

The Confession of Faith.

THE Churches in Scotland have been more or less anxiously discussing the Confession of Faith. We have one remark to make which we venture to hope will not be overlooked or too soon forgotten. Let the intelligent young men and women of the Presbyterian Church in Canada take some hours weekly (or daily) during the current winter for the careful study of the Confession of Faith. Let them at least read it over, and gain a fair idea of its contents. It is certain that they will then be better theologians than they ever were before. Read especially the "Sum of Saving Knowledge" usually printed with the Confession. Hodge's Commentary on the Confession is an admirable aid to its profitable study. Professedly, and really, the Confession is very dear to the Church: but its usefulness will be vastly increased by its being honestly and earnestly studied in our homes.

British Columbia.

COMOX.

OUR last reference to this settlement in the North of Vancouver Island was contained in a letter from Rev. Simon MacGregor, of Victoria, which we published in January, 1877, in which it is described as a very interesting and hopeful mission-field under the care of the Presbytery of British Columbia in connection with the Church of Scotland. Preliminary steps had then been taken for the erection of a church which we are glad to learn has since been erected. Mr. Crawford, a worthy Elder of the Kirk, we believe, when sending an order for a parcel of RECORDS, refers to the progress that has been made in pleasing terms, as follows:—

Comox, B. C., Dec. 4th, 1877.

"When I first ordered copies of the PRESBYTERIAN RECORD for Comox two years ago, we had no existence as a congregation, no Pastor, no meeting house, no Bible class, no Sabbath school; and, what was still

worse, no visible prospect of such blessings soon being conferred upon us. Is it any wonder then that we assembled on the 22nd of November in our new Church, with full hearts, to hear our own minister preach a Thanksgiving sermon. Our meeting-house is not finished yet, and our Sabbath-school and Bible class are only just organized, but with such tangible evidence of Divine approbation on our humble efforts, and by the aid of Christian brethren, we hope the Presbyterian Church at Comox, may become a beacon and guide in this land.

Our own Church.

WE last month acknowledged the receipt, by Rev. Dr. Reid of Toronto, of the handsome sum of \$2,650 from an anonymous donor in aid of certain schemes of the Church, and it gives us pleasure this month to notice in our list of acknowledgements the receipt of several large contributions from individuals. Among others it will be seen that the Board of French Evangelization has received \$100 from Mr. John McClive of Drummondville, Ont., and \$100 from a friend in Newfoundland. The latter donor, whose name has not been made public, a young man, we believe, in circumstances by no means affluent, contributes annually \$400 towards the Schemes of the Church. Only recently the Board of French Evangelization received per Rev. W. Fraser of Boadhead, a legacy of \$1000 from the late Mr. James Cerswell, a farmer of Tecumseth Township, Ont. We trust that such examples of Christian liberality will be instrumental in leading many others to "go and do likewise."

ANNUAL STATISTICS.

The usual blank forms for statistics, including the financial returns of the congregations and mission stations for the past year, have been issued by the Convener, Rev. Robert Torrance, and should be sent in, filled up, to the Clerks of the respective Presbyteries in which such congregations and stations may be situated. Need we add that it is most desirable that these returns should be made up and transmitted as soon as possible, and, further, that every Kirk-session should make a point of reporting. For this purpose, as well as for uniformity