

connections and business capabilities, as well as for safe, yet profitable investments, Montreal has not its equal in North America. There, or in the immediate vicinity, the present Commissioners at present reside, with the exception of one who is resident in Quebec.

This, which with not a few of our friends, is deservedly a pet scheme, like other schemes and interests of our church, will feel greatly the loss of one, who with unflagging zeal devoted much of his time amid manifold other engagements to its advancement and efficiency. The death of such a man as Hew Ramsay, an elder in one of our churches in Montreal, a most useful and highly esteemed citizen, an ardent and devoted but most unbigoted Kirkman, is no common event. His name familiar to the eye of many of your readers must henceforth cease to grace and give weight to many reports and proceedings.

Colonial Churches.

Extract Letter—Rev John Martin to the Conference, dated Halifax, 15th January, 1857.

I HAVE been employed in the service of your Colonial Committee, as Superintendent of Missions in Nova Scotia, for the last six months; and although, from my advanced years, I have not been enabled to prosecute my mission as extensively as I could have wished, yet I have not been altogether inactive or unsuccessful. During that period I have paid two different visits to the county of Pictou, at the meeting of our Synod in July, and again in the month of October, preaching in a number of places in that populous county, and making, in conjunction with my brethren, such arrangements as were deemed expedient for the support of our missions. I have likewise officiated in Truro and other localities in the county of Colchester, whence, in course of time, your Committee may expect to receive very favourable intelligence respecting the extension of the interests of our Church.

But the greater part of my time has been spent in the immediate neighbourhood of Halifax, where, for many years, we have had several preaching stations, and at one time two separate congregations under regularly ordained clergymen. Here, in company with your missionary, Mr. Wilson, regular services have been already re-established in a number of places long left destitute, to which a number of other stations in the same county will, I trust soon be added, through Mr. Harper's missionary exertions, at Musquodoboit and in other eastern settlements.

It gives me much pleasure to state, that I have seen and conversed with nearly every one of your missionaries who have arrived in this colony since July last. I have, in every instance, found them to be well-informed and devoted clergymen, eager to engage in the important and arduous work before them; and I have endeavoured to give them all the instruction and encouragement that I was enabled to afford.

I regret that, at this inclement season of the year, I am prevented from undertaking

any lengthened journeys into distant parts of the country, where visits from our missionaries have been so long and anxiously expected, and are so indispensably necessary. But, should health and strength permit, I shall endeavour to be at my post early in the ensuing spring.

Your services at the head of the Colonial Committee, I am happy to say, are highly appreciated; and, what I have no doubt will afford you much satisfaction, have been eminently useful. A really wonderful and beneficial change has taken place within a few months in our condition and prospects;—wavering congregations have been confirmed in their attachment to the Church, and desponding congregations encouraged; a spirit of zeal and liberality has sprung up among our laymen, to afford every assistance in support of home missions; and the interests of the Church at large have been greatly strengthened and consolidated. A number of new and, I believe, excellent appointments have been already made to fixed charges within our bounds; and others, I have little doubt, will soon follow. Mr. Duncan has been inducted to Mr. Snodgrass's congregation, Charlottetown, and Mr. Lochhead to the Presbyterian congregation at Georgetown, Prince Edward Island. Mr. McRae has received a most harmonious welcome from his father's late congregation in Pictou, and Mr. Boyd has been unanimously elected and inducted as my successor in St. Andrew's Church in this city. Messrs. Wilson and Harper are labouring, with unwearied diligence and success, as missionaries within the bounds of this Presbytery; and Messrs. Mair and Duff, in a like capacity, and with equal acceptance, within the bounds of the Presbytery of Pictou. Messrs. Jardine and Paterson are hourly expected, and will in all probability proceed on to Pictou shortly after their arrival.

You will learn with much regret that St. Matthew's (Mr. Scott's) Church in this city, together with a vast deal of other valuable property was completely consumed by fire on the 1st instant. It is, however, highly gratifying to find that this calamity has produced only a momentary depression in the minds of that congregation. They have received, on that melancholy occasion, the warmest sympathy of all denominations; and, soon afterwards a meeting was held, and nearly £4000 subscribed for the erection of a new church. It is confidently expected, that from subscriptions, insurance, and other sources, a sum of not less than from ten to twelve thousand pounds will be realized, to enable the congregation to erect one of the most spacious and commodious places of worship in this colony.

I need scarcely add, that I have always considered, and still consider it to be my duty to try every possible effort to raise as large an amount of home mission funds in the colony as can be realized; and, in consequence of your distinguished liberality, the appeal to the friends of the Church in this Province has become doubly urgent. I

trust that this, with other important objects, will receive the earnest and favorable attention of our Synod, at its next meeting in July next.

I intend to write Mr. Laurie, your Secretary, as I shall have occasion to draw him soon for my half-year's salary.

With many thanks for your disinterested and unwearied exertions for the prosperity of our Colonial Church. I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARTIN

Rev. Dr. Fowler,
Convener, Colonial Committee.

In correcting the proofs of the Record, endeavor to render our pages as accurate as possible. Errors will, however, sometimes occur, and do occur in almost every number, even with all the care and attention that can be given to our periodical. We are sorry to find not only some verbal inaccuracies, even some gross blunders in our last number. Our readers will be pleased to learn that it was not the congregation of Moncton, but the congregation of Melrose, if we mistake not, the Rev. Wm. Murray's native Parish, which contributed the liberal sum of £231 for the erection of his new church in New Brunswick.

LATE INTELLIGENCE.

Another Defeat of the Anti-Sabbath League.

The Sunday Desecration League, led on by their Chairman, have met with a most crushing defeat in Newcastle, at a public meeting presided by themselves. They had all their own proposals proposed and seconded their own half-sided resolution in the usual manner, and supported by Mr. Loaden; but the following amendment proposed by a working man, and supported by the Rev. Mr. Rutherford, carried all the sympathies of the great body of the labouring classes, who composed four-fifths of the meeting. Obligated to call in the aid of a Roman Catholic surgeon, Mr. Larkin, to attempt to blunt the effect of the opposition, they failed. Then sophisms were torn to shreds, and their hollow pretences laid bare in a most unanswerable style; and at midnight, taking the sense of the meeting of over fifteen hundred people, the majority in favour of the amendment was fifty to one, from appearances. The amendment was: "That this meeting objects to any interference with the Divine institution of a day of rest, injurious to the best interests of mankind, and to deprive the working man of one of his dearest privileges, and as tending in that way to seven days' work for six days' pay."

The Rev. Norman McLeod of Glasgow commenced the delivery of a series of lectures to the working classes, in the Martyrs' Church, Parliamentary Road, Glasgow. No person is to be admitted unless dressed in his working attire, so that none may absent themselves on plea of being ashamed to come in their everyday clothes. A similar plan has been carried on for nine months past with remarkable success in the Glasgow Wynd Church.