

THE
Home and Foreign Record
OF
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

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THE PRESBYTERIAN ANNIVERSARIES.

The next number of the *Record* will be fully occupied with the minutes of our own synod which met in Halifax on the 27th ult. In this number let us briefly notice the assemblies, or synods, which have already been held in other parts of the world. Beginning with New Brunswick, our sister church there met in synod on the 21st June. The Canadian synod met a fortnight earlier, at Montreal. Our honoured pioneer missionary was present there, and gave to the synod an account of the progress of christianity of the New Hebrides. The old school and the new school assemblies in the United States met towards the end of May. Both were largely attended. Grave questions, arising from the state of the nation, were manfully grappled with. Steps were taken to carry the light of truth to the poor emancipated Africans; and a movement was inaugurated for checking the daring advances of Romanism. The amount of money contributed for religious and missionary objects, as reported to these assemblies compares favorably with the results of any previous year. But intemperance, profanity and sabbath-breaking are deplored as fearfully prevalent. Revivals of religion are reported as having been numerous and productive of much good. There were fraternal greetings between the old and the new school assemblies. The younger and more ardent souls long for a re-union. The two certainly have much in common, and there is but little to warrant separation. The old school has more of decorum, form, authority and conservatism; the new school

is less shackled by forms and antecedents, and more taken up with ideas of "progress." Both assemblies are devotedly missionary; both contain men of the highest attainments and reputation, and both are doing a great and good work.

The general assembly of the "United Presbyterian Church of North America" has also held its meetings. Its attention was largely taken up with a new version of the Psalms which is now almost completed. The Dutch Reformed, the Cumberland Presbyterians, and several other minor sections of the Presbyterian family in America have held their usual anniversaries, but we have not observed anything among their proceedings requiring special remarks.

On the other side of the Atlantic there were first three synodical meetings in England. There the cause of Presbyterianism is recovering after centuries of blight. The movement in advance is in connection with the "United" and the "English" synods. These will probably combine ere long and thus grapple more satisfactorily with the enormous difficulties of their situation. In Scotland the Reformed Presbyterian synod met early in May, and its proceedings indicated wisdom in devising liberal things and earnestness of purpose in executing its plans of beneficence. The synod has seven missionaries in the foreign field—that is about one for every five congregations at home.

The UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD is now a large and very influential body, and its proceedings command as much public attention as those of the Established