

the present Mrs. Spratt being, however, the affectionate mother of all his children, and the faithful partner of the joys and cares of the most eventful years of his life.

We close with the following well considered paragraph from the notice of a friendly hand, published in the Church of Scotland Record for October last:—

"The house of this good Patriarch had been long filled with good people who came for a last look or parting words. On such occasions it was the house of prayer or the church in the house. His son, the Rev. George W. Spratt, late of the Ceylon Mission, who had been absent from the country many years, crossed the Atlantic to make a short visit to the homestead, and was only in time to give the aids and comforts of his presence and take home to his charge in Scotland his father's blessing.—This visit, so opportune, was mutually refreshing. The son had scarcely embarked for his earthly home when the father was called away to his long and better home, to rest from his labours and to be followed by his works."

#### Death of Rev. William Sinclair.

Another of our ministers rests from his labour. On the 4th February, the Rev. William Sinclair, of Mabon, Cape Breton, departed this life after a long and painful illness, which he bore with true Christian fortitude and resignation to the Divine will.

Mr. Sinclair was about forty years of age. He commenced his literary studies in this city about eighteen years ago; but before entering upon Theology he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, was married, and gave up the intention of entering on the work of the ministry. His wife died, and her dying wish was that her husband should complete his studies, and devote himself to the ministry of the Gospel. Her dying wish coincided with his own sense of duty. He sold his property, and devoted himself diligently to study. He was licensed in 1863, and preached in various congregations and preaching stations within the bounds of the Synod. He was a devoted and faithful preacher. In the autumn of 1864 he was sent to supply the congregation of Mabon and Port Hood. In the following summer he received a harmonious call to this congregation, and in Nov., 1865, he was ordained. "Since that time his labours have been largely blessed in winning souls to Christ. By his kind and amiable disposition he endeared himself to all denominations of Christians, as was clearly shown by the large concourse of people who followed his remains to their last resting place."—The Rev. A. E. Le Page, Wes-

leyan minister, writes to us that he visited Mr. Sinclair about an hour before his departure. Mr. S. at once recognized him and held out his hand. When Mr. Le Page spoke to him of God's promises, he responded, "They are all my dependence."—Throwing open his arms, he said with great feeling, "*I feel the arms of Jesus are open to receive me.*" Mr. Le Page sung the hymn, "Rest for the weary," and engaged in prayer; and shortly after the happy and triumphant spirit soared to the realms of the blest.

Mr. Sinclair was a plain, honest, hard-working, kind-hearted man, firm of purpose and sound of judgment. He was not a "popular" preacher, but he understood the Gospel scheme, and he expounded it faithfully. He bore his illness meekly,—long and painful though it was. His removal will be seriously deplored by his fellow-students, his co-presbyters, his congregation, and an extensive circle of friends. His modesty, sincerity, and truthfulness, endeared him greatly to those who knew him intimately. He was capable of evoking and reciprocating true friendship and brotherly love.—Mr. Sinclair is the fifth minister of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces who has been called away since the last meeting of Synod. Louder and louder sounds the call to young men to come forward to supply the places of those who have fallen.

### Religious Intelligence.

**PRAYER FOR COLLEGES.**—The last Thursday of February was observed as a day of prayer for Colleges very generally throughout the United States and in some parts of the Provinces. Our Colleges need the prayers of God's people. We want more students; and those that are now obtaining their education need more of God's spirit. Our ministers and missionaries are dying while the field is enlarging. Who shall come forward to fight the Lord's battle? Parents, give your sons, the best and brightest of them, to the Lord's service. We want scores of able and pious young men. The field has never yet been overcrowded by preachers.

**INTERFERENCE IN MISSION FIELDS.**—A few years ago the High Church section of the Church of England sent out a "Mission" to the Sandwich Islands which had been thoroughly christianized by American Missionaries. At the head of this Mission was a full-fledged Bishop—Bishop Staley, who treated the old missionaries of the American Board as mere