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THE
HOME & FOREIGN RECORD
OF THE
CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

No. 4.

FEBRUARY, 1868.

VOL. VII.

KNOX COLLEGE.—ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

This being the principal time when contributions are taken up in the various congregations for Knox College, we embrace the opportunity of directing attention to the subject, and urging prompt and liberal contributions from all the congregations that have not already remitted.

The contributions from the College in Montreal have been by the Synod, separated from those for Knox College, and we believe that means have been taken by the friends charged with this duty, in Montreal, to bring the claims of that institution before the congregations in the three Presbyteries—Montreal, Ottawa, and Brockville—now united together for the support of the Montreal College.

We now call upon the congregations in the other Presbyteries to take up contributions for the support of Knox College, and forward them as soon as possible. The work of the College is being prosecuted pleasantly and successfully. Several students have come in since the opening of the College. The Rev. R. Ure finished his course of lectures before the holidays; and Rev. J. J. A. Proudfoot is now, in connection with the ordinary professors, carrying on the work of instruction.

In accordance with the instructions of the Board of Management, a sub-committee was appointed to draw up a circular to Presbyteries, with reference to these contributions. The circular sent out was as follows:—

To the Moderator of the Presbytery of

REV. AND DEAR SIR :

The Synod having directed that contributions for Knox College be taken up not later than the 31st of January next, the Board of management desire again to lay before you a statement of facts respecting the present position of the College Fund, and the estimated expenses of the current year.

Going back to the year 1864-5, we find that there was then a total debt on the ordinary fund of the College of \$3,468 85. In the year 1865-6, this large debt was reduced to \$2,269 73; and in the year 1866-7 it was still further reduced to \$1,129 46—showing that during these years there has been a gratifying excess of income over the actual annual expenditure, the surplus having been from year to year applied to the reduction of the floating debt. The sum so applied last year, was \$1,140.

The Synod, at its meeting in June last, appointed two additional lecturers; the expense connected with these lectureships has increased the sum which we are now called upon to raise. The estimated expense for the

current year for Professor's stipends and incidental expenses, is \$6,186 00.

It is also to be borne in mind that the Presbyteries of Montreal, Brockville, and Ottawa, have now been united to maintain the Theological College of Montreal. These three Presbyteries contributed about \$1,000 to Knox College last year. Additional liberality will therefore be required on the part of the other Presbyteries to secure that the ordinary annual expenditure is met, and if possible still further to reduce the balance of floating debt.

A rate of twenty cents, for each communicant, gives us the following sums in the several Presbyteries.

Kingston.....	\$ 243 00	Guelph	\$925 80
Cobourg	476 80	London	786 40
Ontario	406 80	Stratford.....	445 60
Toronto.....	1051 00	Huron.....	634 80
Hamilton	817 20	Grey.....	397 00
Paris.....	587 80		

We would again remind Presbyteries that it is not designed to limit the contributions to these sums, but rather to suggest these calculations for their consideration in the hope that none of the Presbyteries will fall below them, and that in the wealthier districts the sums contributed will be much greater than this average.

We would earnestly press upon Presbyteries and congregations, the necessity of enlarged liberality on behalf of Knox College, in view especially of the increasing demand upon our Church for additional laborers thoroughly qualified to carry on our Home Mission efforts and enterprises.

On behalf of the Board of Management,

I am,

Rev. and Dear Sir,

Faithfully Yours,

DAVID INGLIS, *Convener.*

TORONTO, KNOX COLLEGE,
December 2nd, 1867.

LIBERAL GIFT TO KNOX COLLEGE.

With very great pleasure we announce to the Church that we have received for Knox College the very handsome gift of \$4000 from W. C. McLeod Esq., a wealthy and worthy member of Knox Church, Woodstock. Nine years ago the congregation at Beachville, being engaged in building a church, borrowed from Mr. McLeod the sum of \$1370. Unanticipated reverses disabled the congregation in a short time, and the burden of this debt fell on the few who had become jointly bound for the amount.

Mr. McLeod considered that a generous sympathy on the part of the strong for the weak ought to be found in every healthy church; and that as in the human body, when one member suffers all the members suffer with it, so should the congregations of the church at large sympathize with, and assist Beachville. Within certain limitations this is certainly the Scriptural idea.

Further, Mr. McLeod announced to the Presbytery of the bounds, that if his views in this matter were approved of by the Church, and acted on, he was desirous to follow up the movement by making a gift of \$4000 to Knox College. The Presbytery reported the matter to the Synod, a committee was appointed, the money was raised for Beachville, and on the 20th inst. the sum of \$4000 was paid by Mr. McLeod.

The gift is large and liberal, and the thanks of the Church are due to Mr. McLeod for such a handsome commencement for an Endowment Fund. He has led the way nobly, and we trust the example will be followed by other wealthy men throughout the Church, and that, in a few years, both Knox College and our College in Montreal will be amply endowed. Our Church could then throw herself with undivided energy into the great work of Home and Foreign Missions. By taking a noble part in cultivating and watering the distant moral wastes of heathenism, we ourselves would be watered with rich showers of blessings.

We live in stirring and eventful times. God's arm is very manifestly stretched out in the Providential occurrences now taking place among the nations, and He is pleading the cause that is His own. The two gigantic systems of error, that have so long presented a frowning front to the Kingdom of Christ, are now tottering, preparatory apparently to a simultaneous fall, whose echoes shall be drowned by the universal shout of a triumphant Christianity—Halleluia : for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. May an increased zeal, an enlarged liberality, and a holy ambition to serve and honour in these eventful times her Lord and Saviour, more and more characterize the Canada Presbyterian Church !

PUBLIC GRANTS TO DENOMINATIONAL COLLEGES.

We observe that the subject of grants of public money to denominational Colleges is beginning to attract public attention. It will soon be before the Legislature of Ontario. Already the governing bodies of the institutions, which have hitherto enjoyed public aid, are bestirring themselves, and seeking to bring influence to bear on the members of the Legislature. The question is a very important one. It is one intimately connected with the peace and harmony of the various religious denominations of the Province, and one which involves very important principles. Hitherto the circumstances of the country and the complications arising from the relative position occupied by the French Canadians under the old regime, have rendered it difficult to deal fairly with this question. But now the altered circumstances of the country afford a favourable opportunity for the Legislature to begin anew, and pursue a policy more in accordance with the relation,—or no relation,—subsisting between the Government of the country and the various religious denominations, and more in accordance with the views, as we believe, of the great body of the people.

We by no means desire to undervalue the services of such institutions as Queen's College and Victoria College. We are aware that not a few of our professional men, and others in various parts of the country, have been educated at these institutions. But it cannot be denied that the institutions in question were originated for the special interest of the respective denominations, and that they are controlled and governed by them, and that grants of public money for the benefit of these colleges must be regarded as virtually grants of money to the denominations themselves.

We see very many objections to such grants. From the continuance of them multiplied evils must inevitably result. The principle once admitted, there may be an indefinite increase of these denominational grants. If one application is admitted, it will be difficult to refuse another. No doubt applications will be made for aid to Popish Colleges in many parts of the country, and these cannot be set aside. Besides, if the system be adopted by Government, it will by no means tend to promote that purity and freedom from corrupting influences which we should like to see characterizing both the government and the constituencies of the country. The power

to subsidize Colleges, and through them religious denominations, would become in the hands of a Government a powerful means of influencing constituencies. On every ground it will be a thing to be deplored, if the Legislature shall accede to the memorials already presented, or which may be presented, for grants from the public treasury for denominational colleges. We trust the representatives of the people will be firm, and that they will not take a step which it may be difficult or impossible to retrace.

“NOT LOST BUT GONE BEFORE.”

LETTER FROM REV. DR. BURNS.

KNOX COLLEGE, January 22, 1868.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—For ten years past, I have been in the habit of devoting our College Christmas Holidays, to what I have sometimes called, my “Sleigh Mission.” In every instance, two Sabbaths, and in the greater number three, have been thus appropriated; and by means of these, and the intervening week days, I have been enabled to range over a considerable field, and to do a good deal of missionary and sacramental work. On one occasion, the state of the roads and of the weather generally interposed a serious obstacle in the way of carrying out my wishes; and in the case of 1867–8 a painful domestic affliction arrested my movements, when about two-thirds of my plan had been completed. “God moves in a mysterious way;” and I desire to be “dumb,” “not opening my mouth;” just because the Lord hath done it; and his will must always be best, simply because *it is the will of a wisdom that cannot err, and a goodness that is boundless.* On Wednesday, December 18th, my son was with us at a social meeting in Gerrard Street, prior to the temporary separation of the members of our female educational circle; and he was then apparently in perfect health, and in good spirits. I left home on the 20th, on my tour to the north, and saw him not again till Friday, January 3rd, and then he was in the latter stages of a fatal inflammatory affection of the liver and lungs. The whole of my first week was occupied in sacramental engagements connected with the congregations of my excellent friend, Mr. Christie, lately inducted into the charge of Mono centre, embracing two regular stations along with three subordinate or occasional ones. Christmas eve was devoted to a large union Sabbath School meeting in our place of worship at Orangeville, where the settlement of Mr. Steele, from Nova Scotia, has been recently consummated under very promising circumstances. From Friday, December 27th to Tuesday 31st, my missionary visits were devoted to four stations in the townships of Melancthon and Mulmur; namely, Mulmur centre, Honeywood, Horning’s Mills, and a station on the “gravel road” to Owen Sound. The aspect of things at all these points is very encouraging; the attendance good; the attachment of the people to our church growing in strength; and lively gratitude expressed for the acceptable and successful labours of the various missionaries whom the Presbytery of the bounds have had it in their power to send up for several years past. From the seven elders, and from Mr. Airth, of Horning’s Mills, though not a member of our church, I met with much kindness; and in the prospect of two places of worship being soon erected, there is not a doubt as to these combined stations being soon formed into one self-sustaining pastoral charge. My next visit was to Proton, within the Presbytery of Grey, the sphere of the labours, at six different points, of our indefatigable Gaelic and English “ordained missionary,” Mr. John Morrison. His position being considerably off the “Gravel Road,” and rather remote, and the settlement being

comparatively new, our letters had never reached ; but this made little difference ; for, by prompt and willing efforts, we had excellent meetings, especially on new year's day, at three distinct points ; one of our meetings embracing a most interesting and satisfactory examination of the advanced classes of the Sabbath School. Immediately after parting with Mr. Morrison on the morning of January 2nd, and after riding in the mail sleigh about ten miles towards Orangeville, I was met by our excellent friend Mr. William Burns, who had, with most disinterested kindness, offered his services (as other friends in the city had also done) to trace me out, and give me information of the severe illness of my son. I had intended striking off from Orangeville to Garafraxa and Fergus, where different preaching engagements had been fixed for me, up to the evening of Tuesday, January 7th. Had it not been for the prompt and skilful tact of Mr. Burns, I might not have seen my distressed son in life ; yea, his dear remains might have been consigned to their narrow resting place, to be seen by me again only far off on the resurrection morn. As it was, we had painfully affecting intercourse during the last two days of his life below, although for part of the second day he had sunk into a calm and fatal slumber. My son Robert had been telegraphed for to Chicago, and had arrived seven hours before me. Around the couch of a beloved son, brother, and husband, all the near relatives within reach, were gathered ; and many endeared friends, though not related as kindred, lent their sympathizing and much valued aid, in all the varied forms of considerate kindness. His expressions of resignation, of confidence, and of believing hope, were frequent and satisfying ; his prayers earnest and appropriate ; his inward peace, to our view, serene. For several years past, he had shown a decided preference for the things of God. By daily perusal of the scriptures, by closet and domestic devotion ; by regular attendances on the ordinances of grace and on the congregational meetings for prayer ; by readiness to aid substantially the cause of missions at home and abroad ; and, in some instances, by religious correspondences with relatives, together with a consistent walk ; he had given satisfactory proof of the reality of his personal religion ; while his recent election to the deacon's office, in Knox's Church, was a good proof of the estimation in which he was held by his fellow-members in the church. The appropriate and truly excellent discourse, on the morning of the Sabbath after the funeral, was to my mind and the feelings of all who heard it, a pleasing proof of the high sense entertained by both pastor and people of the real value of his character, and the greatness of their loss. The gratification afforded to the weeping widow, to myself, and to the whole circle of relatives, by the following "extract from the minutes of the Deacon's Court" can be more easily conceived than expressed :

"The Members of this court, impressed with the fact that one of their number, Mr. William Hamilton Burns, has, since their last meeting, and after a short illness, been removed by the stroke of death, resolve to place on record, as they hereby do, their sincere regret at his unexpected removal from amongst them—their high estimate of his christian character and conduct ; and their deep sense of the loss which by this event they and the congregation have sustained, in that they are now deprived of his presence, and counsel, and active services, in the work of the Lord amongst them.

"At the same time, whilst mourning over this painful event by which, one, in the prime and vigour of life, and just entering on the duties of the office of Deacon in the congregation has been called away from the church on earth, the members of this court humbly recognize the sovereignty of God, who worketh all things according to His own purpose and will ; and

they earnestly pray that the event may be so sanctified to them as that it shall be the means of leading them to greater concern as to their own personal salvation and spiritual advancement, and to more zealous devotedness in the service of Jesus Christ."

"Further, the Members of this Court express their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Burns and family, and the other relatives, under their sad bereavement; and resolve to send them an extract of this minute."

The Minute has been sent to me, and it has been duly communicated to all the members of the weeping circle, and it now holds a place deservedly among the family papers. The card enclosing it concludes in the following appropriate terms:—

"With deepest sympathy,
believe me, Sir,
yours,
W. BARCLAY McMURRICH,
Clerk."

My son had just entered on the discharge of the official duties connected with the deaconship when it pleased the great Disposer of events to remove him to the church above. To my dear partner and myself, the stroke has been sudden and severe; but we bow to it submissively, and anticipate a blessed re-union with those who are "not lost but gone before."

R. B.

Note by the Editor.—In harmony with the spirit of the above extract, we may here insert the testimony borne in favor of Mr. Burns by two of our Provincial papers. From the *Globe* of January 6th, 1868:—

"Very many of our readers will peruse with sorrow the announcement of the death of Mr. W. H. Burns, Barrister, youngest son of Rev. Dr. Burns. Mr. Burns was seized about a fortnight ago with inflammation of the lungs, and during the last week hovered between life and death. The hope entertained up to Friday last that his naturally strong constitution would triumph over his disease, proved to be fallacious, and on Saturday night, at 10 o'clock, he expired. His father was absent on a preaching tour when he was taken ill, but was fortunately able to return in time, and his brother, Rev. R. F. Burns, of Chicago, was also present at the closing scene. Mr. Burns was an able and honest lawyer, devoted to his profession, and zealous in the discharge of every duty which devolved upon him. His political friends will feel his departure deeply, and will ever remember with grateful feelings his zealous services; but their loss is slight compared with that of his family, who mourn in him a most tender and devoted son, husband, and father."

From the *Brantford Expositor* of January 17th, 1868:—

"DEATH OF WILLIAM H. BURNS, ESQ., BARRISTER, TORONTO.—The *Toronto* papers of last week, announced the death of W. H. Burns, Esq., a gentleman well known and highly respected by many in the town of Brantford. Mr. Burns was for several years a resident of our town, when employed in the office of our County Clerk, Mr. Cameron, and during his stay, gathered around him many warm friends and admirers, who sincerely mourn his death. He was cut down in the very prime of life, and at a time when everything connected with his business and public position, indicated a long and prosperous career. To his aged father, the Rev. Dr. Burns, of Knox's College, we tender our sincere sympathy, and we are sure that of many of our readers, who grieve with him, in this sad and unexpected bereavement."

Missionary Intelligence.

RED RIVER.

We are in receipt of a letter from the Rev. A. Matheson, of date 23rd December, 1857. Mr. Matheson states that his health is much improved, and that he is now able to preach again twice every Sabbath. Mr. Matheson found it necessary to leave the residence provided by the people at Little Britain, and rent a house elsewhere. We are sincerely glad to hear of the improved health of Mr. Matheson, and trust it will continue.

MISSIONS OF FREE CHURCH.

INDIA.—The Rev. Dr. J. Murray Mitchell has sailed for India. His congregation and the Presbytery were reluctant to part with him, but agreed, in the circumstances, to do so. Many prayers will follow Dr. Mitchell to India, where his labours were, in former years, productive of so much good.

Mr. Fyfe, one of the missionaries at Calcutta, reports that very considerable damage had been done to mission premises by the cyclone, which lately swept over India. He says:—

“Before this reaches Edinburgh you will have received intelligence of the awful catastrophe that has happened to Calcutta and the surrounding districts. A dreadful cyclone, resembling in fury that of the 5th October 1864, swept over us on the night of Friday and the morning of Saturday last.

“I have not received anything like exact estimates of the losses sustained at our various mission stations, but I am sorry to say that considerable damage has been done to all. The new brick buildings at Mahanad have not suffered much, but the Kutchra out-offices have all been much damaged, and some of them altogether destroyed.

“The houses of the rural station at Inchurah have all been levelled with the ground, and William Das and his family have been obliged to take shelter at Mahanad.

“The new school building at Shonatigri is reported to be much damaged.

“Chinsurah and Bansberia have also sustained considerable damage.

“The premises in Cornwallis Square have suffered much more than they did in the cyclone of 1864. We were in great fear of the west side of our house coming down altogether. It was dreadfully shaken; and an engineer, who inspected it yesterday, said that a part of it must be taken down and rebuilt. All the masonry of our Institution stood the storm well, except the little observatory on the roof, which is so much damaged it must be taken down altogether. We will not think of rebuilding it. Some of the doors were smashed to pieces, and many of the windows destroyed.

“There has so much damage been done in Calcutta that all prices for repairs have risen; and we mean to content ourselves without doors and windows, until etc., the push is over and prices may fall.”

At Chindwara, a young Telugu had been admitted to the church by baptism.

SOUTH AFRICA—TRANSKEI MISSION.—The Rev. J. G. Robertson, preacher of the gospel, has been appointed to proceed to South Africa, with a view of occupying the Transkei territory. The missionaries of the Free Church and of the United Presbyterian Church have both stations in that territory, and carry on missionary operations in great harmony. The Seminary, at Lovedale, is still accomplishing good service. The Rev. Mr.

Brownlee, of the London Missionary Society, having been presented with the sum of £200, on completing 50 years' service as a missionary in South Africa, has invested that sum as a scholarship for the education for the ministry of a native in the Lovedale Seminary.

JEWISH MISSION.—Mr. Moody, from Pesth, gives an account of the re-opening of the school at the beginning of October. He has enrolled 470 children, whose parents are willing to pay the school fee. With reference to the state and prospects of the school and mission, Mr. Moody writes :—

“I think, however, that, as regards the spiritual aspect of the work as a whole, there is evidence that the word of the Lord is not returning void. Sometimes the children carry home so much about Christ that it becomes a serious question with their parents whether they can be allowed to attend longer. This happened in the case of an interesting girl not very long ago. The parents, apparently following the advice of a teacher whom they had daily in the house for Hebrew, had resolved to take her from us because she was learning too much about the Saviour. The teacher allowed that she was receiving in the ordinary branches perhaps better instruction than she could get anywhere else, but remarked that this was only a piece of policy on the part of the missionaries. The scruples were, however, overcome for the time, and she was allowed to continue with us.

“There was another girl some time ago who showed, after she had left the school, that she had been deeply impressed by the truths to which she had been daily listening. She was in the way of going frequently to her old teacher, and speaking with her about Christ. She would say sometimes, with evident earnestness, that she believed in him, and trusted in him as her Saviour. I have not heard of her for some time, and am afraid that the relatives may have seen what was going on, and taken measures to bring it to an end. I was struck to observe that no child from the family was sent to our school this year. There was a little one who has been in the class of beginners, and we expected to see her again. To instance still another case where we cannot doubt that impression had been made—there is a girl at present who shows a remarkable love, not only for the Bible lessons in the school, but also for our services in the church. She appears regularly of her own accord, and seats herself beside our teacher at all the services on week-days and on Sabbath. I trust that in her case there is some evidence of the drawing of the heart to Christ. We cannot tell, however, how soon her parents may take alarm and prohibit her attendance.

“With regard to the work of the mission in general, I may mention that another member of the G—— family is likely very soon to be baptized. Her case has been very interesting, and she is herself now anxious to confess publicly that she has found Jesus the Messiah.

“Another young man has been receiving instruction for some time ; but we are not yet convinced of the integrity of his motives.

“A girl, who was till recently in our school, wrote to Mr. Van An del some time ago, expressing her desire to become a Christian, and her wish at the same time to be sent to Kaiserswerth in order to be trained there as a deaconess. Her brother was baptized at Bazel some time ago ; but I am sorry to say that he has not turned out well.

“I have been occupied a good deal lately going to the coffee-houses, and have had considerable intercourse with Jews. I usually go with Mr. Neuman, our evangelist and colporteur. I am glad to say that the prejudice against the Hebrew Bibles published by the Bible Society is gradually giving way. When recently in Lovasberéng, we called for the rabbi—a man famous

in his day for his learning and his orthodoxy—and even he bought one of our Bibles.”

MISSIONS OF UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Several encouraging indications of progress are mentioned in the January Record. At IKOROFIONG, OLD CALABAR, two young men have been baptized. One of them was the first of the region who had been baptized on his native soil. The missionaries hope that he may be the first-fruits of a large harvest. The other had been for a time at school at Creek Town.

From INDIA the intelligence is cheering. At Beawr, four adults had been baptized, one of these being a learned Brahmin priest, converted through the instructions of Dr. Valentine. We give the following interesting account of these converts from the pen of the Rev. W. Shoolbred :

The most interesting meeting of the conference was that on Sabbath morning, at ten o'clock, when I baptized eight persons into the faith of the Church of Christ. Of these eight, four were young children of the orphanage, who were thus admitted as learners in his school who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me." The other four were adults admitted on intelligent profession of their faith in Christ, and after fair trial of their sincerity. The interest of the occasion chiefly centred round one, a Brahmin, well advanced in years, who stood before us as the first-fruits of our dear brother Valentine's mission to Jeypore. The circumstances connected with this man's conversion are remarkable, and show by what strange paths the Lord sometimes leads his chosen to himself. You are doubtless, aware that the Maharajah of Jeypore is, as to his religious creed, a worshipper of Shiva, and, inspired with a zeal like that of the unconverted Saul of Tarsus, thinks with himself that he ought to do many things contrary to the other Hindu sects, and specially to the Vishnuites. Not that he ever resorted to positive persecution. The farthest he ever went was to invite them to discuss religious matters with him, and to reject tenets which they could not make good. But they, doubtless supposing that a king was a dangerous opponent in argument, took fright, and prepared to leave the temples and jagirs (glebes), from which it was never intended to oust them. Prior to their flight, however, they took to cursing the king in the orthodox Hindu manner, and to praying for his destruction. With this object, and that in impreating the king they might be less obnoxious to discovery and vengeance, a number of the high Vishnuite priests resorted to some famous temples in the adjoining districts of Shekhawate. In one of these our recent convert was living; and wholly disapproving of their traitorous course, he proceeded to Jeypore to give information to the authorities, and put the Maharajah on his guard. In the bazaar of that city he heard for the first time the name and faith of the Lord Jesus proclaimed by our brethren there. Arrested and deeply impressed by the message of mercy, he, after the meeting was over, accompanied Hussein Ali home, conversing and learning more fully about the great salvation. After being introduced to Dr. Valentine, he continued to wait upon him for instruction, and soon gave evidence that the Divine Word was taking root in his heart, and that he was under a higher teaching than man's, even that of the Holy Spirit. Since he was eager to join the church, and Dr. Valentine felt convinced of his fitness to be received within its pale, he accompanied our brother to Beawr; and, having satisfied all the brethren, no less than myself, of the soundness and intelligence of the faith that was in him, we rejoiced to extend to him that rite which sealed his discipleship, and admitted him to the membership of the church. In a paper

drawn up by himself, he made a clear and manly confession of his faith in the Lord Jesus ; and in Hindu and Sanscrit verse, composed by himself, gave most interesting details of the way by which God had led him to embrace his offers of mercy and salvation. He is a noble first-fruit of the work in Jeypore. God grant that our dear brother may be greatly blessed in gathering in many such into the Saviour's fold ! the pundit's former name was Kishauri Dass, which we would have left unchanged but for its idolatrous reference to the worship of Krishna. He now rejoices in the name of Isa Dass, and will, we trust, approve himself a trusty servant of the Lord Jesus. Among the other adults baptized along with him, one was Chanda, poor Boodha's widow. Before her husband's death, she had begun to inquire hopefully ; and, when left alone in the world, she expressed her determination to follow her departed husband in following Christ. Resolute determination rather than bright intelligence characterizes poor Chanda ; and she set herself with dogged perseverance to master the great elementary truths of our holy religion. Unable to read herself, she got the girls of the orphanage to become her teachers, and by their aid committed to memory the whole of our initiatory Hindu catechism. Twice a week she was constant in her attendance on the candidate's class, and made such progress in knowledge, and gave such evidence of sincerity, that when, some time ago, she urged to be admitted to the church, I could find no reasonable ground for refusal, and rejoice now in recognizing her as a sister in Christ.

The other two were grown girls in our orphanage, who came to us at too ripe an age to allow of their being baptized without a profession of their faith in the Saviour. More than three months ago, one of them, Muni by name, the eldest of two sisters sent by Dr. Valentine from Jeypore, came to me to profess her faith in the Lord Jesus, and her desire of being baptized into his Church. She is naturally a very amiable, but not particularly bright girl, and, in examining her, I was surprised at the intelligence of her answers, and the deep feeling with which she gave utterance to her love for the Saviour. A few days after, I discovered the secret of her knowledge, so much riper than I could have anticipated. It turned out that the flower of our flock, Agnes, is her bedfellow ; and that, night after night, after their sisters had gone to sleep, she had spent hours in teaching poor Muni, and in leading her to the faith and love of that Savior in whom she herself rejoices to trust. The other girl baptized is, according to her own statements, with which her features and personal appearance coincide, a native of Burmah. Sold by her parents, or stolen by the Banjaras, or Indian gipsies, she was brought to this part of the world, and in the good providence of God, snatched from a life of hard bondage, and gathered into the Saviour's fold. Like Chanda, poor Deoli is not very bright ; but her knowledge of the character and work of Christ, and her profession of personal interest in his atoning death, coupled with her uniformly amiable and consistent behaviour, gave me reason to cherish the best hopes concerning her, and warranted me in admitting her to the fellowship of the church. It was a joyous Sabbath morning that on which we extended the right hand of fellowship to these interesting brothers and sisters in Christ. It was to us a broad beam of sunshine falling from behind those dark clouds of trial, and bereavement, and bitter sorrow which have so long brooded over us, lighting up these breaking masses with the bow of promise, and giving up the pledge that, however painful and mysterious His dealings may seem, "all the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies."

An earnest appeal is made for at least six additional missionaries. Three are required for India, two for Jamaica, one for Calabar, and one for

China. The mission funds of the United Presbyterian Church will be augmented by the amount of £10,000, which will be paid in May of this year by the trustees and executors of the late John Henderson, Esq. In 1871, the bequest of the late Alexander Patton, Esq., of Cowden Park, Alloa, will come into operation, which, it is expected, will for ten years yield annually about £1,500 for Foreign Missions.

MISSIONS OF IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

At the last meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, it was unanimously agreed to commence a mission to China. The *Herald*, of January, contains a stirring appeal for missionaries, and also for funds. The chief grounds on which the appeal is based are : (1) That China is the most destitute and neglected missionary field in the world, there being eleven provinces, with a population of 200,000,000, in which there is not a single Protestant missionary ; (2) That China is one of the most promising mission fields in the world. The people are ready to listen to the glad tidings,—access is had to all parts of the Empire,—and in many places where missionaries have been labouring, there seems to be a real outpouring of the Spirit.

INDIA.—An additional missionary has recently been appointed to India, the Rev. W. McMordie. The Rev. Mr. Dixon, missionary at Surat, loudly calls for an additional labourer. Mr. Dixon reports that the annual examination of the English Mission School, had been brought to a close, and that the results show an advance of nearly fifty per cent. on those of last year.

COLONIAL MISSION.—The Irish Presbyterian Church has long been very actively engaged in advancing the good work in the British Colonies, especially Australia, and New Zealand, as well as on the Continent. The *Herald* announces the arrival of two missionaries, Rev. Messrs. Lewer and West, at Moreton Bay, Queensland.

CHINA.

We give frequent extracts from the letters of the missionaries of the English Presbyterian Church labouring in China, and we have reason to believe that not a few take an interest in the intelligence afforded as to the progress of the Gospel in the great Empire of China. The following paper from the *Messenger*, which comes in a new and improved form, will give our readers an idea of the present position of the Chinese mission.

“From the first awakening at Pechuia under the manifest teaching of the Holy Spirit, a period of only fourteen years has elapsed. During that time, native churches have been formed at nine different towns and villages, within a radius of about fifty miles around Amoy ; and at a similar number of stations in and around Swatow, including the capital city of the district. On the island of Formosa, also, a little company of nine baptised Christians, the fruit of less than two years’ labour, forms the nucleus of a church, which we hope to see ere long rising into much larger proportions.

During the year that has just closed, 100 baptisms have been reported from these three districts (Amoy, 80 ; Swatow, 15 ; Formosa, 5) ; making with the previous numbers, a total of 450 native Christian communicants, with a proportion of baptised children, besides a large number of candidates for baptism, and of general hearers. A few deaths have occurred to be deducted from the above total.

There are ten missionaries sent out by our Church, assisted by about thirty native evangelists and helpers. These are distributed as follows:—

Our oldest missionary, Mr. Burns, has been for four years actively engaged in mission work at the capital, co-operating with the agents of other societies. By the latest accounts, he has gone on a visit to New chwang, the most northerly of the Free Ports, and situated in Moulchuria. A short notice of this promising field of missionary labours is given in the present number.

In the Amoy district, Messrs. Douglas, Macgregor, and Cowie divide the work of visiting and superintending the native churches. They also conduct a class for training promising young men for the ministry. Nine of these are at present under instruction. Mr. Swanson, who is now at home on furlough, hopes to return to Amoy with Mrs. Swanson next month.

In the Swatow district, Messrs. Smith and McKenzie carry on the work of preaching the Gospel, while a large blessing has rested on the hospital work under Dr. Gauld, the medical missionary.

On Formosa, Dr. Maxwell has been labouring single-handed as a medical missionary for the last two years, but we hope he has by this time been joined Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie, who sailed from England in July last.

Looking at China generally, as a mission field, it seems everywhere ripe unto the harvest. The old idolatries seem to be losing their hold of the people. Government colleges are being established at the Free Ports for instructing Chinese youths in Western science and arts; and there is, along with such hopeful signs, a remarkable readiness everywhere to listen to the Gospel message.

There is no finer field for missionary enterprise in the whole world. God's time to favour China seems to be come, and we may esteem it a high privilege to have been permitted to share so largely in the reaping of this harvest of souls".

LETTER FROM THE REV. W. C. BURNS.

NEW-CHWANG, Sept. 9, 1867.

His movements after leaving Peking.

DEAR MR. MATHESON,—When I last wrote you from Peking, I mentioned that I had thought of setting out for this place, either as a terminus for the time being, or possibly as an intermediate step in going south to head-quarters. I also mentioned, that in consequence of the opposition of some kind friends to my finally leaving Peking, I had so far altered my plan as to propose, in the first place, paying a visit to Shawtung and seeing the people among whom there has been manifested, as we have heard, so interesting a work of grace. God in His providence, however, prevented me from carrying out this latter purpose. On the day when we were to have left Peking, the rain fell in torrents, and next day, although the weather was fine overhead, we found, after proceeding a certain distance, that the roads were quite impassible. Added to this the country we had to pass through was infested by mountain banditti, and so no course was open but either to return to Peking or go on to Tienstin by boat from Tung-chow. I preferred the latter course, and so, sending from Tung-chow to Peking for my boxes, I proceeded down the river to Tientsin. This was on Monday, Aug. 12th; we had left Peking on the previous Wednesday, Aug. 7th. At Tientsin I found no vessel ready to sail for New-chwang, but hearing that there was one at Takoo, I hurried down to over-

take her. We succeeded in reaching this vessel, but were disappointed to find that she was now bound for Chefoo. At Takoo I waited till Thursday, the 22nd, when through the kindness of Mr. Goddard, the English vice-consul, and of Mr. Field, in charge of the Foreign Customs (who both spoke in our behalf to the officers of the native custom-house), we had a free passage offered us in a native vessel going to New-chwang for grain. We embarked so hurriedly that I was able to make too little preparation in the way of food. The junk people were very kind; but such food as they could supply me with didn't suit my stomach, and, in consequence, I landed here on the following Tuesday a little unwell; and though I have been taking medicine and keeping quiet, I am not yet in my usual health. Dr. Watson, from Edinburgh, the medical officer here, has been very kind in his attentions, and I trust, if the Lord will, to be soon again in possession of my usual vigour.

Description of New-chwang.

This is a large and very important centre of trade. The river Ledow, which is two or three times the size of the Peiho, is filled with shipping, native and foreign, and during the shipping season the town is crowded with people. During winter, when the river is frozen, the town is, as may be supposed, comparatively deserted. The region round, to which this is the door of entrance, is very extensive, fertile, and well peopled, the inhabitants speaking a dialect almost identical with the mandarian of the capital. It is indeed high time that a Protestant mission were established here, as the basis from which ultimately the truth might spread throughout Moulchouria and the regions beyond, such as the province of Kirin, in which mandarian is also the spoken language. Mr. Meadows, the British Consul here, has been many years in the south and middle parts of China, and he has told me he thinks the climate here on the whole better than that of any other place where he has been located. I am well aware that our church has a sufficiently large field of labour at Amoy, Swatow, and on Formosa, and I would not even suggest to your committee the propriety of their attempting a mission station here; but I hope that some other body which has more strength to spare may take up, without loss of time, this important field. Whether I shall remain here after the shipping season closes or not, I cannot as yet decide, but if spared and in health, I shall certainly be very unwilling again to leave this post without a single missionary to raise a testimony to the truth among the Chinese, from our countrymen. One of the subordinate difficulties here is the high rate of rents that is demanded for shops and houses; 120 taels (£40 sterling) per annum is asked for a shop and rooms behind, which, in most places, would be worth not more than a tenth of this sum.

I have a native Christian with me—a member of the London Mission Church, Peking. He is a small farmer from the neighbourhood of T'sæ-Yuh, 20 miles to the S.E. of Peking, and was one of the first fruits of that station, when opened in 1865. He is not a talented man, but I think has felt the grace of God. Hoping, if spared, to write you soon again, and begging an interest in the prayers of God's people, I am ever, yours truly,

(Signed)

WM. C. BURNS

General Religious Intelligence.

THE LATE DR. JAMES HAMILTON.

(Funeral Sermon by Rev. Dr. Candlish.)

On the Sabbath morning after the funeral of Dr. Hamilton, the Rev. Dr. Candlish preached in Regent's Square Church, to a large and deeply affected congregation. He selected as his text, Phil. iii. 10-11.

"That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death, if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead." Towards the close of his discourse Dr. Candlish said: Coming to you on this sad occasion, I intend, instead of a funeral oration, simply to preach the Word to you, as the most becoming course, the course he whose presence haunts us to-day would prefer if he had the choice, as I would prefer when my time comes. I have a message to deliver to you from him, "Love to the Session and congregation," to some by name and many more. "If any inquire the ground of my confidence, it is not that I have been a minister of the Gospel, or have been kept from some sins, for I feel utterly unworthy. My hope is in the mercy of God, through Jesus Christ, and in that blood which cleanseth from all sin, and I wish to go into God's presence as the rest have gone, a sinner saved by grace—a sinner saved by grace." That is his latest message to you—lay it solemnly to heart, as I desire to lay it to heart. With this preface I may be allowed to give utterance to some impressions and reminiscences clustering in my mind around James Hamilton. I so loved your pastor that I cannot venture to refer to the subject at any great length, but the intimacy of friendship which long existed between us induced me to offer to preach on this occasion. Such was the transparency of his nature, such the perfectly guileless simplicity of his character, that none could meet with him without knowing him, or know him without loving him. A brotherly conversation will illustrate this. "He was," said his brother, "surprised by seeing me step into his room. 'My dear William, how glad I am to see you; how kind of you to come so far.' 'I have just come, dear James, to tell you how many of us are envying you in your being so near at-home.' 'I sometimes hope it will be so, but fear I may be disappointed.' 'You won't be disappointed in this—you will be at home in a day or two, perhaps in a few hours.' 'Oh, William, you have brought me good news indeed, how kind to tell me this.'" The conversation was resumed. "I had been preaching from these words, 'Absent from the body, present with the Lord,' and had been much interested to find that the Greek for to be 'present with the Lord' might be translated 'at home with the Lord,'—at home because He is there, at home because the family of God is there; oh, how beautiful! That is the meaning of 'I go to prepare a place for you,'—I go to make it a home for you. 'Oh, William, you are a happy man—you are strong and well, and you have the wondrous privilege of preaching the glorious Gospel.' Asking for my wife and children, and hearing they had all sent their love to him, he said, 'I am lying in love and hemmed in by love on every side—nothing but love around, but too little love within me.'" It was the very fulness of his love that made him feel the shortcoming. He had so much love that he never would be satisfied that he loved enough. There was no weakness in his love—it was a strong, manly affection. Loving the truth—the truth of God—the truth as it is in Jesus, never was there any compromise of principle, never any indulgent softness towards sin or error

Warmly as he was attached to the creed and polity of our Free Kirk—of our Presbyterian communion, he belonged to the Church catholic—to the brotherhood of all the saints, of all true men in all true denominations. The universal anxiety of many and various pastors and congregations during his illness, so many of all varieties of religious sentiments and views thronging this house, and crowding round the open grave, witness to this in an unexampled manner. His less presses heavily on you—on you, my dear friends, who have been wont to hang upon his charmed lips here, and welcome him to your homes where his very presence made sunshine. You have the whole family of God's people with you. We may be thankful that such a man has lived.—He was, to use the poet's words, "a rare man." Gifted originally with an extraordinary combination of mind and heart, he had qualities any one of which apart might have made another man distinguished—a fine poetical temperament, a subtle vein of humor, an apt and pointed wit, a keen sense and relish of beauty, a quick eye for all natural objects, a correct and capacious memory, a power of exact thought and arrangement, a fluency of beautiful speech, and a ready pen not often excelled. He had cultivated these tastes by untiring study from early youth, and continued so to cultivate them to the last. He threw around all a bright pictorial imagination, and could draw illustrations from all the realms of nature and well-nigh all the sciences of life.—Need I speak of his manly disposition, his large-heartedness, his unostentatious generosity, of that ardent zeal and that elevated type and tone of charity which won the admiration and esteem of every one? He was a man beloved of God, and he repaid with usury all the love he won. I must have done with his personal character, nor can I dwell on his services to the church. They are well known, and in due time will be chronicled. He was one of the busiest of men, yet always at leisure. I offered myself for this duty, knowing that it would be very trying, but not able to resist the impulse moving me to pay this tribute to my brother in the Lord. I knew him, if not from his boyhood, at least from his ripening youth. I watched his college career with sanguine anticipation of his fame. I chose him to be my fellow-labourer in my parochial mission-house, and the beginning of his ministry was with me. I was the chief in introducing him to London to your notice, and in persuading him to accept your call. Our relations since have been of the choicest kind.—When the exciting crisis of the ten years' conflict compelled my prolonged residence here, our pastoral fellowship, like our personal friendship, continued unabated. I part with him, and call on you to part with him, in words of his own, translated from a song of the land of Luther. Dr. Candlish then recited the lines, "Gone to a home of sweet repose," and with some words of parting consolation to Dr. Hamilton's mourning friends brought his affecting and solemn address to a close.

ITEMS OF GENERAL RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE,

RITUALISM.—The ritualistic questions are still largely engaging public attention in England. At a recent meeting of the Evangelical party it was agreed to make an appeal to the courts of law, and to raise a guarantee fund of not less than £50,000 to enable the council to assist parishioners who may apply for advice and expenses.

NATAL.—The committee appointed by the Lambeth conference have recommended that a new bishop should be at once elected for Natal. The Bishop of London is of opinion that no election should take place, until Bishop Colenso has been lawfully deposed.

PROSPECTS OF UNION IN SCOTLAND.—A pamphlet has been published by those who are opposed to the contemplated union of non-endowed Presbyterians in Scotland and England. Its object is to explain and vindicate their course in seeking to retard or break off the union movements. They charge the majority with renouncing the principles of the Free Church, and seeking to violate its constitution, and are prepared to assume the responsibility of arresting the present union negotiations.

PAMPHLET, BY REV. D. FRASER, OF INVERNESS.—The Rev. D. Fraser, to whose pamphlet we referred in our last number, has written to the *Weekly Review*, and in his communication takes exception to the justness of the review, and denies that he urges an immediate movement for union with the Establishment. Mr. Fraser considers that the principles of the Free Church should be faithfully adhered to.

PATRONAGE IN THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—A movement which appears to be spreading has been begun in the Presbytery of Edinburgh, having for its object the modification of the law of Patronage.

DEATH OF A MINISTER IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—We notice the death of the Rev. Dr. McCurdy, of Chatham, N. B. Dr. McCurdy was one of the fathers of the Presbyterian church in New Brunswick, and had been minister at Chatham for nearly forty years.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR McDUGALL, OF EDINBURGH.—We regret to observe notice of the death of Professor McDougall, of Edinburgh. Mr. McDougall, who was a very able scholar, was formerly connected with the New College, Edinburgh.

ARRIVAL OF DR. N. McLEOD IN INDIA.—Dr. Norman McLeod, who was appointed, together with Dr. Watson, to visit the missions in India, has safely arrived at Bombay. Dr. McLeod was presented by the captain, officers, and passengers of the vessel by which he sailed, with an address, expressive of gratitude for his attentions and ministrations during the voyage.

ASSISTANT AND SUCCESSOR TO REV. W. McCLURE, OF LONDONDERRY.—It has been proposed to appoint an assistant and successor to the Rev. W. McClure of the First Presbyterian congregation of Derry. The charge has been hitherto a collegiate one, but it is intended that this arrangement shall cease. Mr. McClure deserves some help and repose, having been for many years a most laborious minister, not only in his own congregation, but in connection with the Colonial department of the work of the church, and other duties.

DEATH OF DR. SMITH, OF BIGGAR.—The death is announced of Rev. Dr. Smith, of Biggar, a venerable and highly esteemed minister of the United Presbyterian Church.

UNION MOVEMENTS IN THE STATES.—Movements are extending in many places, having in view the re-union of the Presbyterian bodies in the United States. An influential meeting was lately held in the city of New York, at which Rev. Drs. Adams, Alexander, Smith, Imbrie, and others took part.

Home Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

CALLS.—*Tecumseh.*—The Rev. R. Moodie has received a call from the 1st and 2nd congregations of Tecumseh.—*Prescott.*—The Rev. J. Burton, of Lyn, has been called by the congregation of Prescott.

INDUCTION.—*Oakville.*—The Rev. W. Meikle has been inducted as Pastor of the congregation of Oakville.

GEORGETOWN.—A remarkably neat and commodious church was opened at Georgetown on Sabbath, 12th ult., when the services were conducted by the Rev. Prof. Caven of Knox College. The Rev. Mr. Jeffers of the Wesleyan Church, also preached. Dr. Burns was expected, but domestic affliction prevented him. A service was held on the Monday evening, when interesting addresses were given to a large and attentive audience. We congratulate the excellent Pastor, Mr. Ewing, on the completion of such a neat and commodious place of worship.

PORT BURWELL.—*Opening of new Church.*—Our spirited friends in Port Burwell having erected a new church, which was opened for Divine Service on the first Sabbath of the year, by the Rev. Arch. Cross, of Erskine Church, Ingersoll, who officiated in the forenoon and evening. Mr. Andrew Rowat, Student of Divinity, who had been supplying there for a few Sabbaths, preached in the afternoon. On all three occasions, the church, which is seated for 300 at least, was crowded with a most respectable and attentive audience. The collections at the three diets of worship amounted to \$32.11. On Monday evening following, a soiree in honor of the occasion was held in the Odd Fellows Hall, which proved far too small for the accommodation of the numbers who sought admission. Leonidas Burwell, Esq., occupied the chair, and after refreshments had been served, the meeting was addressed by the Chairman, Rev. A. Cross, Rev. H. P. Fitch, Baptist, Rev. J. Schulte, D.D., Episcopal, and Mr. Rowat. Excellent music was given at intervals by a well-trained choir and an instrumental band. The meeting broke up about half past 10 o'clock, all apparently well pleased with the proceedings of the evening.

The church thus opened under such favorable auspices is a frame building, beautifully situated, and neatly finished. The site was a free gift from L. Burwell, Esq. The total cost of the building is estimated at \$1650, of this amount there has been already paid, or provided for, the sum of \$1300, which leaves a debt of \$350. Should any members of our church in other congregations feel disposed to aid our friends at the Port, who are few in numbers, in wiping off this debt, we are sure that their donations will be most thankfully received. The proceeds of the soiree and the Sabbath collections, (clear of all expenses), amounted to \$125.05. It will thus be seen that the Presbyterian cause at Port Burwell has received a fresh impetus in the opening of the first church erected by our members there, and it is to be hoped that the Presbytery of London will foster it to the utmost of their power. May the congregation there, and the station at Vienna, which are associated together, go on and prosper until "the little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation."

It is pleasing to state that the most friendly feeling has been manifested by the other denominations. The site for the new church was the gift of Mr. Burwell, a member of the church of England. The Baptists gave the use of their place of worship to the Presbyterians for some years, and on the Sabbath on which the church was opened, the Wesleyans gave up their usual services.

PLYMPTON.—The congregation of North and South Plympton is one of the largest in the London Presbytery. For several years they were without a Pastor, during which time they not only kept together but increased in prosperity. And since the induction of their present pastor, the Rev. Robert Scott, on the 10th of September, 1867, the attendance in both places of worship has not only been good, but, when the weather permits, is generally crowded, passages as well as pews being filled. And if it were

not for expected changes in the formation of new stations in connection with our church, in this comparatively new and rapidly increasing part of the country, the enlargement of the present churches, or new ones would be loudly called for. Let the prosperity that has attended the efforts of the Plympton congregations for these few months past continue, and an enlargement in one way or other will require to be made. In connection with the congregation, there are three prayer meetings in different parts of the congregation, all of which are well attended, and some of them crowded to excess. Besides, one Sabbath School has been opened, and other three are in prospect, and will, (D. V.,) be opened as soon as circumstances will permit. The great want being teachers qualified and willing to undertake the duties of the office. A large addition is proposed to the eldership, to strengthen the hands of the pastor, and the more efficiently carry on the work of the Lord in their midst. During the long vacancy the manse and glebe have been much neglected, and were much in want of repairs, so in order to give the pastor a warm welcome and raise funds, they held a soiree, on the night of induction, which was most successful, realizing a very considerable sum, and displaying a very happy and cordial feeling towards their new pastor. "which feeling we have good reason to believe continues until this day." There is much work to be done in connection with the cause of Christ in Plympton, but with the blessing of God resting upon the efforts of pastor and people, and the earnest prayers of both that cause shall prosper. And it is to be hoped that Plympton will yet be known among the churches of the land as one that the Lord has blessed.

WALKERTON.—At the annual meeting of the Walkerton congregation, on January 2nd, it was agreed to advance the stipend of the Pastor, the Rev. R. C. Moffat, the sum of one hundred dollars per annum, making it for the present year \$600.

This is as it ever should be, for if a minister shares *all* the hardships of a new settlement and of a feeble church, he has a right to *some* of the abundance which Providence has graciously given.

GRANTON.—The Rev. A. Findlay, recently settled in the congregations of Biddulph and Fish Creek, has been presented by his people with an excellent horse and cutter, as a mark of their friendly feeling and attachment.

MOUNT PLEASANT.—The Rev. William Peattie desires, through the "*Record*," to return thanks for a valuable Christmas Box, most unexpectedly received by him from some generous friend or friends. Its contents (which consist of something appropriate to every member of his family) are tangible evidence of the kindly interest and liberal heart of the friend or friends from whom it has been sent.

ALMA.—The Rev. John Davidson has been presented by the members of his Bible Class with a purse and upwards of twenty dollars, as a token of their gratitude for the interest which he has taken in them.

NEW HAMBURGH.—A few of the leading supporters of the Mission Station opened last year at New Hamburgh, under the care of the Paris Presbytery, by the Rev. Mr. Bell, Probationer, met with that gentleman previous to his leaving them, and presented him with a purse containing a handsome sum, in appreciation of his valuable services among them.

PICTON.—The Rev. J. McMechan received from the members of the congregation a New Year's present of \$80. The members of the Bible Class also presented Mr. and Mrs. McMechan with a number of beautiful books at the same time. Considering the effort necessary for the purchase of the Manse, it must be acknowledged that the Picton congregation has

dore well. They have recently subscribed very handsomely for Knox College and the Home Mission Fund.

LOBO.—The Rev. Duncan McMillan lately received from the members of his congregation the gift of an excellent family carriage.

BELLEVILLE.—On Friday evening last, the Sabbath School scholars of John St. Canada Presbyterian Church, presented their Superintendent A. G. Northrup, Esq., with Fairbairn's Imperial Bible Dictionary, handsomely bound and gilt; Porter's Giant Cities of Bashan; Thomson's Land and The Book; and Hodge's Outlines of Theology; as a token of their affection and appreciation of his valuable services, and an acknowledgment of the deep interest he has taken for many years in the welfare of the school.

SCARBORO'.—On New Year's Day, after divine service, in Knox Church, Scarboro', the Rev. D. H. Fletcher, on behalf of the congregation, presented to Mr. Clark a handsome gold watch, with the following inscription:—"Presented to William Clark, Esq., J. P., by the congregation of Knox Church, Scarboro', as a token of esteem and of gratitude for many valuable services rendered. January 1st, 1868." Mr. Clark replied in appropriate and feeling terms, thanking the congregation for their appreciation of his services, which he rendered most cheerfully, not with the view of receiving reward from man, but from love to the cause of their common Master, and from a sense of his obligations as a Christian.

ERSKINE CHURCH, MONTREAL.—OVERTURE ON THE SUBJECT OF MISSIONS.—At the annual Missionary Meeting of the Erskine Church, Montreal, held on the 26th December, after the report of the past year's proceedings had been read, Committee for ensuing year appointed, disposal of the funds, and other business, it was moved by Dr. Dawson, seconded by Warden King, Esq., and unanimously resolved: "That we take the proper steps for bringing under the notice of the Presbytery of Montreal and the Synod of the Church, our strong conviction of the urgency of the call on us to send the Gospel to the Heathen, by Missionaries from this country, and our willingness to aid to the utmost extent of our ability in maintaining such Missionaries." Rev. Dr. Taylor and Dr. Dawson were requested to draw up our overture in accordance with the foregoing, and Dr. Dawson and David Ross Kerr, Esq., were appointed to support the same before the Presbytery of Montreal and Synod of the Church.

From the published reports of the congregation, we are glad to observe tokens of continued prosperity and progress. The ordinary income for the year amounted to \$4626 55, showing an increase of \$530. The amount received by the Treasurer on account of the Building Fund was \$7,253. Like the other congregations in Montreal, Erskine Church has done well for the new College. The amount raised in connection with the Missionary Society was, with balance on hand, \$2,320 27.

BANK STREET, OTTAWA.—We are glad to hear of the progress of this second congregation in the Capital of the Dominion. The contract has been let for the erection of a handsome and commodious Church. At the last annual meeting, the congregation added \$100 to the salary of the Pastor, making it in all \$1,100 per annum.

KILBRIDE.—On the 9th ult., notwithstanding the extreme coldness of the evening, a large number of the congregation waited on the pastor, the Rev. W. H. Simpson, and presented him with a purse containing \$100, as a small token of their esteem and attachment. After spending a short time in social intercourse, the deputation retired, all cherishing the strong hope that the union between Pastor and people may be long continued.

CHURCH OPENING AT CUMNOCK.—The people of Cumnock belonging to the Canada Presbyterian Church, have, during the past summer, erected for themselves a neat brick church capable of seating over 200 people. It is about three years since a preaching station was opened here in connection with Alma. About two years ago, the Rev. John Davidson was called, and ordained as minister of these stations. The congregation at Cumnock during the past three years met in a school-house, but finding it small and inconvenient as the attendance increased, they resolved to erect a suitable place of worship, which has been completed and was formally opened on Sabbath, the 19th of January. The Rev. Wm. Cochrane, M.A., of Brantford, conducted the opening services, morning, afternoon, and evening, and preached appropriate and eloquent discourses to large and attentive audiences.

On the Monday following there was a social meeting which was so largely attended that many could not gain admittance to the Church. The Rev. Mr. Davidson, pastor of the congregation occupied the chair, and gave some account of the origin of the station, and its state at the present time. Mr. Cochrane delivered an interesting lecture on "Scotland's Hero Martyrs." There were also short and appropriate addresses delivered by Rev. Messrs. Brewster, Smellie and McDonnell, of Fergus, and Middlemiss and Duff, of Elora.

The choir of Melville Church, Fergus, (Rev. Mr. Smellie), added greatly to the entertainment of the evening, by the skilful execution of several well chosen pieces of music. On the Tuesday following there was a soiree for the Sabbath-School, and the children of the district, which was largely attended.

The financial results, including amounts realized from collections on Sabbath, and tea-meeting, will approximate \$190. The Church with basement and tower, cost about \$2,000. A considerable debt yet remains upon the church, but with the blessing of God upon the congregation and suitable efforts, it is expected that it will be paid off without much difficulty.

KNOX'S CHURCH, MONTREAL.—We observe that on the occasion of the annual meeting of the congregation of Knox's Church, Montreal, the Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Irvine, was presented with the sum of \$400. A handsome testimonial, in the shape of a time-piece of the value of \$400, was presented to Alexander McGibbon, Esq., in recognition of his services to the congregation.

KANKAKEE—REV. C. CHINIQUY.—We received, when ready for the press, a communication from Rev. C. Chiniquy, with reference to the state and progress of the Mission. Mr. Chiniquy is at present, at the request of the Committee, visiting a number of the leading cities and towns addressing meetings and taking up contributions for the Mission.

LAKEFIELD.—The Rev. J. Thom desires to acknowledge the considerate kindness of some friends—their names are unknown to him—who gave him a substantial and seasonable token of their regard.

PROCEEDINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.—This Presbytery met in Belleville on the 14th and 15th of January 1868. The following are the most important items of business. The united congregations of Glenvale, Harrowsmith and Glenburnie, were recognized as a vacancy. A committee, consisting of Messrs. McMechau, Convener, and McLaren, ministers, Mr. Andrew Patterson, and Dr. Thomas Moore, was appointed to inquire into the condition of the property in Demorestville. A communication was received from the congregation of Picton, intimating that they

have purchased property for a manse, from Mr. George C. Curry, and asking the leave of the Presbytery to dispose of the property, previously obtained, for that object.—Their request was granted.

In response to a circular respecting Knox College, the Presbytery resolved to do all in their power for the support of that institution.

The clerk gave notice that he would bring up for consideration, at next meeting, the Remits of Synod,—viz.,—the overture anent the use of instrumental music in public worship, and the act for the reception of ministers.

Subscription papers were presented from the congregations of Camden and Sheffield, from which it appeared that they were prepared to pay the sum of \$375 50 for the support of a minister. Mr. Scott, also, intimated that they were desirous of having a call moderated in. The Presbytery authorized him to attend to the matter. Mr. James Kirkland and Jonathan Travers, delegates from Trenton, expressed a desire on the part of the people in that place to have a moderation in a call. Mr. McLaren was appointed to attend to the matter as soon as circumstances might warrant.

Mr. Wishart brought before the attention of the Presbytery the peculiar condition of his field of labour, and the anticipated influx of population into the gold mining district during the ensuing summer, and requested that an assistant be appointed for six months, and that a supplement of \$120 be obtained from the Central Fund for his support. The Presbytery acceded to his request, and appointed Messrs. William McLaren (Convener), David Wishart, and George Robertson a committee to take such steps as they may deem best to attain the end desired.

Mr. Wishart further brought under the notice of the Presbytery, the mission field of North Hastings. The Presbytery agreed to request the Rev. A. Lees to go for eight or ten weeks on a mission in that region, and to apply for a grant of \$4 per Sabbath, from the Central Fund, for his support.

The attention of the Presbytery was called to certain circumstances in connection with the labours of Mr. William Campbell, Catechist; whereupon it was resolved that this Presbytery do not, in the meantime, recommend Mr. Campbell to the Synod's Home Mission committee for employment.

The Presbytery decided to apply for four missionaries for the ensuing summer. Arrangements were made for holding a Presbyterial visitation of the congregation of Napanee in February next.

Mr. Wishart gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that the stated meetings of Presbytery be held in Belleville in the future.

THOMAS S. CHAMBERS, *Presbytery Clerk*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.—This Presbytery met at Peterboro' on the 14th January. There were present eleven ministers and four elders.

The Rev. W. C. Young was appointed moderator, for the next six months.

It was reported that partial supply had been given to Chandos and Warsaw, during the quarter, by Messrs. Thom and Wright.

Mr. Roger, on behalf of the committee, appointed to confer with Mr. Peter Scott, reported that the committee had met with Mr. Scott and examined him regarding his knowledge, personal religion, and his views toward the ministry, and that the committee were highly satisfied with Mr. Scott, and believed that he was well adapted to serve God in the ministry of the Gospel, whereupon, the Presbytery, after mature deliberation, decided to re-appoint the same committee to confer with Mr. Scott and examine him as to his progress in his studies, and, if satisfied therewith, the Presbytery shall recommend his reception, by the Synod, as a student entering upon the first year in theology.

The conveners of various missionary deputations reported that meetings have been held at Colborne, Brighton, Grafton, Norwood, Hastings, Keene, Westwood, Lakefield, Smith, Cobourg, Cold Springs, Bethesda, Alnwick, Port Hope, Centreville, Millbrook, Emily.

Received and read a report from the Rev. John Laing, anent the augmentation of stipends. After considering the different items of the report, the Presbytery made arrangements for holding meetings in those congregations, where the subject of an augmentation of stipend had not been considered.

The clerk reported that the congregation of Perrytown and Oakhills had, through the managers, paid the sum of \$26, in payment of the debt due by them to the Presbytery.

Received and considered a petition from the congregation of Fenelon Falls and Somerville, praying for moderation in a call. The Presbytery agreed to grant the prayer of the petition and appointed Mr. Paterson to moderate in a call at Fenelon Falls and Somerville, at such time as might be considered most suitable by Mr. Paterson and the congregation.

There was read, a circular, from the convener of the College Board, urging increased liberality in support of the college. The Presbytery agreed to recommend to the congregations under their care, increased liberality in support of KNOX COLLEGE.

Reports of missionary services, by Messrs. Peter Scott, W. Scott, Hugh Crozier, and J. Beckett, were read and approved.

The following appointments were made for the supply of vacancies and mission stations:—Mr. W. Reeve, to supply Fenelon Falls and Somerville for three months; Mr. Peter Scott, to supply Warsaw until next meeting of Presbytery. Campbellford, to be supplied by the probationers of the Presbytery. Messrs. Reeve and Paterson, each to give two Sabbaths to Minden, etc., sometime during the quarter.

Moved by Mr. Waters, seconded by Mr. Roger, and unanimously carried—That the Rev. Alex. Topp, M.A., be nominated as moderator of next Synod.

Financial statements from the congregations at Cobourg and Lakefield were received and read.

The clerk was instructed to issue circulars to the different congregations within the bounds, calling upon them for their contributions to the Presbytery Fund.

Agreed to take up the remits of Synod, ament the use of Instrumental Music in public worship, and the Act of the reception of ministers, as the first items of business at the next meeting of Presbytery.

Mr. Paterson gave notice that he intends calling the attention of the Presbytery to the importance of considering the best means for promoting the interests of vital religion.

The Presbytery adjourned, to meet at Cobourg, on the FIRST TUESDAY OF MAY, at Eleven O'clock in the forenoon.

D. WATERS, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF ONTARIO.—This Church Court held a regular meeting at Columbus on Tuesday, the 7th day of January, when there were eleven Ministers and ten Elders present.—Rev. W. C. Windel, Moderator.

The Rev. R. H. Thornton, D.D., reported that he had moderated in a call at Columbus, on the 17th day of December, and that the congregation were quite unanimous in calling the Rev. J. B. Edmondson, at present engaged in a congregation in New Jersey. As there were peculiarities connected with his position, on motion made, it was agreed that "in-as-much as Mr. Edmondson has not yet been received by this Church, the call be allowed to lie on the table; and all questions connected therewith be left till a future meeting of Presbytery." The clerk was instructed to correspond with Mr. Edmondson, giving that decision and asking him to forward the necessary papers. As much as possible, to prevent delay or disappointment, a committee composed of Dr. Thornton (convener) and Mr. Scott, with their presbytery elders, was appointed to examine said papers, and, if satisfactory, to arrange for the said Mr. Edmondson's location till the meeting of Synod.

The committee appointed to examine the treasurer's book, reported that it was correct.

The Presbytery took up the Synod's remit on the use of instrumental music in public worship. The sessions that reported, were not favourable to the use of any instrument, in said worship. It was moved by the Rev. John McTavish, and seconded by Mr. W. Heron, "That the use of instrumental music, in public worship be disallowed in this Church." It was moved in amendment, by the Rev. J. Smith, and seconded by Dr. Thornton, "That without deciding whether or not

instrumental music is Scriptural, this Presbytery, having in view the unity and peace of the Church, is of opinion that it is inexpedient under present circumstances, to make any change in the practice of the Church on this subject." Nine members voted for the amendment, and eight for the motion. The Rev. John McLachlan, and Mr. Daniel Cameron entered their dissent.

Knox College circular was received; and deputations on missions were requested to bring the claims of the College before the congregations at the missionary meeting.

Arrangements were made for the dispensation of the Lord's Supper, at Columbus, and Ashburn.

A petition from the united sessions of Cambray and Islay, was read, asking the court to appoint one of their number to moderate in a call. Mr. Irwin—certified commissioner—was heard in support of said petition, who stated that the congregations were prepared unitedly to offer \$400 for stipend, and that they desired the Presbytery to secure for them, if possible, the supplement of \$150 from the H. M. Fund. The prayer of the petition was granted; and Mr. MacTavish was appointed to moderate. The Presbytery also agreed to apply to the committee for said supplement.

In the matter of increase of ministerial support, it was decided that the deputies on missions when visiting the congregation meet with the office bearers to inquire whether said congregations had come to any arrangement on the subject, and that, in those cases—should there be any—in which no resolution had been come to, said deputations respectfully request those office bearers to bring the matter before a congregational meeting early, and report to the clerk of Presbytery before next meeting.

The next regular meeting was appointed to be held at Oshawa, on the second Tuesday of March at eleven of the clock *a. m.*

GEORGE RIDDELL, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.—The ordinary meeting of this Presbytery was held on the 14th of January. Rev. R. Torrance, Moderator, *p. t.* Twenty ministers and fourteen members were present.

After hearing statements, which were all of them satisfactory, on behalf of congregations that were, in May last, more or less in arrears in the payment of stipend, and disposing of some routine business; the Presbytery took up consideration of the overture, sent down by the Synod, on the subject of Instrumental Music in public worship. It was moved by Mr. W. T. Murdoch, seconded by Mr. M. McKenzie, "That the Presbytery sustain the overture, but recommend that the Synod, in granting the liberty craved, impose such checks as in its wisdom are deemed necessary to preserve the peace of our congregations." It was moved by Mr. J. Middlem's, seconded by Mr. Geo. McLennan, "That the Presbytery having considered the overture of the Synod from the congregation of Knox's Church, Montreal, anent the use of Instrumental Music, and by the Synod sent down to Presbyteries, disapprove of the said overture, and declare their persuasion, in which it is their earnest hope that the Synod will express concurrence, that the use of Instrumental Music in public worship is contrary to the principles of the church, and cannot be permitted in any congregation connected therewith." The second motion was, after a lengthened discussion, carried by a majority of sixteen to nine.

THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This Presbytery met in Central Church, Hamilton, on the 14th of January. Dr. Ormiston, Moderator, occupied the chair. There were present 18 ministers and 6 elders. The Rev. Mr. Norton, of St. Catharines; the Rev. Dr. Martin, of the Presbytery of New York, O. S.; the Rev. Mr. James, of Paris; the Rev. Mr. Dawson, a minister without charge, and the Rev. Mr. McGlashan, of Pelham, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Presbytery adopted a suitable minute in connection with the death of Mr. P. Thornton, who departed this life, in Dundas, on the 20th of October last. He was for many years a representative elder, both in our congregation in Dundas,

and also in the Merrick Street congregation, now the Central Church, in Hamilton. He was a faithful, active, consistent christian.

The Presbytery having taken up a paper from the pastor, elders, and members of the first Presbyterian Church, St. Catharines, asking whether the use of Instrumental Music would be a bar to their reception into this Presbytery. Mr. Norton, Pastor of the Church, was heard. After mature deliberation, it was unanimously resolved: That the Presbytery do not regard the use of Instrumental Music as a bar to the reception of the first Presbyterian Church, of St. Catharines, into this Presbytery; but in consideration of the fact that the whole question of Instrumental Music is now before the subordinate Church Courts, and will be adjudicated upon by the Supreme Court of the Church in June next, it is respectfully suggested that no further steps be taken by the church in St. Catharines, till after the meeting of the Synod.

It was further agreed to refer to the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church the question submitted to the Presbytery by the minister, elders and members of first Presbyterian Church of St. Catharines.

Mr. Inglis was appointed to proceed to Vittoria, and organize the friends there, that they may be placed under the charge of the Presbytery as a congregation of the church.

Mr. Rennie laid on the table of the Presbytery, his resignation of the pastoral charge of the congregation of Dunnville and North Cayuga. The Presbytery appointed an adjourned meeting to be held in Central Church, Hamilton, on the 7th of February next, at 2 o'clock, p.m., to consider and decide on Mr. Rennie's resignation. The Presbytery took up the consideration of the Synod's remit on Instrumental Music, but in consequence of the small number of reports on the subject, from Kirk Sessions they delayed action in the matter till the next ordinary meeting in April.

JOHN PORTEOUS, *Clerk of Presbytery.*

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—The Presbytery of Stratford met at Stratford on the 14th of January.

The Rev. Robert Hamilton moderator—There were ten members and six elders present.

Notice was received from Mr. William Meikle that he has declined the call from the congregations of West's Corners and Gamble Settlement, and from the congregation of Millbank, Mornington. And a notice was received from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Truro, that Mr. Thomas Cumming has declined the call from the congregation of Widder Street Church, St. Mary's.

On an application from the congregation of Widder Street Church, St. Mary's, a committee was appointed to moderate in a call, should it be required, before the next meeting of the Presbytery.

A circular was read from the Board of management, of Knox College, respecting contributions to the College Fund. The Presbytery agreed that congregations be urged to increased liberality towards the support of Knox College. A report was given in upon the Presbytery fund; and it was agreed that congregations should send in their contributions to this fund before next meeting. The committee on the statistical and financial returns from congregations, gave in their report, which was read by Mr. Hamilton, the convener. The report contained an analysis of those returns with suggestions.

A committee was appointed on Sabbath-Schools and Bible classes, with a view to their improvement; and it was agreed that congregations be urged to contribute to all the schemes of the Church, and with increased liberality.

The remit from the Synod, respecting instrumental music, was sent down to Church Sessions with instructions to report to the next meeting of Presbytery, when the matter is to be taken up by the Presbytery. The Presbytery adjourned to meet at Stratford on Tuesday the 24th day of March, next, at eleven, a.m.

WILLIAM DOAK, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF HURON.—This Presbytery met in Knox Church, Goderich, on Tuesday the 14th inst. There were eighteen ministers and eight elders present. Mr. Fraser, of Knox Church Kincardine, was re-elected for the ensuing six months.

Mr. Fraser presented a scheme for ministerial support which promises to remove many of the difficulties of which ministers complain. A committee was appointed to assist Mr. Fraser in perfecting his scheme. This committee is empowered to print blank schedules and correspond with congregations, and was instructed to report at the next regular meeting of the Presbytery. A very full report from Messrs. Doaks and Drummond was read anent the financial state of the congregation visited by them according to appointment of Synod:—

The Rev. A. Topp, of Knox Church Toronto, was nominated Moderator of Synod.

The Presbytery took up the remit of Synod anent the overture from Knox Church, Montreal, on the use of instrumental music in the worship of God. The Presbytery give the greater part of two sidersunts to the consideration of the overture, and finally adopted the following motion unanimously: That the Presbytery having, in compliance with the injunction of the Synod, taken into due consideration the overture from the Kirk Session of Knox Church, Montreal, deem it highly undesirable, for reasons affecting the peace and unity of the Church, that such a departure from the established practice in the method of celebrating the praise of God, in our public assemblies, as the overture contemplates, should take place.

A circular was read anent the amount of money required for Knox College for the present year. The following motion respecting the support of Knox College was adopted. That a committee be appointed to draw up a circular setting forth the sum required, from each congregation, to make the amount expected from this Presbytery to meet the annual expenditure of Knox College; also to urge upon the congregations of the Presbytery the urgent necessity of seeking out pious young men for the work of the ministry; that a copy of this circular be sent to each congregation, and Mission station, within the bounds of the Presbytery.

The Moderator read the report on Sabbath Schools.—It was agreed to receive the report and adopt its recommendation, to thank the committee for their diligence, and to re-appoint them—to authorize them to correspond with Ministers and Superintendents of Sabbath Schools, to print schedules for collecting information, and to report at the next regular meeting of the Presbytery.

A. D. McDONALD, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF GREY.—This Presbytery met on 14th January. A full report will appear in next *Record*.

The Rev. A. Frazer was appointed Clerk of Presbytery, in room of Rev. W. Park, who resigned.

The Rev. A. Tolmie was appointed Mission Agent, in the room of Rev. Thomas Stevenson, who resigned.

The following session-books were ordered for next meeting of Presbytery, viz., Durham, Mount Forest, Walkerton, Carrick, and Normanby.

MISSION APPOINTMENTS FOR THE QUARTER.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROBATIONERS.—JANUARY 2ND, 1868.

NAMES OF PROBATIONERS.	P. O. ADDRESS.	JANRY.			FEBRUARY.			MARCH.			APRIL.			
		19	26	2	9	16	23	1	8	15	22	29	5	12
1. F. BATES	Florence P. O.			Hu		Gy		C	Gy	K	K	K	K	K
2. J. W. BELL	London.	Hu		K		K		Gy	Gy	Gy	Gy	Gy	Gy	Gy
3. A. McLENNAN	Rev. A. Wilson, Kingston.	K		K		K		On	On	On	On	On	On	On
4. J. PRITCHARD	Rev. D. Waters, Port Hope.	C		C		C		B	B	M	M	M	M	M
5. R. BINNIE	Rev. J. R. Scott, Whitby.	On		On		On		T	T	T	T	T	T	T
6. D. DUFF	Rev. J. J. A. Proudfoot, London	On		L		L		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
7. A. McNAUGHTON	Vankleek Hill	On		On		On		On	Gu	P	P	P	P	P
8. R. M. CROLL	Toronto.	T		M		M		Gu	P	P	P	P	P	P
9. A. C. GILLIES	Toronto.	T		M		M		Gu	P	P	P	P	P	P
10. J. BREKET	Rev. J. J. A. Proudfoot, London	L		L		L		Hu	Hu	S	S	S	S	S
11. P. MCGRAVE	Seaforth	S		S		S		L	L	L	L	L	L	L
12. R. MOODIE	Rev. W. Cochrane, Brantford.	S		S		S		S	S	T	T	T	T	T
13. J. J. DUNLOP	Rev. W. Doak, Avonton	S		S		S		S	L	L	L	L	L	L
14. J. AULL	Rev. D. Inglis, Hamilton.	Gy		Gy		Gy		Gy	Gy	T	T	T	T	T
15. D. DAVIDSON	Rev. W. Moore, Oatawa.	P		P		P		Ot	Ot	L	L	L	L	L
16. D. J. McINNIS	Rev. J. M. Gibson, Montreal.	Ot		Ot		Ot		Ot	Ot	B	B	B	B	B

Probationers are requested to correspond with the following Ministers, in reference to appointments for the various Presbyteries. Any Probationer wishing to have his name removed from the List of Probationers, or who may purpose to settle in a Congregation, and so may be unable to fulfil appointments for another quarter, is requested to give intimation to the Convener a fortnight before the end of the term.

ONTARIO J. R. Scott Whitby.
 MONTREAL J. M. Gibson Montreal.
 OTTAWA W. Moore Ottawa.
 TORONTO J. M. King Toronto.
 BRANTFORD J. Brunton Brantford.
 KINGSTON A. Wilson Kingston.
 GUELPH D. Waters Fort Hope.

ONTOARIO J. R. Scott Whitby.
 TORONTO J. M. King Toronto.
 HAMILTON J. Porteous Kirkwall.
 GUELPH J. Middleton Elora.

PARIS W. Cochrane Brantford.
 LONDON J. J. A. Proudfoot London.
 STAFFORD W. Doak Avonton.
 FURON D. McDonald Chinton.
 GREY I. Stevenson Owen Sound.

PRESBYTERIES.	—	VACANCIES REPORTED.
1. MONTREAL	2	Roxbury and Finch; Vankleek Hill.
2. OTTAWA	4	Cumberland and Lochaber; Dalhousie; Pakenham; Renfrew and Castleford.
3. BROCKVILLE	2	Prescott; Cornwall.
4. KINGSTON	4	Trenton and Consecon; St. Columba Church, Madoc; Camden and Sheffield; Glenvale, &c.
5. COBOURG	1	Campbellford.
6. ONTARIO	3	Columbus and Brooklin; Ashburn and Utica; Lindsay and Cambray.
7. TORONTO	6	Newmarket and Mount Albert; Bradford and West Gwillimbury; Yorkville; Tecumseh; Brampton and Malton; Chinguacousy.
8. HAMILTON	1	Drummondville; Chippawa; Thorold.
9. GUELPH	1	Eden Mills and Rockwood.
10. PARIS	1	Erskine Church, Woodstock.
11. LONDON	4	Parkhill and McGillivray; Botany, Thamesville, and Reserve; Detroit; Elmira.
12. STRATFORD	4	St. Mary's, Widder Street; Mornington, Millbank; West Corners and Gamble's Settlement; Molesworth and Listowell.
13. HURON	1	Seaforth.
14. GREY	3	Egremont; Brant; Dumblane.
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J. LAING, *Comvener.*

Correspondence.

CONVENTUAL EDUCATION.

Letter to a Lady on the Subject.

MY DEAR MADAM:—Having heard that you intend to place your daughter in a convent, for the completion of her education, I think it my duty to address a few lines to you on the subject, as I cannot but hope, that if you weigh the matter seriously and prayerfully, in all its important bearings, you will be induced to reverse your decision. As a professing christian you will doubtless allow, that the whole system adopted by christian parents, in the training and education of their families, ought to have a direct bearing on what should be the great object in view, viz, the rearing of immortal beings, for glorifying God on earth, and enjoying Him in heaven. Since the task of moulding the character and forming the habits of children must, in a great measure, devolve upon the teacher, under whose care they are placed, it ought to be of even higher importance to christian parents, that the instructors of their children should be persons of devoted piety and practical good sense, than that they should excel in intellectual attainments, or fashionable accomplishments. Now, while freely admitting that an excellent education, in the ordinary sense of the term, can be obtained, at a very moderate price, at a conventual school, and, while by no means undervaluing the accomplishments, which are so skillfully imparted there, I unhesitatingly assert, that there you will not obtain for your daughter such instruction, as will be most likely to fit her for a life of usefulness, or be instrumental in leading her to devote herself to the Lord; nay, more by taking such a step, you may yourself become the unhappy instrument of your child's eternal ruin, and are, at

least, sure to exert a most baneful influence upon her spiritual welfare ; for how can she believe that you consider religion the one thing needful, if she sees you thus practically ignore it, by showing yourself more anxious that she should be taught to excel in fashionable acquirements, than that she should be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Will you barter the soul of your child for such price ? Are you willing to run such a fearful risk, in order that she should be a proficient in music, embroidery, and painting ? Surely you cannot deliberately make such a choice. You will tell me that her religion will never be interfered with, that no attempt is ever made to proselytise. It may be so, though even of that I am doubtful ; but she will get no direct religious instruction at all, while eye and ear will alike be educated, in the pompous ceremonials of popish superstition ; she will be required to attend all their religious services, and to conform, in some degree, at least, to the idolatrous worship of the mass, a conformity which our forefathers shed their blood rather than submit to. Consider the effect which such a step is likely to have upon those whom your conduct is likely to influence. You cannot limit its effects to your own home circle, or calculate the evil consequences of such an example. Beware, then, of putting "a stumbling block, or an occasion to fall in your brother's way. Let me give you a case in point. A young lady, belonging to an influential family, was lately sent to a convent. Naturally clever, and having been well grounded in all the usual branches of education, she made rapid progress, and carried off the highest prizes at all the examinations. The report of her attainments has been industriously spread, by interested parties, her beautiful paintings, ornamental work, etc., etc., made the most of, and as a natural consequence, all the young people in the vicinity are eager to go to the convent likewise, and many of the parents have fallen into the same snare. Several of her companions at the school she formerly attended, all daughters of Presbyterian church members, are about to be sent to the same institution ; they in their turn will doubtless influence others, and thus like the ever widening circles caused by casting a stone into smooth water, the evil will spread to a measureless extent. Consider, likewise, that by taking such a step, you put yourself on the side of the Lord's enemies, you lend your influence to build up that corrupt church, which is drunk with the blood of the saints ; you disobey the direct command of Scripture, Rev. xviii., 14, and make yourself a partaker of his sins. Think of the sufferings of the Waldenses and Albigenses, of England's noble martyrs, of George Wishart, and others like-minded in Scotland. Think of St. Bartholomew, and of the fearful cruelties of the Inquisition, and lend yourself, if you can, to the up building of such a system. And if you say that there is no danger of such things now, let me remind you of the long imprisonment and cruel sufferings of the Madias, scarcely more than ten years ago, of the noble Matamoras and other Spanish christians, enduring like sufferings still more recently, and only saved from the galleys by intercession so powerful, that the Spanish government dared not brave the opinion of protestant Europe. No—the Church of Rome has not changed ; wherever she has the power she manifests the same intolerant and persecuting spirit still ; and the luke-warm christians of our day may be collecting the faggots for martyr-fires, to be kindled at no distant period. Trusting that the few remarks I have ventured to make may be instrumental, by God's blessing, in inducing you to give up all idea of doing anything to further such a cause, and of leading you to place your daughter under the care of a teacher, who will make all instruction subservient to that heavenly wisdom, without which all other knowledge

is profitless and vain ; and praying that the seed-time of her life, may in due time yield a rich harvest to the praise and glory of God.

I remain, faithfully yours,

A. B.

Notices of Publications.

The Biblical Repertory, and Princeton Review, for January, 1868. Edited by Charles Hodge, D.D. Philadelphia : Peter Walker, 821 Chestnut Street.

The articles contained in the January number of the Princeton Review are the following : (1) The English Language ; (2) Prisons and Reformatories ; (3) Presbyterian Re-union ; (4) The Pastorate for the Times ; (5) Liberal Christianity. The articles are all able, and several of them are deeply interesting, as bearing upon questions which very much engage the public mind at the present time. Probably the one which will first be read by those, into whose hands the Review comes, is that on Presbyterian re-union, we presume from the pen of the Editor. The tone of the article is decidedly favourable to re-union. The writer points out the errors of the New Haven Theology, and shows that the Old School church could not admit this system as consistent with the Confession of Faith ; he farther states his objections to the Doctrinal Basis proposed by the union Committee, on account of its vagueness. But he proceeds to say that his mind had been greatly relieved by an article from the pen of Dr. H. B. Smith, and that all doubt had been removed by the Philadelphia Convention. He states, in conclusion, that "if the New School Assembly, and their Presbyteries will sanction what their representatives did on the floor of the Convention, the doctrinal basis of union may be considered as satisfactorily adjusted."

The Sabbath. By Charles Elliott, Prof. of Biblical Literature, &c., in the Presbyterian Seminary of the North-West, Chicago. Philadelphia : Presbyterian Board of Publication. May be got from A. Kennedy, London ; and D. McLellan, Hamilton.

The Sabbath question is occupying no small share of the public attention at present. Its enemies are seeking to destroy its sanctity, and its friends are rallying to the rescue. The excellent treatise before us is well fitted to establish the obligation of the Christian Sabbath. The object of the writer is to establish the obligation and perpetuity of the Sabbath, and to show its advantages physical, intellectual, social and moral. The concluding sections of the book point out the way in which the Sabbath should be sanctified, and the duty of the State with reference to the sanctification of the Sabbath. Such works are worthy of being read and circulated.

Weighed in the Balance By the Author of the "Win and Wear" Series. New York : R. Carter & Bros. Hamilton : D. McLellan.

The writer is already well known as the author of the "Win and Wear" series. The present volume has the characteristic excellencies of its predecessors. The story is well told, and the truths illustrated are of great importance.

The Lake of the Woods : A Tale Illustrative of the 12th Chapter of Romans. Sunday Chaplet of Stories. Holiday Chaplet of Stories. The Triumph over Midian. New York : R. Carter and Bros. Hamilton : D. McLellan.

The above named volumes are all from the pen of A. L. O. E., whose books are so much admired by all who have read them. They may be safely put into the hands of the young. The last mentioned is very beautifully illustrated.

A Fagot of Stories for Little Folks. By Rev. P. B. Power, author of the "I wills of the Psalms." *Susy's Sacrifice.* By the author of "Little Katy and Jolly Jim," &c. New York: R. Carter & Bros. Hamilton: D. McLellan. The above are two volumes well fitted to entertain and benefit the youthful reader.

Terrenia. By Edith Grahame.

The Curious Chapter. By Rev. W. M. Blackburn.

Eva Merton. By Martha Farquharson.

Three Boys and their Stories. By M. E. Wilmer.

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The New Boat and other Tales.

The Cloud and the Sunbeam. By Nellie Grahame.

Two Terms at Olney. By Marian Howard.

The above are books for juvenile readers, published by the Presbyterian Board of Philadelphia. They are all excellent of their kind. Many of them are beautifully illustrated,—indeed, the frontispiece is, in many cases, worth the price of the book. These volumes may be obtained from D McLellan, Hamilton, or of A. Kennedy, London, agent for the publications of the Board.

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