs. Gordon, Patterson and Kerr, Elders. The charge of the congregation was placed under the Moderator and Kirk Session of Knox Church, Ingersoll. A communication from the National Bible Society of Scotland was read in reference to circulating the publications of said Society in Canada. After deliberating, a committee consisting of Messrs. Robertson (Paris), Farries and Inglis, Ministers, with Dr. Clark (Paris,) Elder, were appointed to correspond with Secretaries of said Society and receive from them a specimen stock of Bibles. It was agreed that next meeting of Presbytery should be held in Brantford, and within Zion Church there, on Tuesday, 31st day of October next, at 11 a.m., and that the evening of the first day should be spent in a Presbyterial Conference on Sabbath Schools and kindred topics, in accordance with the recommendation of last General Assembly. A committee, consisting of the Ministers, Elders and Sabbath School Superintendents in Brantford, were appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

WM. COCHRANE, Presbytery Clerk.

PRESENTERY OF SIMCOE.—This Presbytery met in the Barrie Presbyterian Church, on the 1st August, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

Nine Ministers and five Elders were present. Among other items taken up were the following; Reunion of Bowmore and Stayner congregations.

After the reading of the papers and the hearing of parties, the followin deliverance was adopted: "That the congregations of Bowmore and Stayner b requiited as formerly, and form one pastoral charge; that they be known as the

congregations of Duntroon, Stayner and Sunnidale, and that the reunion take

effect from and after the first day of October next."

Mr. Rodgers having been unavoidably prevented from organizing the Parry Sound Mission, Mr. A. T. Holmes had been sent in his place. The report of Mr. Holmes was received, and the action of Mr. Rodgers in sending him approved of. On application from the congregations of Innisfil, Mr. W Fraser was appointed to moderate in a call, when asked to do so by the Session of said congregations.

A request having been made from the mission at the head of Lake Rousseau to be organized, and have the Lord's Supper dispensed, anthority to perform these duties was given to the Rev. W. Reid, when visiting the field during the

current month.

Mr. John Fletcher Brown, a graduate of Glasgow University, applied for enaployment in the mission field, and submitted satisfactory testimonials from

several parties in Great Britain.

A Committee was appointed to examine him, and on their report he was recognised as a Catechist, and his case referred to the Home Mission Committee of Presbytery, that he may be employed, and his suitableness for the work ascertained.

Mr. Thos, McKee appeared before the Court, with a view to license, and read

four of the trial discourses prescribed to him.

His trials, so far as undergone, were sustained as satisfactory, and the remaining trials were ordered to be taken up as the first item of business at next

meeting.

It being found necessary that a member of Presbytery visit Muskoka. Mr. D. B. Cameron was appointed to spend three Sabbaths in that district, and was empowered to organize, and Dispense the Lord's Supper, as well as to inquire into the position, financial and otherwise, of the mission generally.

The Clerk was also instructed to again bring the claims of the mission before the Sabbath Schools within the bounds of the Synod of Toronto, so as to enable the ordinances of religion to be kept up in the settlement during the ensuing

winter.

The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in the Barrie Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday, the 26th September, at eleven o'clock a.m., and the Students within the bounds were requested to appear for examination.

JOHN GRAY, Presbytery Clerk.

THE PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH met in Knox's Church, Guelph, on Tuesday, the 8th August, at one o'clock in the afternoon. The attendance of members was pretty full. Mr. Thomas Wardrope was unanimously chosen Moderator for the ensuing year. A letter was read from Mr. Robert J. Laidlaw, withdrawing his application to be received as a Probationer of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and requesting the return of his License as a preacher of the Gospel, which he had lodged with the Presbytery, and a letter of transference to the Presbytery of Columbus, Ohio, in connection with the American Presbyterian Church. action of the Clerk in furnishing these documents was approved. A letter was read from Mr. Fraser, one of the Joint Clerks of the General Assembly, stating that the Assembly had granted permission to receive the Rev. D. McNaughton, of the American Presbyterian Church, as a minister of this Church. On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. McNaughton be received as a minister of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and that his name be reported to the Home Mission Committee, to be placed on the roll of Probationers. Mr. A. D. McDonald was re-appointed a member of the Foreign Mission Committee for the current year. A letter was read from Mr. A. H. Mowatt, interim Session Clerk, St. Andrew's Church, Berlin, stating that it was the desire of that congregation that the Presbytery would fix on an early day for proceeding with a call which they intended to give to one to become their pastor, and requesting

Mr. Wardrope to act for the Session. The clerk stated that, from intercourse which he had had, personally and by letter, with some parties connected with the congregation, he understood the application to be for a Moderation, and on this understanding it was agreed, overlooking any informality in the document read, and the fact that there was no commissioner present, that the Presbytery hold an adjourned meeting at Berlin, on Thursday, the 24th day of this month, at 11 o'clock, forenoon, and that a call be then moderated in, if required; Mr. Wardrope to preach and preside. A report was read from Mr. Thomas McGuire, to the effect that he had fulfilled the appointment of Presbytery by ordaining and inducting elders at Elmira and Hawksville, and dispensing the Lord's Supper in the latter place on the second Sabbath of July. The report was received. Mr. McGuire's conduct was approved, and he was appointed interim Moderator of the Kirk Session in these places. Mr. Smellie reported that he had carried out the instructions of the Presbytery by dispensing the Lord's Supper in Arthur, and adding that it was the earnest wish of the congregation there to have Mr. Fisher sent back to them for a few weeks. The report was received, and Mr. Smellie's diligence commended. Mr. Torrance reported the steps he had taken to give supply of sermon at Drayton; that since the last meeting of Presbytery an application had been received from persons in and around the village of Moorefield; that he had visited both places and made inquiry regarding their religious wants and prospects; that he was satisfied the field was a promising one, and that he had arranged for preaching there up to the ensuing Sabbath. also laid upon the table a subscription paper signed by twenty-nine individuals, promising sums to the amount of one hundred and twenty-five dollars, to be paid to any missionary or minister of the Guelph Presbytery, to preach, either statedly or occasionally, at the Village of Moorefield, for the current year. were likewise taken up and read, at the same time, reports of labours in each of these places by Mr. Duff and Mr. Macgregor. After full consideration, it was resolved that the report of Mr. Torrance be received and his conduct approved, that notice be given to the Kirk Sessions of Glenallen and Hollin, and of Rothsay, of the application that has been made for supply of preaching at Moorefield, that they may appear for their interests at the meeting to be held in Berlin, and that in the meantime such supply of preaching as may be available be given to each of these places. Reports of missionary labours performed within the bounds, were read, and the clerk was instructed to certify the amount of service in each case to the Home Mission Committee. A letter was read from Mr. William Millican, inclosing twenty-six dollars from the congregation of Amaranth, towards meeting their indebtedness for services they had received, and the clerk was directed to apply the amount as stated in the letter. Mr. Millican further reported that he had dispensed the Lord's Supper in Amaranth, on the 6th inst., when it was agreed that his conduct in doing so be approved. The clerk reported the supply granted by the Home Mission Committee to the Presbytery for the quarter ending on 15th October next, and the distribution he had made of the same within the bounds; when it was agreed that the report be received, and the distribution approved. A committee, consisting of Messrs. James Little and Thomas McCrae, that had been appointed to examine the records of the Kirk Session of Erin and Caledon West, reported said records to be, on the whole, carefully kept. The Presbytery proceeded to revise the list of its vacant congregations and mission stations. Mr. Middlemiss, from the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a scheme of missionary sermons and meetings for this year, when it was resolved that the scheme be adopted and printed, and a copy sent to each member of the Presbytery. A motion was carried that a collection be taken up at all the missionary meetings, and sent to the Presbytery Treasurer, to be applied in defraying the travelling expenses of deputations. A committee was appointed to confer with the students present, and to report at the meeting in Berlin, and the clerk was instructed to send notice to the other students in the bounds to appear for examination at the next ordinary meeting, which was appointed to be held in Knox's Church, Guelph, on the first Tucsday of October, at one o'clock in the afternoon.

PRESEYTERY OF OTTAWA.—This Presbytery held its last regular meeting in Fitzroy Harbor and Torbolton, on the 1st and 2nd August. There were present 12 ministers and 1 elder. A large amount of business was transacted, of which the following is a summary.

There was read an extract minute of Synod, anent the memorial petition and complaint of the Rev. R. Fleming, in reference to the action of the Presbytery in the matter of the call from Admaston, &c., which was ordered to be engressed

in the minutes.

The commissioners to the General Assembly gave in a report of their attend-

ance, &c., which was accepted.

The Convener read the Home Mission Report, which showed that a full sup-

ply had been given to all the stations during the past quarter.

The evening of the first day was occupied with a most interesting conference upon the best way of obtaining a knowledge of the state of religion, within the bounds, and of promoting it.

The clerk was appointed to receive the contributions of the various congregations within the bounds towards the Synod Fund, and transmit them to the

treasurer of Synod.

Mr. Alex McLaren, and Mr. John Abraham, passed their public probationary

trials in a satisfactory manner, and were licensed to preach the Gospel.

A committee was appointed with power to call for and examine into the state of the deeds and constitutions of the various churches within the Presbytery.

Mr. Bremner was appointed interim moderator of the session of Renfrew and reastleford, and instructed to dispense the communion there at an early date.

The prescribed visitation of Fitzroy and Torbolton was conducted, and the following deliverance adopted in regard to it:--"It is with a feeling of sin--cere pleasure that we can record our satisfaction with the affairs of this congregation as a whole. The statement that there has been no case of discipline for many years, is gratifying. The minister seems to give to his pulpit work the · careful preparation and study required, and the result is seen in the large and regular attendance on the public services. It is necessary, however, to call attention to the uncertainty regarding the roll of elders, and the necessity of knowing who are members of session; and also to the desirableness of dividing the congregation into elders' districts, that they may severally exercise due oversight of the people, as those that must give account. We are glad to find that the finances of the church are in a healthy condition—there being no arrears in the minister's stipend, and the smallness of the contributions for the schemes of the church being accounted for by several things, especially by the large amount expended on a manse. There appears, however, to be a want of joint and careful action in the organization of the church, so as to secure order and regularity in the accounts. We would therefore reccommend, that there be at least joint meetings of the two stations annually, and a joint body of managers. We would urge upon the congregation the cultivation of brotherly love, so as to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

"We would also suggest to the congregation whether more might not be done in the way of increasing the efficiency of the Sabbath school, and the attendance

of both teachers and scholars.

"The different schemes of the church also deserve more interest and support

than appear from the statistics to have been given by this congregation.

"On the whole we have to rejoice in the welfare of the congregation, and we pray that our Lord Jesus Christ, himself, and God, even our Father, who hath loved us, and hath given everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, will comfort your hearts and stablish you in every good word and work."

The next meeting of Presbytery is to be held within Bank St. Church, Ottawa, on the first Tuesday of November, at 7.30 P.M., when the session records and communion rolls of all the congregations within the bounds are ordered to be produced.

JAMES CARSWELL, Clerk.

London Presbytery.—The resignation of the Rev. Arch. Currie, of hischerge of Balmoral and Yarmouth, was accepted, to take effect on 27th August. Mr. Simpson was appointed to preach the church vacant on 1st Sabbath of September, and to act as moderator of session thereafter.

The Presbytery accepted Mr. E. H. Bauld's resignation of his charge of Norwich congregation, on account of ill health. Mr. Lees was appointed to preach the church vacant on 27th August, and Mr. J. B. Duncan to act as moderator

of session thereafter.

A call, with relative documents, was read and sustained from Argyle church, Aldboro', to Mr. John Milloy, of the Presbytery of Montreal. The congregation promise \$500 with manse and glebe. Mr. Peter Currie was appointed to prosecute this call at the bar of the Montreal Presbytery.

Decision in reference to Brooke and Napier call was deferred till next

meeting.

Mr. Malcolm, and Mr. Wm. Clark, were appointed to examine and report in reference to the proper occupation of East and West Adelaide, and stations adjoining.

The Presbytery will meet in 1st Presbyterian Church, London, on last Tues-

day in September, at 11 A.M.

G. CUTHBERTSON, Clerk.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

The feelings with which your Committee present this Report are of a mixed' character.

They published in the December RECORD a list of questions, to which they requested Sessions to furnish replies to their respective Presbyteries. Circulars to Sessions were not issued till a later period, and it is probably to some extent owing to this omission that the instructions of the Assemlly have not been more extensively carried out.

The only Synod which reported to your Committee is that of Toronto. The

others merely forwarded the Reports of Presbyteries.

Your Committee have no means of ascertaining the number of Sessions that have reported, because the Presbyteries of London, Simcoe and Huron, do not mention how many communications they have received. The last named Pres-

bytery got so few that they declined to found any deliverance on them.

The Presbytery of Toronto had replies from only six Sessions, Ontario six, Cobourg eight, Guelph eight, Hamilton fourteen, Stratford ten, Durham five, Ottawa six, Montreal seven—in all seventy. Allowing at the same rate for the Presbyteries of London, Huron, Simcoe and Kingston, which latter your Committee think should be included because, though its report is not now forward, it gave early attention to the subject, it appears that only about 100 out of upwards of 300 have done as directed by the Assembly with reference to this matter. Four Presbyteries sent no communication—Chatham, Owen Sound, Brockville and Manitoba.

The greater number of Presbyteries seem to have gone into the subject with interest, and their reports bear evidence of careful consideration. One Presbytery, however, forwarded a mere abstract of the replies of the several Sessions

under its care.

Your Committee grieve to be constrained to call attention year after year to the comparative scantiness of the materials furnished them for the reports to the Assembly. So many withhold straw, that it can hardly be wondered if the bricks are few in number and inferior in quality, and the structure more limited and altogether less satisfactory than is desirable. They are satisfied that enough occurs each year to furnish matter for a good report, one which would through the thanksgiving of many be found the means of God's glory by warming the hearts of believers in love, rousing them to holier living, more thorough devotedness and earnest effort for the furtherance of Immanuel's:

kingdom; and that each ought-especially in these days in which the adversary is putting forth all his energy because he knoweth he hath but a short time—to contribute, according to his ability, to cheer and stimulate those who may be sorrowful for the solemn assembly, or to rouse to deeper searching of heart those who may be slumbering, or to confound the gainsayers by showing that the pulpit is not effete, that the religion of Jesus has not grown old, and that the Church has not lost its power, but that the grandest of all the miraclesthe wondrous works of God, even the conversion and sanctification of souls, are yet being wrought in and by her-and they would suggest that the inferior Church courts be strongly urged to give further attention to this matter. The Synod of Toronto has already moved in this direction by enjoining Presbyteries to take steps towards securing for another year, if possible, a report from every Session within its bounds on this important subject, and resolving to hold a conference thereanent on the forenoon of the second day of its next meeting. Synods of Hamilton and Montreal also have resolved an annual conference regarding it. Your Committee is satisfied that a growing attention is given by her judicatories to the life of the Church; yet may it not be questioned if it has the place in their deliberations which it deserves, when there is such want of sympathy with the object for which this Committee is appointed, as is indicated by the returns?

No very marked religious movement has been reported to your Committee, no outburst of fervent zeal or love to God; and there are some complaints of coldness, which it is feared is growing; yet the conclusion forced by the perusal of the returns is that religious life is on the increase, though as yet there may be few who can say, "I am sick of love," or "the zeal of thy house hath eaten me up." The members of the Church generally are said to have, to some extent, a sense of their obligation to honour Christ by holy living, but the fear is expressed and implied in some answers that in too many cases they aim more at the avoidance of open sin than at the cultivation of positive holiness.

The main obstacles to a higher religious life seem to be, with some, too much devotedness to the pursuit of worldly gain, their minds are so much engrossed, their time is so much occupied and their strength so much expended on worldly matters, that they cannot engage vigororously in spiritual duties. With others, or with the same at some seasons, the great hindrance is the social amusements of the day; these are often such as are felt by those who engage in them not to be consistent with a spiritual frame of soul, or with spiritual worship, and such as the Lord Jesus could not be asked to share, yet it is feared that all Church members are not, in all cases, careful to avoid and keep their children from participating in them.

Several reports specify the prevalent drinking customs as a great obstacle to the progress of the gospel, and there is an impression that these are rather gaining ground among the wealthier portion of the community. Another evil complained of is the air of worldliness which too often characterizes the social gatherings of professing Christians, and the absence from them of those religious exercises which were once commonly observed on such occasions, and a too general want of personal effort to win souls to Jesus and help forward saints. A cowardly fear of giving offence and a desire to avoid trouble, and, perhaps still oftener, thoughtlessness arising from the want of a proper apprehension of the love of God in Christ Jesus, and the unutterable value of souls, hinders many, if not all of those, who profess to be the Lord's from speaking freely as they ought to others about salvation. Some of these are wondering that Church members, it may be ministers, whom they are in contact with, do not speak to them on this subject, a portion of them are afraid that they shall be spoken to, others would be glad of it, and when the hand is not stretched forth to stay them from the ruin that is threatened they are apt to go away with the impression that religion is a lie, or at least that those do not believe it who allow them to pass without an effort to save them; whether these perish finally, or not, their salvation is manifestly delayed, and our own spiritual interests are damaged by our neglect. Your Committee feel deeply their own shortcomings in this respect, and that they have much cause to cry "free me from blood guiltiness," and that they may be kept alive to the fact that no Christian liveth to himself or dieth to himself—to the constraining power of the love of Christ, and that the way to be comfortable and prosperous is to throw themselves

entirely and cheerfully into the work of the Lord.

The prevalence of works of fiction forms another and by no means insignificant barrier to the cause of truth. This element unfortunately enters largely into our authorized school books and our periodical literature, and forms a great part of the Sabbath school libraries and the gifts and prizes which pupils receive. The taste thus formed and fostered must naturally produce, yea, is now producing, disastrous effects, in unduly stimulating the imagination, and causing an aversion to more solid and profitable reading; and your Committee think that the attention of office-bearers should be directed seriously to get this evil remedied, and, as an inducement, they are glad to be able to state, that the Presbytery of Stratford attribute the improved state of matters within its bound's to the perusal of such works as those of Boston, Gray, MacCheyne, Rutherland, and others.

It is gratifying to learn that a considerable and a growing number of office-bearers and members are actively employed in Sabbath schools and prayer meetings, tract distribution, and other fields of Christian enterpise. In one congregation in the Presbytery of Paris, another in that of Guelph, and a third in that of Toronto, a large number of the members are said to work for the good of others. Your Committee think that when God says to each, "Go, work to-day in my vineyard," no one need, no one should, be idle. Each, who desires, can find some department of work for which God has given him some qualification, and in which He can make himself useful. Farents may work to bring their children and domesties to God, yet too often kindly personal invitation or urgency on this topic is neglected even by praying parents. A respected Minister, and one whom God has owned, was heard to say, that he never questioned any of his

family as to their personal interest in Christ.

It is recorded that one of the most successful of Scottish ministers made it a rule not to pass any one on the road without speaking of salvation, and though we amid the bustle of modern life cannot adopt his practice, each of us may, like Harlan Page and others in private life, make our lives one ever brightening blaze of glory by being, in our varied spheres, diligent fishers of men, using the fisher's skill and the fisher's patience towards accomplishing the end. In all the congregations reporting, applicants for the privilege of full communion are required to profess their faith in Christ, or, at least, their full purpose of living for His glory; to have some knowledge of the doctrines and duties of the Christian life, and to have a good moral character; but there seems to be in some cases a closer inquiry than in others, into Christian experience and walk. There may not always be the amount of difference that the answers imply, but it is obvious that diversities shall exist even among carnest men, as long as there are differences in Christian intelligence and devotedness. The Church has cause of thankfulness that there is so much of a real desire to have her members living stones, born from above, alive to God through Jesus Christ. In times of darkness a formal adherence to a creed stood in lieu of faith and practice, and it is to this, in considerable measure, that we owe the revolt that is now going on against creeds and confessions, and the immorality which we are seeking to stem and to destroy; and the best means of meeting effectually the superstitious, the pictist, and secularists—the mystics and the profligates—is by not merely a full exhibition of Divine truth, but also by making it felt through the holy lives of Church members that it is designed, fitted, and destined to form and build up a peculiar people—a people born of God and zealous for good works—and this cannot be done unless office-bearers labour to separate the precious from the vile, —that the Canaanite come no more into the House of the Lord, or profane its rites.

The proportion of adults who are in full communion vary from one-fourth in some congregations to two-thirds in others, except in the Presbytery of Stratford, in which it is said to be from two-thirds to nine-tenths. The difference-your Committee do not think necessarily indicates the comparative religious condition of the congregations. It is manifest that all who hear the Gospel should become communicants, and therefore the return of the Presbytery of Stratford is only an approximation to what ought to be, but meanwhile extremes. Mour Committee have known nearly all in full communion where all appeared to be dead, and when religious life began to awaken, communion rolls: sadly reduced for a season. Yet the effect of a marked religious mo ement always has been, and always must be, when it prove a work of God, to increase the number of members in proportion to the extent of the work, and ordinarily from among the young of the congregation; and your Committee hope the day not far distant, when the highest return in the Presbytery of Stratford shall, through the operation of the Holy Ghost, be common throughout the Church.

There is also a great diversity as to the number in each congregation who observe family worship. It is said, with regard to the reporting congregations in the Presbytery of Stratford, to be observed in the houses of all the members who are heads of familes, though some have it only at night. Other Presbyteries report it as generally observed; in a very small number of instances it is reported as universal; in some cases only one-half or two-thirds practise it; in a few the expression which sometimes occurs, that some are not so regular as they ought, that some have it once a day and some only on Sabbaths. Your Committee are satisfied that the growth of the Divine life in the soul is closely connected with household worship, and that family training is an impossibility where it is neglected, and they hope that the Assembly will renew its exhortation on this subject; that we may see the children of the Church growing up as olive plants, and leave our places to a godly race, who will convey to their children a precious legacy of prayer, spiritual precept, and example.

cious legacy of prayer, spiritual precept, and example.

There is also a great difference in the attendance on the prayer meetings. This is not a bad index of the liveliness of personal religion. Some people never manage to attend these meetings; others, no more favourably situated, are never absent. In such cases the difference must be due to the fact that the one class care less about the service than the other. In Knox's Church, Galt, nearly all attend one or other of its twenty weekly prayer meetings, while in other congregations only about one-fourth or one-fifth do so. In as far as an estimate can be formed, it does not appear that much over one-fourth of the membership over the Church attend such meetings regularly. This may be accounted for to some extent without impugning the religion of the Church; but is there not cause to fear that, after we have made all possible allowances, non-

attendance is caused more by want of heart than by want of ability?

Your Committee feel satisfied that the Church never needed prayer more. than it does at present—united, carnest, persevering prayer. When they look around them they cannot doubt that the unclean spirits threatened are gone forth to gather the kings of the earth and of the whole world to the battle of: the great day, and that while these may hate the whore, and make her desolate. and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire, yet the Church shall find herself hard pressed before she can raise the shout of victory, and the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. There is,. indeed, no room to doubt her ultimate success, for the mighty Lord is on our side; yet he has said, "For all this I will be enquired of by the house of Israela to do it, for then I will fill them with men like a flock, as the flock of Jerusalem. in her solemn feasts;" and were we all with one accord in one place making our requests known unto God, we might look for a fuller baptism of the Spirit, and see the King going forth in his majesty to cheer our souls and win our dear ones; to his love.

Christian liberality seems advancing, but it is not a very vigorous plant. It is perhaps the slowest in fruit-hearing, or, at least, in reaching a full healthy development, of all the Christian graces; and, without at all disparaging what is being done, must we not, when we consider the claims of God our Saviour, the condition of a world lying in the wicked one, and the amount which we give for the spread of the Gospel at home and abroad, feel that, as a Church, we are only playing at giving? Were we roused to thorough earnestness, our income for all religious purposes would be manifold more than it is at present. however, thank God, growing, though like the first plants on a coral reef, which have to form a soil by disintegrating the rocks and spreading around their roots, in the form of leaves, what they have drawn from the atmosphere. contribution of the Presbyteries of Toronto and Simcoe for Home Mission purposes a few years ago is equalled now by that of one congregation, and congregations are becoming slowly sensible of their duty to their own pastors. Still it is to be regretted that too many act as if they feared that their ministers would be injured by wealth. Some in time past, may it not be said, some to day, would keep their ministers poor, in order to keep them pure. They use all diligence to get rich themselves; they are not afraid wealth can harm any but those who bear the vessels of the Lord. Your Committee fear that ministers are often to blame for not speaking frankly in God's name on this subject, and that religious prosperity is hindered thereby.

The Shorter Catechism is largely used in the Sabbath Schools and families, and the office-bearers are alive to the importance of having it still more so, and

the Church thoroughly permeated by its teachings.

Pastoral visitation is conducted in much the same manner by all who have reported, with this difference, that some seem to deal more personally with the members of families, and in one or two cases the attempt is made, and successfully, in addition to household visiting, to gather a few families for a diet of

catechising.

In conclusion, your Committee cannot refrain from expressing their thankfulness that, while the reports are yet few in number, and there are various matters to be mourned over in those presented, yet they are pervaded by a spirit of dependence on the power of God, and an earnest longing for the outpouring of the Holy Ghost, that by His mighty power Jesus may be revealed savingly to sinners, and to believers for their edification; and they hope that the conferences which so many of the inferior courts have resolved to hold shall be found a great means of quickening those who engage in them till the light of our Church go forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burneth.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN MACTAVISH, Convener.

MEMORIAL OF ELDERS.

PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The undersigned Elders in attendance upon the General Assembly, respectfully represent that they are deeply impressed with the importance of a deliverance of the General Assembly upon certain matters intimately connected with personal and family religion, regarding which there is a laxity of views and practice among us. Of these the following seem to be the most important:

1. The increasing use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage or unnecessarily under medical prescription, and decreased interest and efforts in the temperance cause, the prosperity of which bears so deeply on the interests of religion.

2. The growing countenance given to worldly amusements, such as dancing parties and balls, billiards, card playing, and games of chance, circuses, operas,

and theatre-going, all of which we believe inconsistent with that godly training and non-conformity to the world required of God's people.

3. The greatly increased use of light, and often pernicious literature, and the want of sufficient watchfulness in admitting such books of fiction into family

reading

4. Travelling on portions of the Sabbath by railroads and steamboats on the plea of necessity, when such travelling is almost invariably to save time or expense or personal inconvenience, and in forgetfulness that God can never require

any duty at the expense of breaking His holy law.

5. Growing worldly conformity in social entertainments, which are increasing in luxury and expense, and kept up to untimely hours, with the absence of religious exercises, and not unfrequently accompanied with some of the worldly amusements and drinking alluded to, producing an injurious influence on personal and family devotion, by unwholesome excitement, especially on the minds of the young, as well as by diminished relish for closet exercises and family worship.

The undersigned would further earnestly ask of the General Assembly, in any deliverance upon the foregoing subjects, to impress on office-bearers and members, whether acting individually or as heads of families, the scriptural principles by which their personal conduct and intercourse with the world should be

regulated, reminding them specially,

1. That these should be ordered by the Word of God, which should be prayerfully studied as the rule of life.

2. That the glory of God and the advancement of His cause be constantly aimed at.

3. That the Lord Jesus distinctly lays down that His disciples are not to be of the world, even as He was not of it; and that the Scriptures emphatically enjoin separation from, and non-conformity to, the world, as distinctive requirements of believers.

4. That they are to avoid the appearance of evil, not to "alt between two opinions, not to try to serve God and Mammon, to hate Laodicean lukewarmness, and that their conduct and character should be decidedly and visibly on

the Lord's side.

5. That as the countenance given by office-bearers and members to questionable amusements, such as dancing parties, and to drinking, grieves their brethren and proves a stumbling-block to the young and weaker members, as well as lowers the spirituality of the Church generally, it be impressed on those who may claim their Christian liberty in such things, whether it would not be with less risk to immortal souls, and more in accordance with the law of Christian love, as laid down by St. Paul, not to do anything whereby a brother would be offended or weakened—to abstain from such countenancing. In so doing they would make less difficult the efforts of parents desirous of bringing up their families in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and of keeping them from the evil which is in the world.

The undersigned would not imply any judgment upon the motives of those who take a different view of the matters above referred to, knowing that in some things it is not always easy to decide as to the course of duty, and would give them every credit for acting conscientiously. Still, from a full conference together, the undersigned elders from all parts of the Church are deeply convinced that the evils referred to exist to a considerable, and in some places to a growing, extent, and that a deliverance such as now asked for is necessary to repress them, and to strengthen the hands of office-bearers and parents in a matter greatly connected with the interests of personal, family, and congregational religion.

In conclusion, the undersigned would earnestly ask of the General Assembly to recommend a more careful study of the Holy Scriptures, and an intelligent exposition of them in the family as far as possible, more frequent use of the Shorter Catechism, and the more general perusal of standard works on religion, so that our youth may be thoroughly furnished and strengthened in the truth of Gol. They would also express their high sense of the importance of a recommendation by the General Assembly to office-bearers and members to cultivate an united and friendly feeling in their respective congregations, by holding from time to time social meetings, and taking pains, by lectures, addresses, readings, singing, music, etc., to make them as attractive as possible; also, to impress on parents as one of the best means, under God's blessing, to counteract the desire for worldly amusements, to make the home circle attractive by the employment of every lawful means, so as to show that the truest happiness can be enjoyed consistent with genuine piety.

JAS. HOSSACK,
JAS. ALLAN,
WM. LESLIE,
THOMAS GORDON,
ARCHIBADD MCARTHUR,
JAMES COURT,
GEORGE HAY,
T. MCCRAE,
J. BARCLAY,
GEORGE A. PYPER,
JOHN MCBEAN,

ALEX. MCMULIAN,
JOHN WILSON,
ROBERT GRAHAM,
J. ARMSTRONG,
WILLIAM WHEALY,
SAMUEL GAW,
P. F. PEGAN,
JAMES EDMOND,
JOHN W. ROBSON
JOHN RATCHIFF,
ALEXANDER MUTCHMOR,
71.

R. M. Rose,
James Oliver,
John McAlpine,
James Birdie,
Wm. Clark,
Alexander Rose,
A. McKenzie,
P. Peebles,
Wm. Webster,
Malcolm Folsetter,
James Macdonald.

Quebec, 12th June, 1871.

GIVING FOR CHRIST-THE RIGHT WAY AND MOTIVE.

There is a right way, as well as a right motive, in giving for the cause of Christ. Not a few give to the Church, and were their motive closely searched, they might find that, in the act of giving, they had little thought of the Lord Jesus. We do not condemn them because they give for such a purpose. But we ask, when they gave, did they think of the Lord? such a question unreasonable? Will it be replied that, when they gave, the thought was the building, or the preaching, or the minister, but these must be maintained if the cause of Christ should prosper? Quite right. And could they not think of the Master, not the less that they were giving for His cause? Of course they could. Then why don't they always do it? Is it not quite as easy the one way as the other? Nay, if the right feeling was in the heart, and the right thought before the mind, could it be done otherwise? Take the case of the minister and the stipend which the people have promised to pay him. How many pay for the sake of the man, rather than the Master? They like him and they give so much, or they don't like like him and they won't give. Now, how ought the case to stand? Ought it not to be thus?—And to understand the case let us try to put the minister out of our thought; let us think of it as a common business transaction. There is a dear friend of ours who is at present living in a far distant land. We feel we are under some obligation to him; and if we cannot discharge that obligation to the full, we must do something to show that we feel it, and do not desire to be relieved from it. It is quite true that friend does not need anything at our hands, and can get along quite well without us; and it is also true that if we do anything for him he keeps a strict account of it, and will put it to such a profitable use that it enriches us, and will bear interest that will on the day of receiving be poured to our account, if we are, and have been, accepted by him as one of his friends. So that it is rather a profitable investment, and might, for the sake of the profit, induce us to lodge what we can in his hands. But then, observe, he is very far away from us, so we cannot put it into his own hand. What then must

be done? Why, he has an establishment in our midst. It is true that . establishment is for our own interest and good, and deserves for that reason. to be paid for. But our friend, while he admits the reason, will not allow it to go as the reason why we give. He wishes it to be given for his own sake and that alone; he will receive nothing, so as to use it for his own . purpose, or our good, on any other terms. Well, we think we can afford so much, and we would like our friend to have it. Now, according to the right constitution of things, we ought to be his servants, and, as such, we have no right to know anything of his plans further than it is necessary to obey his commands. But he has called us his friends, and conceals nothing from us that we could understand. And thus it happens with regard to the establishment which he has in our midst: it requires so much for its support and efficient operation, that all we can give is not more than enough. He has told us what he desires, and he has left it in our own hands; if we "desire liberal things, by liberal things we shall stand." We can exercise our minds with regard to the amount of work the establishment should accomplish, and we are allowed to devise the best means possible with this end in view. The support of the establishment ought, as a matter of course, to be one of our first considerations; and that cannot be supported without providing for those who are called upon mainly to work it. It was our friend's desire that we should thus support his servants. But we may not like that servant that is nearest to us. But what, say you, has that to do. with the matter! What we give, it is true, goes to his support. And we give it into his hand as we give any one thing into the hand of the servant which we send to the master. We record not with the servant, but in the master's name. It is true, it is the servant alone which we see, but we never forget he is the servant of the master. It is put to the master's account, and it is subject to the conditions which the master imposes. We might have dealing with the servant on his own account, as well as with the master; in which case we have no right to look to the master, or think we are doing anything for his sake. With the servant alone we have to do, . and it is but as a servant we deal with him. But when we come to a bank and lodge our money with the clerk, it matters not whether we like him or not. It is not with the clerk which we have to do, though that clerk may do our business. No more is it with the minister, but with the Master whose minister he may be, that we have to do with all the while. We have no trouble in distinguishing between the servant and the master in ordinary transactions. We never think of saying, "Well, . we do not much like the servant." The question is not the servant at all, but the master and the institution. Why should we lose sight of the fact in the case of the minister's stipend? We call it the minister's money. Well, it may go to him as the dollar you put in the bank may go to pay the clerk to whom you pay it. But you do not call it the clerk's money for all that. Nor do you call it the bank's money, though you put into the bank; it is still your own, though it has passed out of your hands. But, say you, the case before us is somewhat different; you give your money to your best friend, Jesus. You can't take it back again if you wish. Well, you say you have no desire to do so. But if it was lodged in the bank, you could get it out when you please. Just so, but not just as you please. You must submit to the rules of the bank. And if there was a bank with a rule that you could get the money which you lodged in it out, once a quarter or once a year, then only at these times would you draw it. Or the institution might be of such a nature that you could not draw what.

you put in; but a certain interest, which was the fruit of it while in the care of the institution. So that, no matter what becomes of your money, that interest would be yours so long as the institution or the proprietor of it was good. So might it be in respect of the Church and its Divine Head, Jesus Christ. But you expect no interest; what you do for the cause of Christ you do for the love you have to it, and not for any return you expect to receive. We do not doubt that the Lord Jesus respects no sordid motive. He will give a reward to no one who for no other reason gives to Him. The motive which we must have must be love to Himself. He will receive nothing at our hands on any other terms. Whatever we give must, so far as we are concerned, cease to be our own. When we put any sum in the bank, we can trace that sum through all the long figures that indicate the sum at the bank's disposal; but when we give a sum to Christ and his • cause, while we may be able to say we gave that much, yet we cannot say that so much is ours still; for it is no longer ours; it belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ or to his cause. Such is our side of the question, the terms and conditions of our giving so far as they relate to us. But is there not another side? The question might be-not how we look upon the money which we put into the hands of Christ-but how He looks upon it. He may accept your gift or your effort upon your own terms, and these may be the only terms upon which he may accept it. But if the question be not the ground of His acceptance, but what he will do with it, a new side is presented to us. We say let Him do what he will; and that is quite right. But if we ask what is his will, we start a new line of thought altogether. Well, say you, you have nothing further to do in the matter. That may be all true; and yet may not the Lord Jesus have something further to do with you? You expect nothing at his hand. Take care, dear friend; would it be right to say so? But suppose it was; the question is not what you expect, but what he has promised or said he would do. You do not wish to dictate to your Master, do you? Ah, no. Well then, you must submit to His. But you do not wish to know anything about them. You had no thought of terms when you gave so much to the cause of Christ or did so much for his name. But it is not what you thought. It is what Jesus thought that ought to concern you. Nor have you a right to say you do not wish to know if he has thought fit to tell you; that would not be an act either of love or obedience. If he has told you, you should like to know. It would not be kind to say to anyone that we would call a friend, "I do not wish to know what you wish to tell me; I will not read the letter which you sent me telling me what you purpose to do with what I sent to you, or what you will do with whatever I may send or do for you; all I did was from pure love, and I want to hear nothing more about the matter." Would that language be consistent with the professions which we make? No; if we love Him we shall love to hear all he shall say to us. Let Him do what he will, we have perfect faith in Him. If such, then, be our state of mind, and all will admit that state of mind is the right one, we are prepared to hear the terms of the Master. Does he not call everyone to be a co-worker? And will he not make every co-worker a co-heir? If we have suffered with Him shall we not reign together? As we sow shall we not also reap? If we desire liberal things, by liberal things shall we not stand? If we do ought for Christ, will not Christ do much for us? Why should we in our giving forget this fact? Why should we not remember that when we put anything into the Master's hand, He will do with us as He expects us to do with Him, He will demand His own with usury. So that there is nothing we can do for Jesus but He will acknowledge, and in His own time and way make it to bear fruit a thousand-fold; and we shall receive the harvest. We have no right to expect such things; but the question is not our expectation, but His promise. That we have a right to remember. And it ought to have its weight with us as a stimulant to exertion, and motive to do, and even more.

Let us, then, in our giving remember this fact, that every gift to Christ and His cause is an investment, like one in a mercantile enterprise, in which, by its own terms, we become partners; and while this fact should indicate the way in which we should give for Christ, that the true motive is not love or dislike of the servant or the cause in which he is engaged, but love to the Master, and Him alone.

R. S.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING.

"For a lesson on singing, I know of no better text than that which is so often repeated in the Psalms, 'Sing unto the Lord.' There are many similar passages here in the heart of the Bible, such as, 'Sing praises to the Lord which dwelleth in Zion,' 'Sing unto Him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings;' but the oftener repeated injunction is, 'Sing unto the Lord.' To do this our hearts must be filled with the gratitude and joy which the true Christian feels. We do not sing unto the Lord unless our hearts are moved by higher and nobler emotions as we sing. It is a mistaken idea that one must be joyful in order to sing, for whether we be joyful or sad our feelings may find expression in song.
"I fear that oftentimes we sing unto ourselves instead of the Lord. We

"I fear that oftentimes we sing unto ourselves instead of the Lord. We think more about whether our voice pleases our neighbour than whether it be the breathing of a pure and holy emotion, and therefore pleasing to God. Even when a congregation rises to sing the doxology, I fear the minister would only give expression to the intentions of many should he say, The congregation will rise, and each one will sing to his own praise

and glory.'

"There is a thought which I would like to impress upon the young. They are apt, in the self-conceit of newly-acquired knowledge, to show some contempt for the singing of the old people, because their style is old and their voices weak and tremulous. But if they are singing unto the Lord, what matters it though the pitch be wrong, and the poor, cracked voices wander with difficulty through the tune! There are not many years more of earth to them, and God, who knoweth their hearts, will soon call them hence to sing in the heavenly choirs, while we have perhaps yet many years to dwell among the discords of earth. Then let the old people sing, and let us stand aside and learn from their devotion how to sing in a more acceptable manner unto the Lord."

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM REV. J. NISBET.

TO THE SABBATH SCHOOLS OF THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

My Dear Young Friends:—The beginning of the year reminds me that I should send a few lines specially for the young people of our Church who take an interest in the Mission to the Indians. Now that this whole territory belongs to Canada, it is reasonable to expect that you and your parents will take an increased interest in everything that will advance the welfare of the Indians who

dwell here, and so to prepare the way for the hundreds or thousands of young Canadians who will before long flock into the territory to till its fertile valleys. There can be no better means of rendering the Indians friendly towards settlers than maintaining Christian Missions among them: and there is no class in our Church who should take a deeper interest in these Missions than the young people. Your present homesteads are becoming too small for you, and as you grow up you are asking whither shall we go to find suitable settlement? and no doubt many of you are quite unwilling to enter on the work of clearing wood lots; you would rather settle on some rich open valley where you could use your horses and ploughs at once, and make your farms, in two years' time, like the fine old clearings that have taken your fathers twenty years to make. But then there are the Indians! Well, the Indians will be your friends, if you are friendly to them. I have no fear of the Indians of this quarter if they are only treated vith fairness, and I dare say the Canadian Government will look well to that.

There have not been many changes here since I last wrote to you. We have to be most thankful that we are all spared: that while hundreds elsewhere have died of small pox, there has not been a single case among us; still the fear of that disease has been one means of preventing us from increasing the number of children residing in the Mission. But although the number of children actually dwelling with us has not been increased the number of half-breed children attending school has increased greatly. We have twenty-two in more or less regular attendance, and there might be at least six more: a few of the children are making good progress—some are learning to speak as well as to read English. Cree is the home language of all the families except two or three, and all understand and speak that language. Many of the children are very badly off for clothing this cold weather, and as no boxes came to us from Toronto last year on account of the troubles at Red River, we have none at present to give them; but we hope supplies will come to us early in the coming summer.

As I am sending another letter at present that will be published in the Recond, I shall close this by wishing you all a happy and prosperous new year—praying that the Spirit of God may descend on all your schools, and lead many of my young friends to a full and precious interest in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Your very sincere friend,

Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, 20th Jan., 1871. JAMES NISBET

FATHER CHINIQUY AND THE PRIESTS OF ROME.

Translated for the RECORD from l'Aurore.

I have just visited the parishes around my station, to see the French Canadian families which are now Protestants. I have been struck by the effect produced by the presence of Rev. C. Chiniquy, in Joliette. Everyone has been more or less affected by that event. I will give only a few of the remarkable facts connected with his visit.

At Berthier, the rev. curate, Mr. Gagnon, has publicly said, "Do not insult Rev. Mr. Chiniquy, as the people of Joliette have done; he has the same right that I have to preach his religious views. Those who do not like to hear him must stay at home; but those who go to hear him have

no right to trouble him."

Mr. Gravel, curate of St. John of Malta, has told his parishioners that Father Chiniquy was at Joliette, and he has forbidden them to go and hear him. But as soon as they have been out of the church, the people have shown, in different ways, that they were much interested by that news. Numbers have publicly declared that they would give many dollars to have an opportunity of hearing Father Chiniquy's addresses.

At St. Ambroise, of Kildare, the curate Laporte, the Sabbath-day of July the 9th, has taught that it was his duty to preach against Father Chiniquy, who was at Joliette; and he has abused him, and blackened his character as much as the French language could allow. He has cursed him before the whole people, who could hardly refrain their indignation. But a voice stronger than his own has stopped his cursings. The thunder began to roar in a most frightful way. The lightning struck the church, broke the vase which contained the holy water, split the steeple, and wounded more than twenty people. The fire took in several places of the church, and the religious service had to be stopped to extinguish the fire and save the church. The people, struck with terror, ran away from the church; the curate, mute with terror and trembling, had to stop, and looked like a dead man under his priestly robes.

I am more than ever persuaded that whole Canada is the field of Rev. Mr. Chiniquy, for the agitation which is seen everywhere he goes is not a

vain thing.

In the very moment I write these lines, I hear the strong, clear voice of a farmer who speaks with my neighbor in the street. He condemns the conduct of those who have interrupted the meetings of Joliette, and speaks with the greatest respect of Father Chiniquy; and my neighbor, in spite of her zeal, is unable to answer his arguments.

This is a short and a feeble part of what is going on at Joliette and

vicinity. Your devoted

J. A. VERNON.

JOLIETTE, August 5th, 1871.

Actices of **Eublications**.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN EVANGELICAL REVIEW, JULY, 1871.

The July number of this valuable quarterly contains many interesting The first, upon the Buddhist Revolution in India, by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Bombay, although it states nothing new, is a very useful summary of Buddhist history and principles, and closes with a glance at the divine purpose in permitting this monster superstition. Mr. Salmond reviews the German works of Ritschl, Bartolamäi and Weber on the doctrine of the Divine wrath. The Modern Reformers of the Roman Catholic Church, by Mr. Clement de Faye, introduces the reader to Messrs. Arnaud and Laurent, two Roman Catholics of advanced views. Mr. R. G. Balfour adopts Archbishop Magee's view in regard to the Origin of Primitive Sacrifice, in opposition to that of Mr. Davison, of Cambridge. address of Dr. Birch, at the inauguration of the Society of Biblical Archæology in London, under the title of "Progress of Biblical Archæology," constitutes the fifth article. Mr. Gibb's article, on German Catholics in conflict with Rome, reviews the letters of Quirinus and the book of the Bishop of Mayence, with some articles from the North British and contemporary Reviews bearing upon the subject. One of the most readable and interesting papers is that on Non-self-consciousness—the secret of simplicity of character, by Mr. R. McCheyne Edgar. He closes with the following sentence: "If, then, I have rendered my idea intelligible, it will appear that the security for the best work, the best words, the best feelings, the best thoughts, and the best health, is non-self-consciousness. From self the attention needs most to be emancipated. To secure this, in some of the ranges of life, the grace of God is indispensable. Thus shall simplicity of character and power of life be secured—that simplicity of character which is so sublime, and that power of life which becomes resistless." An article, reprinted from the American Presbyterian Review, upon Calvinism

in the English Reformation, and the usual very complete notices of publications, make up a number worthy of the high character which the Review has gained.

THE BIBLICAL REPERTORY AND PRINCETON REVIEW, July, 1871.

Mr. D. S. Gregory opens this third number of the Review for the year with an article on "Mark, the Gospel for the Roman." A review of Mr. Blunt's book on the Reformation of the Church of England, by Professor Blackburn, very properly takes the historian to task for the language into which his views lead him, and which is as inconsistent with truth as it is with charity. Mr. Sandford H. Cobb treats of Sunday School Libraries, taking his text from the General Assembly's instructions to the Board of Publication in regard to them. A popular article, far beneath the character of a Review, follows from the pen of Mr. John Moore, on Presby-Professor Green, however, steps in to hold up the falling standard with a review of Dr. Zoeckler's "Prophet Daniel" in Lange's Bibelwerk, Dr. Keil's Commentary upon the same book in Keil and Delitzsch's Biblical Commentary, and a book by Joseph Taylor, of New York, on "The Times of Daniel," in which he shows the fallacies in their interpretations of the "seventy weeks." Dr. Atwater, one of the editors, writes on the General Assembly in a somewhat disjointed manner, but his article is useful to all who are interested in the work performed by Church courts. The notices of recent publications, and the literary intelligence, are well up to the mark. Less scientific than the British and Foreign Evangelical, the Princeton Review is of great practical value.

MONEYS RECEIVED UP TO 24th AUGUST.

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	12	00	Streetsville	8	00
Lake Shore	5	50	Bluevale	5	60
Brucefield	7	50	Wingham	4	75
Thamesville, &c	5	00	Avon Church	6	75
Claremont	7	00	Carlingford	2	00
Laskey	4	85	Carlingford	6	00
King	4	35	Dundas	17	00
Belleville	15	00	(Vaughan	9	34
Westwood	2	72	Albion	3	50
Indiana	4	00	Oro, Willis Church	3	15
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	18	00	Moore, Burns' Church	7	56
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Springville	3	25	Keene.	5	00
Mount Albert	2	50	Wroxeter	6	25
Avonbank	3	25	Markham, Melville Church	4	00
Dalhousie Mills	3	75	Paris, Dumfries St	15	00
Eramosa, 1st	10	00	Leeds	5	00
Chippawa	3	51	Kintyre	5	04
Newton.	4	00	(Cookstown	2	80
Newcastle	5	00	{ Town Line	1	87
, Milton	3	90	(Ivy	1	75
Boston Church	9	10	Jarvis	3	00
Burns' Church, E. Zorra	3	25	Orangeville	4	00
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RECEIPTS FOR RECORD UP TO 24th AUGUST.

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J. S., Torbolton, S1.25 (previously omitted); S. McJ., Utica; G. H., J. Y., Wellandport; J. G., Bayfield, 35c.; Rev. G. H., Laskey; T. A., Mount Albert; J. McK., Maple; S. W., Grahamsville; J. Y., Bruccfield; W. H., Camlachie; P. D., Wingham: R. J., Cambray, \$7; Mr. S., Brantford, \$8; D. F., Newmarket; W. A. A., Dunbarton; J. R. M., Goderich; Mr. McJ., Toronto; D. C., Osgoode; P. E., Russell; M. McM., Mount Forest; Rev. A. R. W., Winchester; A. Shiells, Avonton, \$11.71; Rev. G. C., Lyndoch, \$5.60; G. A., J. D., Winterbourne; W. J. D., Kingston, \$18.40; J. F., Kingston; D. F., A. S., Odessa; C. McA., Murvale; J. K. R., Feversham, \$2; Rev. R. S., Douglas; Rev. J. P., Parkhill, \$1.80; T. J., Ashdown, \$1.62.

Financial and Statistical Statements, 1871.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, FROM APPRIL 1870, TO MARGE 1871, AS MADE UP FROM CONGREGATIONAL RETURNS.

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PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—(Continued.)

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tional purposes, schims of the Church, and Be- nevolent objects.	\$ 0.00	16598 93	740 13	1774 66 3867 03 935 09								
Benevolent objects not otherwise specified. Total Con. for Congrega-	\$ 6 00	451 361	11 67	8								
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XXXII. APPENDIX.

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French Canadian Mission.	\$ C.	10 50	
Assembly Fund.	\$0 50 50 10 10 10 10	35 33	
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all sources.	98888	88	
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TABULAR STATEMENT No. 1.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, FROM 1st APRIL, 1870, TO 31st MARCH, 1871, AS MADE UP FROM PRESBYTERIAL RETURNS.

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Presbyteries.	Stipend promised from all sources.	Stipend paid by Con- gregation alone.	Arrears actually due.	Amount expended on Church or Manse dur- ing the year.	All other Con. and Incidental Contributions not otherwise reported.	Total Contributions for strictly Congregational purposes.	College Fund.	Home Mission Fund.	Foreign Mission Fund.	Widows and Orphans' and aged Ministers' Fund.	Assembly Fund.	French Canadian Mission	Kankakee Mission.	Sabbath School Contri- butions for Missions.	Total Contributions for the Schemes of the Church.	Benevolent objects not otherwise specified.	. Total Contributions for Congregational purposes, Schemes of the Church, and Benevolent objects.	Is there a Manse !
1 Montreal 2 Ottawa 8 Brockville 4 Kingston 5 Cobourg. 6 Ontario. 7 Toronto 8 Simcoe. 9 Hamilton 10 Paris. 11 Guelph 12 London. 13 Chatham 14 Stratford. 15 Huron 16 Owen Sound. 17 Durham.	\$ c. 17832 00 10370 00 17550 00 9835 00 9835 00 9856 00 16240 00 5750 00 16140 00 13565 00 13018 00 8850 00 8400 00 12215 70 5670 00 4815 00	8 c. 15295 11 10041 74 7321 96 2757 15 9420 21 9701 45 17927 50 6491 50 16558 25 13464 50 16864 06 14920 80 10168 75 9027 09 14137 27 4905 25 4464 40	\$ C. 798 44 169 85	\$ c. 11875 93 11445 70 5676 75 506 13 7841 00 5016 41 7121 94 '987 73 11269 69 3590 94 31568 024 13202 28 10751 24 2954 38 9123 30 3119 95 745 48	\$ C. 6981 78 3157 80 2090 76 1249 56 1871 61 2245 54 9199 05 .1929 97 7929 704 4678 78 10362 094 5470 60 4449 28 1885 84 3161 23 801 87 619 21	\$ c. 34644 66 24645 24 15089 47 4512 84 19133 49 16963 40 37655 57 9316 73 35757 64½ 21734 22 58794 18 32793 68 25369 27 14567 31 26759 15 8827 07 6305 85	\$ c. 4881 91 449 72 414 20 87 50 337 20 308 27 1482 80 108 98 853 08 522 11 902 90 697 68 125 60 427 15 560 41 53 03 102 40	\$ c. 1528 51 .574 53 660 94 158 60 585 13 547 20 1867 41 410 49 1588 16 506 99 742 20 944 89 602 99 410 65 562 06 119 48 105 05	\$ c. 662 90 279 00 183 80 96 90 191 37 300 84 687 68 120 69 637 26 332 02 370 19 616 09 74 00 167 26 297 15 49 83 56 82	\$ c. 260 22 159 38 103 37 59 36 116 67 189 24 561 45 75 31 267 44 180 12 272 99 223 98 51 51 118 50 153 65 33 29 70 12	\$ 0. 108 28 79 56 64 71 38 00 101 53 137 91 264 82 31 67 150 04 150 25 154 87 182 77. 42 57 84 85 129 24 29 19 26 43	\$ c. 2749 87 169 95 98 43 49 50 136 82 195 07 421 68 100 97 406 17 183 65 343 35 331 87 10 92 141 03 403 56 18 97 24 25	\$ c. 95 35 208 11 44 79 142 34 84 22 120 32 152 38 47 97 105 15 81 72 218 98 301 61 44 43 115 83 222 36 21 36 48 78	\$ c. 346 66 123 12 80 66 21 50 50 25 167 96 606 17 96 63 324 79 129 94 402 93 206 80 36 00 115 00 151 44 4 00 14 50	\$ c. 10633 70 2061 37 1650 90 653 70 1603 39 1966 81 5994 39 992 71 4332 09 2086 81 3445 514 3505 69 '988 02 1580 27 2479 87 '329 15 448 35	\$ g. 2496 77 635 40 162 40 297 60 287 85 195 91 1952 59 293 36 2714 60 827 54 857 50 952 61 219 63 451 35 575 48 148 04 30 06	\$ c. 47775 13 27342 01 16902 77 5464 14 21024 73 19126 12 45502 55 10602 80 42804 33½ 24648 57 63097 19½ 37251 98 26576 92 16598 93 29814 50 9304 26 6784 26	13 10 4 3 13 11 10 & 4 R. H. 6 M. 3 R. H. 10 11 13 15 7 7 15 3 4
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Increase	5220 03	13477 44	2368 90	20367 981	95 64	34577 101	440 27	1374 13	546 43	264 13	286 08	2272 57	995 68		2905 09½	1866 72	35999 22	4 M. & 2 R. H.

TABULAR STATEMENT No. 2.

STATISTICAL RETURN FROM APRIL 1, 1870, TO MARCH 31, 1871.

		Sta Sup	o. of tions plied.	-	reported.	ting.	non-Reporting.	egations ng.	Roll at Assembly		rsons not r Fam. of	icants.	Additi	on by	Death,	No. Bapti		No. Religi Class	ious	y Meet'gs.	Visitations.		icc-bearers, Managers.	achers.	Volu ir Libra	1 ¦		mary Asso-	No. of Churches or
Presbyteries.	Regular Charge. Not in Regular Charge.		MINISTERS ON THE ROLLS OF PRESYTERIES.	No. of Vacancies	Ministers Reporting.	2	Vacant Congree non-Reporting	Ministers on the 1 the Meeting of As	No. of Families.	No. of Single Pers connected with Congregation.	No: of Communicants.	Certificate.	Examination.	Diminution by Removal, &c.	Children.	Adults.	Sab. School.	Bible Class.	No. of Weekday	Pastoral Visita	No. of Elders.	No. of other Office-bearers Deacons, or Managers.	Sab. School Teachers.	Congregat'l.	Sab. School.	No. of Sittings Church.	No. of Missionary ciations.	Manses built during the year.	
1 Mont	real	63	15	31 (2 Collegiate and	11	25	4.	5	32	1647	17	3644	93	109	115	374	1	1539	923	331	$25\frac{1}{2}$	143	210	208	630	4382	8916	6	2 C.
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9 Hamil 10 Paris. 11 Guelp 12 Londo 13 Chath 14 Stratfe 15 Huron 16 Owen 17 Durha	oe	31 49 21 41 50 28 27 45 23 23	10 4 1 8 3 1 2 3	1 Agt. of Ch.) 9 11 13 21 13 21 31 12 15 24 (1 without Charge) 9 9	7 3 5 3 3 1 6 3 1	9 20 13 20 24 11 14 21 8 9	 1 7 1 2 1 	4 3 1 1 1 1	9 21. 13 21 30 12 15 24 9	1038 2599 1701 2916 2386 877 1481 2543 759 698	166 456 214 150 349 171 135 143 36 37	1441 4356 3187 5125 3584 1458 2440 3915 1416 1386	43 245 163 260 181 118 110 257 55 39	94 302 143 284 252 82 91 248 60 75	67 179 205 291 260 70 138 235 64 66	176 352 287 455 349 166 236 410 122 203	3 22 13 12 18 7 	1350 2957 2213 2896 2662 1085 1728 3130 748 1138	268 667 554 627 650 282 569 688 145 230	11½ 39 19 33 29½ 18¾ 29¼ 29 8½	23 33 23 27 32 11 20 22 10 11 11	70 127 106 164 156 56 78 156 53 63	121 200 176 240 243 96 166 288 81 98	151 383 267 325 266 130 200 314 96 93		3213 9282 6643 8434 6757 3415 5176 6531 1710 1920	6060 13080 7530 10192 10035 3983 6770 11475 1866 1300		2 M., 2 C. 1 M., 4 C. 2 M., 2 C. 2 M., 2 C. 1 C. 1 C.
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TABULAR STATEMENT No. 3.

TABLE OF AVERAGES FOR PERIOD FROM 1st APRIL, 1870, TO 31st MARCH, 1871.

AP	PENDIX.	хl
Aretage contribution per member for Congregat! purposes, schemes of the Church and Benaro fent objects.	**************************************	86 ô
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Average per member for Assembly Fund.	\$689585858585888888888888888888888888888	\$ 0 0
Average per member for Widows' and Orphans', and Aged Ministers' I und.	802258888888888888888888888888888888888	100 0
Average per member for Foreign Mission Fund.	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	0 11
Average per member for Home Alission Fund.	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	ł9z 0
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Total average per membor ber for strictly Congregational purposes.	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	8 00
Av'rge ann'nt per mem, of all other Con, and Incl- dental Contributions not otherwise reported,	######################################	1 30
Average am'nt per mein- ber expended on Ch. or Manse during year.	**************************************	2 38
Average contribution per member for Etipend.		4 00
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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CANADA PRESEYTERIAN CHURCH.

Your Committee, in presenting its Report for the past year, desires to draw the attention of the Assembly to the fact that not a few congregations still send no reports to your committee. Of the non-reporting congregations, 20 are settled charges, and 25 vacant congregations. Concerning these last, your committee has no desire to say much. It may be that in their circumstances, without a pastor, there may be some difficulty in preparing the necessary returns, although your committee is of opinion that if Clerks of Presbyteries were to take a little trouble in regard to the matter, there might be very little difficulty in procuring somewhat complete Statistical Returns. But there surely can be very little excuse for those congregations over which pastors are settled. The Statistics of the Church must of necessity be incomplete when so many of our congregations, fail, year after year, in making the necessary Returns.

I.—STATISTICS.

1. MINISTERS.

Your Committee has prepared a summary of the changes which have occurred in the number of ministers on the Rolls of the several Synods.

Up to the meeting of Assembly there were reported by Synods to the Clerks of Assembly, 3 deaths 2 depositions and 20 demissions; while to set against this, there were 16 in uctions, 12 ordinations and 10 translations, and 5 received from other Churches, while there were eight students licensed. Up to the close of March in the current year there were on the Rolls of the several Presbyteries 288 ministers, being a gain of eight over the number on the Roll at the same peri d last year. The number on the Synod Rolls reported to the Clerks of Assembly is 292; adding 4 in the Presbytery of Manitoba, not reported, the number would be 296, being two more than were on the Synod Rolls at the time of the meeting of Assembly last year.

2. Congregations.

It is found that there are 588 stations under the care of our ministers, forming part of their regular charge, while 58 stations not forming part of the regular charge are supplied by them. This does not include a number of mission stations concerning which the Report of the Home Mission Committee speaks.

Your Committee finds that there are in connection with the Sessions of the Church, no less than 1725 Elders, being an average of nearly 6 to each minister reporting, the secular affairs of the Church being attended to by 2713 managers or deacons. We have thus a very large number of what might be called the unpaid ministry attending to the spiritual and secular interests of the Church. It is a matter of profound thankfulness to find that the lay element has such a large share in the government of the Church. Surely when there is such a band of Elders and Managers, together with 3614 Sabbath School Teachers, and the members of no less than 128 Missionary Associations, the various plans of usefulness proposed for advancing the Redeemer's Kingdom, should be carried on, not only without much difficulty, but with great success.

3. FAMILIES.

Making the same allowance as was made in former years for the number of families and communicants in settled charges from which reports have not been received, your Committee finds that there are in connection with our Church 28,540 families, being an increase over last year of 1,179 added to the Church. In this calculation there is no account taken of some 25 vacant congregations—not mission stations—which have sent in no reports. Were the same calculation to be made for them, it would give us a further increase of 1875, making a

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total of 30,415 families connected with the Church. This, it is believed, is under, and not in excess of the actual numbers, inasmuch as no allowance has been made for a large number of mission stations, the statistics of which are not reported to your Cermittee. Calculating, as in former years, that there are, on an average, five persons connected with each family, we would then get a total of no less than 152,075 persons coming regularly under the influence of the Canada Presbyterian Church. But, omitting the vacant, non-reporting congregations, the number brought under the influence of the Church would then be 142,700. However, your Committee thinks that it is quite legitimate to make the allowance which has been suggested. It is interesting to form even an approximation as to the actual numbers weekly coming under the power of Christian teaching in connection with our own branch of the Church.

4. MEMBERS.

It is also satisfactory to note that in the membership there is a steady increase. Last year the number reported, including non-reporting congregations having settled pastors, was 46,343; while this year the number is 47,866, giving an increase for the year of 1,543. That this is very much under the mark is evident from the fact that 2,335 united with the Church by certificate, and 2,586 on the profession of their faith, making a total addition of 4,921, while the diminution by death and removal was 2,522, leaving a net gain of 2,399. Now, it is evident that some congregations do not send in their returns complete, and some who reported last year have not done so for the year which has just expired. Making an allowance for those vacant congregations which did not report, the membership of the Church would be found to be about 50,000. This would give an average of about 150 members to each pastoral charge. Whatever allowance may be made for non-reporting congregations, it is satisfactory to see a steady increase in the membership, especially such a large accession as 2,586 on a profession of their faith. Of these no less than 143 were received by baptism.

II.—FINANCE.

1. STIPEND.

Turning to the department of finance, it is found the total amount contributed for stipend, not merely promised, but actually paid, reported to your Committee, is \$187,944.32, being an increase over last year of \$13,477.44, and being an increase over the amount promised of \$5,033.29. In two years the amount of increase has been \$19,844.68, and this, be it observed, not so much in consequence of the greater number of ministers in charge of congregations, although partly owing to that, as an actual increase of salary to many of the men who have been

doing the hard work of the Church.

WHILE IT IS "LEASING TO OBSERVE SUCH AN INCREASE OF LIBERALITY ON THE PART OF OUR PEOPLE, IT MUST BE NOTICED THAT MANY OF OUR MINISTERS ARE VERY INADEQUATELY SUPPORTED. NOT A FEW RECEIVE NOW THE SAME AMOUNT OF SALARY WHICH WAS PAID TEN OR TWELVE YEARS AGO, WHEN MONEY WAS OF FAR MORE VALUE THAN IT IS AT PRESENT. INSTANCES MIGHT BE GIVEN, NOT FEW IN NUMBER, OF CONGREGATIONS WHICH HAVE INCREASED IN NUMBERS AND HAVE EEEN BUILT UP BY THE SELF-DENYING LABOURS OF FAITHFUL MEN, AND WHO ARE STILL KEEPING THEIR PASTORS ON THE INADEQUATE SALARIES WITH WHICH THEY BEGAN THEIR LABOURS. IT IS A PREQUENT SUBJECT OF REMARK THAT CONGREGATIONS, AFTER BECOMING VACANT, OFTEN INCREASE THE SALARIES WHICH THEY OFFER TO THOSE WHOM THEY TALL TO BE THEIR PASTORS. THIS IS NO DOUBT HIGHLY SATISFACTORY AND PROPER, BUT IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE SATISFACTORY DID THE LIBERALITY COMMENCE A LITTLE SOONER.

2. -ARREARS.

The prosperity of the Church is not only shown in an increase in the amount paid for salaries, but also in the diminution of arrears; the amount in arrear being \$2368 90 less than last year. The amount is, however, still too large. The Presbyteries of Kingston, Hamilton, Paris, and Chatham, report no arrears; while in Montreal the sum is, \$798 41; Brockville, \$371 70; Toronto, \$245 00; London, \$373 72; Huron, \$493 50; Owen Sound, \$486 71. In the Presbyteries of Ottawa, Cobourg, Ontario, Simcoe, Guelph, Chatham, and Stratford, there are smaller amounts, varying from \$200 00 to \$61 00. In Montreal, Outario, Chatham, and Durham, the amount of arrears has been very considerably reduced. Your Committee trusts, that before another Report is presented to the Assembly the reduction will be still greater.

3. CHURCHES AND MANSES.

It is highly satisfactory to notice the progress in church and manso building. There were reported to your Committee 16 manses, 24 churches, 1 school house, as having been built during the year, at a cost of \$137,006 26, being an increase over last year of over \$20,000. Last year 20 manses and 24 churches were built; thus showing a diminution in the number of manses bui't, while the number of churches was the same as last year.

It is one of the most satisfactory proofs of the pregress which the Church is making, and of the increasing interest which its people take in religious matters, when spacious churches and comfortable manses are seen rising on every hand. Your Committee trusts that the time is not far distant, when every cengregation will see it to be both a duty and a privilege to have in connection with each church, a manse in which the pastor may reside in some degree of comfort.

4. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CONGREGATIONAL PURIOSES.

The total amount which has been raised for strictly congregational purposes, is \$398,891 39½, being an increase over last year of \$34,577 10 and an increase over the amount contributed two years ago of \$53,759 42½. While the greater part of this increase is doubtlers owing to an increased expenditure or account of church and manse building, it is also owing in some degree, as we have already seen, to the increased amount paid for the salaries of ministers.

5. SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

Your Committee, in accordance with the instructions of Assembly, inserted in the Financial Statement for this year a column which shows the total amount contributed by each Congregation and Presbytery to the various Schemes of the Church. It was felt that many Congregations contributed somewhat liberally for their own purposes, such as church and manse building and stipend, while comparatively very little was given for the Schemes of the Church generally. To a large extent a congregation is valuable to the Church in proportion to what it does for the Schemes of the Church, and it generally shows the extent of its interest by the amount of its contributions. While some interesting examples might be given of congregational liberality, your committee passes on to notice more general results first.

The total amount contributed for the Schemes of the Church is \$45,572.18\frac{1}{2}, being an increase over last year of \$2,905.09\frac{1}{2}. The schemes which show an increase are, the Home Mission, \$1,374.13; Foreign Mission, \$546.43: Widows' and Orphan's Fund, \$264.13; French Canadian Mission, \$2,272.57. On the other hand there is a decrease in the College Fund of \$440.27; Assembly Fund,

\$286.08 and in the Kankakee Mission, \$995.68.

It is probable that if these figures were compared with the books of the Agent of the Church, there would be found to be some difference, inasmuch as money is sent to him for a month after the close of the Statistical year, and those congregations which make no report to your committee, will, of course, make their

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remittances to him for the schemes to which they contribute. The probability is that a larger amount has been contributed than has been reported to your committee. 8.0 (00

As the mere mention of large sums may have a mis-leading effect, your committee presents, for the consideration of the Assembly, the following as the average rate of contribution per member for the Schemes of the Church in the various

Presbyteries:-

Montreal, \$2 92; Ottawa, \$0 89; Brockville, \$0 78; Kingston, \$1 20; Cobourg, \$0 67; Ontario, \$1 09; Toronto, \$1 40; Simcoe, \$0 68; Hamilton, \$1 01; Paris, \$0 65}; Guelph, \$0 67; London, \$0 99; Chatham, \$0 68; Stratford, \$0 65; Huron, \$0 63; Owen Sound, \$0 22½; Durham, \$0 32.— Total average for the Church, \$1 00.

Surely the inequalities in the above comparison cannot be wholly accounted for by the poverty or smallness of the fields embraced by the various Presbyteries. It is believed that the difference is to a considerable extent due to the interest which both ministers and people take in the work of the Church. So long as both minister and people are satisfied with a mere nominal contribution to the great Schemes of the Church, so long must these Schemes languish and suffer.

Your Committee present the following particulars for consideration. In one Presbytery, out of a total contribution of over \$10,000, three congregations give over \$9,000. In another Presbytery, the largest contributing congregation is in the United States. In still another, one congregation gives one-third of the whole amount contributed. Three congregations in another Presbytery give three-fifths of the whole amount; the amount of the contributions being \$3,470. In another Presbytery one congregation gives about one-third of the This Presbytery has some fifteen or sixteen congregations. whole amount. The same congregation gives nearly seven-sixteenths of the amount reported as contributed to the College Fund. In one Presbytery with nine settled charges, the total amount given to the College Fund is \$53 03, being nearly, not quite, at the rate of \$6 00 for each congregation.

These cases are mentioned, not as exhausting the anomalies which exist in connection with the subject of contribution to our Church Schemes, but as examples of a state of things which is altogether too general. It is not an uncommon thing for congregations to give small sums, as it appears to your Committee, to fill up the columns before the name of the congregation, so that these may not be entire blanks. In some cases almost nothing is given for the general work of the Church. For example, it is found that one congregation paying over \$1,000 00 a year as salary to the minister, gives just \$6 00 to the Schemes of the Church. Your Committee submits that the amount contributed by many of our congregations is not in harmony with the privileges they

enjoy, nor yet with the duty which they owe to the cause of Christ.

6. SUMMARY.

Summing up the Financial Statements, your Committee finds that the following sums have been contributed:—

For strictly Congregational purposes For the Schemes of the Church Other Benevolent Objects	. 45,572	185
Total		
	421,788	

7. RECOMMENDATIONS.

In conclusion, your Committee would beg leave to submit the following recommendations :-

1. To recommend to Presbyteries to take order that congregations send in their reports in good season, so that the report of the Committee may be pre-

pared in time for the General Assembly.

2. That Presbyteries be enjoined to take such action as may be instrumental in leading congregations to the exercise of greater liberality, and ESPECIALLY TO DEAL with those congregations who contribute nothing or very little to the Schemes of the Church.

3. Your Committee would most earnestly urge upon the Assembly the necessity of impressing on Presbyteries, the DUTY of dealing with those congregations

who are falling into arrears.

4. That Presbyteries be instructed to take steps at the first meeting which may be held after the printed statistics have been received, to carry out the second and third recommendations, and when sending in their returns to your Committee next year, to state what has been done regarding those congregations who have contributed little or nothing to the funds of the Church, or who may be falling into arrears, in order that a report may be made to the Assembly next year.

In regard to the recommendations of last year to change the statistical year, your Committee does not make any suggestion, but leaves the matter in the

ands of the Assembly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. WATERS, Convener.

Note.—The principle upon which the Committee bases its calculations for non-reporting congregations is as follows:—For each non-reporting congregation having a settled pastor, 75 families and 100 members are allowed. This, the Committee is satisfied, is below the average. An average was struck this year for those congregations, settled and vacant, which reported. It was found that the average number of families to each reporting congregation was about 90, and members 155.

In ast raining the average amount of stipend, the calculation was made for reporting congregations, settled or vacant, and for none else.

D. W.