

cept of the same, a meeting of Presbytery was held at Beverton on the 21st February last for the purpose of inducting him into his new charge. The morning was stormy and unfavourable, but before the time of meeting, it cleared up, and a large company was thus enabled to assemble within the spacious church.

The Rev. D. H. Fletcher, lately ordained as pastor of the Scarboro' congregation, presided and preached an excellent discourse from Gal. 6. 14, and after the usual questions had been put, the pastor was addressed by the Rev. J. MacTavish, and the people by the Rev. J. Gray. The services were suitably concluded by a very appropriate Gaelic address from Mr. MacTavish.

Several circumstances render this settlement peculiarly solemn and interesting, and call for special gratitude to the King and Head of the Church.

The division of the congregation was attended with much difficulty, from both sections being devotedly attached to their pastor, and being thus most desirous of procuring his services. And when his choice was made, it might have been expected that much feeling would be evoked by the disappointed portion, and would be manifested in that warm and earnest manner for which our Highland countrymen are distinguished.

Besides, the congregation of Thorah and Mara is composed to some extent of experienced and intelligent members, who are not unworthy representatives of "The Men" of our old country Highland congregations. Nothing would satisfy them, except a minister of age and experience, and the choice of the people was thus restricted within narrow limits. In calling their present esteemed pastor, however, all parties acted with marvellous harmony. It was a most interesting sight to witness the late and present pastor of the congregation meeting together, and to mark the strong affection evinced for the former, and the hearty welcome extended to the latter—and the scene was rendered all the more solemn, from traces of recent severe affliction that were seen in the appearance of both ministers. In regard to them it may be said that those changes have been effected around the grave, the late pastor having to mourn over the loss of his youngest child, and the newly inducted minister having recently been bereaved of his earthly partner.

A union cemented under such sad and yet encouraging circumstances promises to prove favourable to the progress of the cause. Mr. McLachlan enters on his duties with encouraging prospects of usefulness and happiness.

DIGEST OF THE MINUTES OF SYNOD.

We noticed in our last number the Digest of the proceedings of Synod, drawn up by Mr. Kemp, and just published. We beg again to draw attention to the volume. It is calculated to be not only useful, but really interesting to the office-bearers and members of the church, exhibiting as it does, clearly and distinctly, the legislation of the church from time to time. It is not

an abstract or an abridgement of the minutes, but a digest, containing, we believe, all that is contained in the annual minutes. The book might have been considerably reduced in size, had not the compiler been desirous of giving faithfully all the proceedings of the successive Synods. The historical introduction will no doubt interest many, and it may have the effect of directing attention more to the early history of Presbyterianism in Canada. We think the author has made one mistake, in regarding what was called the "Presbytery of Niagara," mentioned at page XII of the Digest as belonging to the "United Synod." The "Presbytery of Niagara," was, we believe, a body by itself, composed entirely of American Presbyterians, and never so far as we know, connected with any of the other Presbyterian organizations here. We again earnestly recommend the volume, which is handsomely got up, to the patronage of the ministers, elders, and members of the church.

NEOLOGY IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The lax and unsettled doctrinal views which had their rise in Germany, appear to be spreading in England. One of the latest developments of this system is found in a volume published some time ago, by a number of leading ministers of the Church of England, under the title of "Essays and Reviews." Several most important doctrines are discussed with ability and earnestness, but at the same time with such perversion of the truth, and departures from the old orthodox faith, that the publication of such a work, and by such authors, cannot but be regarded with feelings of alarm and apprehension. Inspiration and several other vital doctrines are either entirely rejected, or are so attenuated as to be simply what each individual, in the exercise of his own fancy, may choose to make them. As several of the authors are men occupying high positions in the church, and in institutions of learning, the publication referred to has attracted very extensive attention, and has excited, among the friends of truth, great excitement and alarm. Addresses have been presented to several of the Bishops, and several of them, especially the Bishop of Winchester, have spoken out in most decided terms of condemnation with respect to the "Essays and Reviews." Indeed the views contained in them are so objectionable, that we believe the Bishops, without an exception, have expressed condemnation of them. But such is the state of discipline in the English Establishment, or rather such is the almost total want of

discipline, that the Bishops can do but little in purging the church of false doctrine, and stemming the tide of rationalism and infidelity. It has been said, and with some degree of truth, that the Bishops are powerless, save for evil. Certainly it must be admitted that some, even of the best of them, act with but little consistency. An example has lately been given. The Bishop of London lately re-opened St. Paul's Cathedral by a sermon to the masses on the subject of the atonement, which was treated in a sound and Scriptural manner. But the very next Sabbath, the preacher was Mr. Russell one of the sympathizers with the Rationalistic Essays, and a minister who, nevertheless, holds his rectory from the nomination of the Bishop. The sermon preached by Mr. Russell was such as might have been expected. He openly promulgated the doctrine that men may be saved without THE WORD, and without any revelation of a personal Saviour as the object of faith. Surely this is a suicidal course to follow. The venerable Bishop of Winchester is represented as a noble exception. He has unequivocally declared that he will not knowingly ordain any one who holds views similar to those set forth in the "Essays and Reviews." A crisis is evidently approaching in the church of England. We trust that when the day of trial comes there will be found many who will contend earnestly for the faith, once delivered unto the saints.

EVANGELICAL CHRISTENDOM.—This periodical has been conducted for some years with considerable ability and has been favourably received as the organ of the Evangelical alliance. Of late however, there have been some differences of sentiment between the conductors of the publication, and some of the leading men of the Alliance. The ground of these differences has been a supposed leaning towards some of the neologian views which have been prevalent on the continent, and which are now leavening not a few of the ministers of the Church of England, such as the writers of the Essays and Reviews. For instance, there was lately a panegyric on the late Baron Bunsen, whose rationalism was in his later years carried to a great extent. More recently there was some defence of the late Dr. Baur, a noted German Neologist and Pantheist. The result is that it has now been resolved by the leading members of the Alliance to disavow all connection with the professed organ of the Association. The reports of the Alliance proceedings will henceforth be prepared by the official Secretaries and be separately inserted, with the notification that for that part of the magazine, and for that alone, the Alliance is responsible.

The London Record the organ of the Evangelical party in the Church of England has entered with some warmth into the discussion. In reply to some complaint