

On this account we do, and we shall continue to love the Church of Scotland. We shall not cease to pray, "that peace be within her walls, and prosperity within her palaces."

But, while we love that Church for our fathers' sake, still more strongly is our attachment entwined around her as our own Church—the Church to which, under God, we are indebted for the privileges we enjoy, and the hopes we cherish. As ministers of Christ, all our dearest associations cluster around her institutions. Neither distance nor time can weaken this feeling. I think we can, in truth, say, "If I forget thee, let my right hand forget her cunning."

Thus fondly attached to the Church of our fathers, it may easily be conceived with what feelings we received such undoubted proof of her remembrance and sympathy, as that conveyed in your truly Christian and affectionate letter. Often have many of us felt much need of encouragement and sympathy. In many ways we have difficulties to encounter that are unknown to our brethren in the parishes of Scotland. Our field is extensive, our number is small. Our labours are often exhausting to the mind and body, and in many cases, the minister is so isolated, that he is seldom refreshed and cheered with the society and fellowship of his brethren. It is true, that in these circumstances there is nothing to justify any of us in regretting that we made choice of this field of labour. Were its difficulties unspeakably greater, willingly should we meet them all, in the service of our Divine master. When we remember His mission to earth, His life and death, and the blessings and the hopes with which His love has enriched us, the thought of grudging to surrender all, to forsake all and to deny ourselves to all for him, should be hateful to our hearts. We do not regret that we were led to make choice of this distant field. We then followed what appeared to us the path of duty, and while we pursue that path, we know that God will not forsake us. I trust we can say from our own past experience, that His presence to comfort and encourage, and His grace to strengthen, are abundantly sufficient to make up for all the difficulties and self-denials we may have to endure. But, while we must not turn away from Him to seek encouragement from other sources, it is most refreshing to our spirits to feel that we have the sympathy and the prayers of the ministers and the Churches of Christ in the land of our fathers. We thank God that He has moved the hearts of our fathers and brethren in the venerable Assembly of our Church to send us this token of their affection. It has awakened our sympathies. It has cheered our hearts, and I trust it has led each of us with increasing earnestness to plead with God, that He would bless our church at home and abroad, that He would animate her ministers and people with still arger measures of zeal, for the glory of her

great Head and the advancement of His kingdom among all the tribes and nations of mankind.

Permit me, reverend sir, to present on my own behalf, and on behalf of the Synod of Nova Scotia, the assurance of our esteem for yourself personally, and our earnest prayer that you may be long spared to assist in the councils of our Church, to share in her every enterprise and labour of love, and in the end to receive, with all the faithful brethren in the Lord, the crown of eternal glory and joy.

Yours, &c.,

ALEXANDER MACLEAN, A. M.
Moderator.

Manse, Fredericton N. B.,
30th April 1860.

VERY REV. SIR.—The letter signed by you, as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and addressed to us in name, and in accordance with the instructions of that venerable court, reached us in due time; and we feel that we may, with all propriety, use the words of Scripture and say, that "when we had read it, we rejoiced for the consolation."

We, in name and by appointment of the Presbytery of Saint John, have great pleasure in requesting you, in return, to convey to the fathers and brethren our warmest thanks for their friendly remembrance of us, and the kind interest they have always manifested in us and the people among whom we labour.

We regard your friendly epistle as an additional mark of the affection and care which the Parent Church has uniformly shewn towards her children in every land; and we are much encouraged and cheered in our labours by the expressions of fatherly kindness and goodwill which you have conveyed to us.

It is peculiarly gratifying to us to be assured by you that we enjoy the sympathy, and have an interest in the prayers of our dear brethren and friends in our father land—many of whom, though we are now far apart, are associated in our minds with the tenderest recollections of early friendship, and the still more sacred claims of Christian love.

There is no doubt that the minister of Christ, in a new country like this, has often, as you justly remark, difficulties to contend with, and hardships to endure that are not known to those who are placed in more favourable circumstances, still we have felt it to be an unspeakable privilege that, amidst many discouragements, we have been honoured to minister in holy things to not a few of our expatriated countrymen and their families, and we can never too strongly express our sense of the liberality of our brethren at home, who have so generously aided many of our weak congregations, so as to maintain among them the ordinances of religion.

We earnestly entreat that you will not cease to remember us and our people in your