

unjust servitude, and which sheltered in its bosom many, exiles from their own lands, victims of that unrelenting tyranny, had either sanctioned or silently suffered the adoption of oppressive and vexatious measures against any of the followers of the Lamb of God, or any severities exercised against any who worship the one true God, and preach the gospel of our Lord, the only hope and Saviour of sinners.

We profess ourselves, dear brethren, to be very destitute of certain and exact information regarding many things that are going on among you. Such information we greatly desire to have supplied, that we may with greater earnestness and solicitude bear your state upon our hearts at the throne of grace. We assume no prerogative, no right of pronouncing judgment on your affairs. But we desire faithfully and affectionately to set before you those sentiments which as an allied Church of the living God we have deeply fixed in our minds. To His grace we heartily commend you, supplicating in your behalf, that in all the dangers and difficulties which may press upon you, you may be guided by the help of the only wise God, to such measures as He himself may crown with an establishment of the security, the liberty, the unity, the purity—in fine, the peace and felicity of that Church which his only begotten Son has redeemed with his own blood.

ECCLESIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Congregation of the East of Caledon is composed in part of Highlanders, and since Mr. McMillan's ordination in 1831, part of the services have been performed in Gaelic. At first that portion of service was small compared with the other, as it was looked upon as something extra; rather as a boon, for the sake of a very few aged individuals, not more, I believe, than about half a dozen, who understand little or no English at all. At that period it was considered by the Highlanders themselves that insisting much on this point would be injurious to the general interests of the congregation. Their demands, however, gradually increased from time to time, and were with the utmost kindness acceded to by the others, until at last they obtained the one half of all the services in Gaelic. Not content with this, they next demanded that the Gaelic services should have the precedence of the other, at least half of the time, and when they applied to the Session to have the change effected, it was at once carried, the whole of the Elders being Highlanders, and all voting for it except one. He, although a Highlander himself, foresaw the evils that would follow such a mea-

sure, and feeling that he could not in conscience agree to sacrifice the general interests of the congregation to gratify a spirit of rivalry among his kinsmen, dissented from the decision of the Session, and complained to the Presbytery. His complaint and the reasons of his dissent, together with petitions from the several parties in the congregation came before the Presbytery at a meeting held in Esqueping on the 9th of January last, when after a full and patient hearing given to the several parties and a most thorough investigation of the statistics of the congregation, the Presbytery, for various reasons, reversed the decision of the Session and declared it to be inexpedient to alter the order of the services hitherto followed—recommended Mr. McMillan to commence the services at an earlier hour, that none might have any occasion to complain of being detained late—and also recommended the congregation to study the spiritual interests of the community around them, and to maintain peace among themselves.

At the meeting of Presbytery held in the City of Toronto on the 2nd and 3rd of October, "Mr. McMillan represented to the Presbytery that the Gaelic portion of the congregation in East Caledon had not fallen in with the decision of the Presbytery at a former meeting; that in consequence such a breach had been created in the congregation as was injurious to its prosperity; and craved that the Presbytery would hold a visitation there at an early day." The necessity of this was urged upon the ground that at the very time when circumstances required that the discipline of the Church should be administered firmly, it was weakened by the dissatisfaction shown by the Elders themselves. The Presbytery agreed to grant Mr. McMillan's request and appointed a visitation to be held in the East of Caledon on Wednesday the 17th of October.

According to appointment the Presbytery met in Caledon on the 17th, and was opened with sermon in English by Mr. Rintoul, from Matt. 13. 7. "Woe unto the world because of offences"—and in Gaelic by Mr. Ferguson from John 4. 9. "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."—When the Presbytery proceeded to the business of the visitation, Mr. McMillan and his elders were removed, and the minutes of former meetings connected with this matter were read. The Elders were then called and interrogated as to how far the former decision of the Presbytery had been complied with, when, in reply, two papers were handed in which had been formerly sent to Mr.