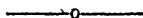


it. I would encircle you with my little clients; hang them on your garments; teach their fatherless arms to entwine about your knees; their innocent eyes to fasten upon yours, and their untainted lips to cry, "*Mercy, for we perish!*" Do you think you could resist? I would bid you observe the force of nature in the breast of a parent. Mothers crying to you with extended arms to save their children. "No, think not of us," would they say; "we are satisfied to suffer. Let us expire, if you will, we shall expire in peace; but save, O save our children!" There would you see all considerations swallowed up in the immensity of parental feeling. Peace and serenity spread over the face of woe. Even death itself losing its sting, at the prospect of life and happiness being insured these objects whom nature has endeared to us above our own existence. Do you think you could resist the luxury which such a moment held out to you? Oh, how truly has it been said, that it is better to go to the house of mourning, than to the house of joy!



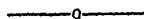
#### THE PROPOSAL TO HAVE A FOREIGN MISSION.

The Minutes of Synod shew that it is proposed to take measures to ascertain the sentiments of our people upon the important subject of undertaking a Foreign Mission. The subject was brought before the court in an overture prepared by Mr. McLean of Belfast, and advocated by him in a most calm and effective address. The reception which it met with from a full meeting of the court shewed, that he had been instrumental in sounding a note which struck sympathetic chords in the bosoms of all present. While some doubted the feasibility, all acknowledged the imperative duty of doing something in this way. Most encouraging was the spirit in which the measure was discussed, and it was delightful to contemplate how a truly evangelical subject was the means of calling forth sentiments, shewing the enlightened views of the speakers as to the church's mission and duty, of which, for want of opportunity, no one could have known the existence. Those favorable to it were highly impressed with our past guilt as a church in having so much neglected Christ's last command—"Go, teach all nations." They uttered their strong convictions, that much of our past misfortune and spiritual misery in the home field has been owing to this neglect and that, if we expected to be successful at home, we must maintain our status among the churches of the land; by performing one of the functions of a church, and, that the inception of such a mission would be followed by the shining of peace and prosperity in all our borders. As a proof of their sincerity, the clergymen present signed a subscription on the spot, in which they offered, out of

their small and precarious incomes, about £50 to help on the undertaking. They have thus proved their sincerity to the people, and we trust, that, when the matter is brought before the latter, with the view of ascertaining whether they are willing to do their duty in this matter, restore the Church to her proper posture and "harmonious working in every part, and wipe off a stain of disgrace from her escutcheon, they, who have profited so much by the missionary spirit and liberality of the church of their fathers and whose ministers have left their homes in other lands in obedience to the call," "come over and help us," to supply them with ordinances, will, with one unanimous and hearty shout rising from every town, village, and settlement in our church's field, say, in response, "we will do this thing."

It is to be regarded as an illustration of the teachings of Providence, that, without any preconceived arrangement, our Church at Home has at this very time taken precisely similar measures with ourselves—amounting to a heartfelt acknowledgement of past neglect and an earnest desire to awaken her ministers and people to interest and activity in spreading the gospel through all lands. We enter, thus, this noble path, directed by the finger of God and strengthened by the example and sympathy of the mother-church. As a proof of what has just been alledged, we quote the following paragraph from the *Glasgow Citizen*:—

"A large and highly influential meeting, numbering upwards of eighty ministers and elders of the Church of Scotland, was held on Tuesday in Edinburgh—the Honorable Major Baillie in the chair. After breakfast, conference was entered into on the subject, more than usually interesting at present, of the missionary enterprises of the Church, in the course of which brief but stirring addresses were given by the Chairman, Principal Tulloch, Dr. Norman Macleod, Professor Campbell Swinton, Dr. Robertson of Glasgow, Mr. Muir of Dalmeny, Professor Crawford, Mr. Milne-Home, and others. A spirit of the deepest anxiety was manifested to have the whole department of the missionary schemes stimulated into that more vigorous and efficient action. As the first step towards this great end, a committee was appointed, with the charge to put the suggestions of the conference into shape without delay. It is anticipated that some speedy measures of an earnest practical sort, and of high consequence to the whole Church, will be the issue."



#### THE MEETING OF SYNOD.

The meeting of our Supreme Church Court, which lately took place in Halifax, was looked forward to with considerable interest. Those who did, and those who did not, desire a union of the Presbyterian bodies of this