

several of its grants to the county of Pictou. Nine new churches (all very comfortable, and some large and commodious), have been built within the bounds of this Presbytery within the last few years, in connection with the Church of Scotland. These are now almost entirely free of debt, with one or two exceptions. As soon as the remaining debt is liquidated, the Presbytery of Pictou will do its utmost to relieve the Committee of some of its grants. We feel as a Church in this province that Nova Scotia is particularly indebted to the Church at home, and I hope we shall soon be enabled to refund in some measure the amount granted by your Committee to the Missionaries last sent out.

Our people are beginning to take a more lively interest in our Schemes generally. The "Young Men's Scheme" is in a position to enable us to send at least two additional students to one of the Scottish Universities to study for the ministry, in addition to those at present in the University at Glasgow. We are endeavouring to grant supplies to the vacant congregations from time to time, but owing to the smallness of our numbers this supply cannot be great, or at least adequate to our wants. Another Gaelic minister would aid us greatly. In the mean time,—I am, &c.,

SIMON M-GREGOR.

The Colonial Committee have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of £150 from the Presbytery of Pictou, as a contribution to their funds for the present year.—*H. & F. Missionary Record of the Church of Scotland.*

ECCLIASTICAL ITEMS.

The Marquis of Breadalbane has presented the Rev. Ewen McEwen to the church and parish of Kenmore, in the Presbytery of Weem, to be assistant and successor to the Rev. David Duff, D.D.

MODERATORSHIP OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—At the meeting of the Established Presbytery of Cupar, the Rev. Mr. Anderson, of Colts, gave notice of an overture which he intends to bring forward, that when a minister of a Presbytery or a Professor of a University is raised to the chair of the Assembly, he should be ever afterwards a permanent member.

THE Presbytery of Linlithgow, on Thursday, ordained Mr. Watt, late of Polmont, to the pastorate of the Scotch Church at Candy, Ceylon. The presbytery then considered the call to the Rev. Mr. Cook, presented to the church and parish of Bathgate. The call had been numerously signed, and no objections were offered. The Presbytery therefore appointed the 31st inst for induction.

ALARMING FOR THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—We find in a print called the *Leith Herald* the following startling announcement in reference to the filling up of the first charge in South Leith parish:—If by subtlety and craft the Rev Henry Duff does not succeed the Rev. Dr. Stevenson to the first charge of the Church, it will be a heavy blow to the Church of Scotland, and will make it totter to its foundation.

We understand that the government, having signified their intention of supplying the vacancy occasioned by the acceptance of the Rev. Mr. Stevenson to the Chair of Church History, in conformity with the desire and choice of the congregation, a petition has been subscribed by nearly 1,200 communicants and sitters of the church, praying that the appointment may be conferred on the Rev. Henry Duff, the present incumbent of the second charge of the parish.

LOCHGELLY—ORDINATION.—On Thursday last the Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met at Lochgelly for the ordination of the Rev. Wm. Mair (late assistant at Campsie) as minister of the chapel there. The Rev. Mr. Bryden of Kirkcaldy officiated. On Sabbath Mr Mair was introduced by the Rev. Mr. Monro of Campsie, who preached from Hebrews xiii. 17. Mr Monro also preached in the evening, when a collection was made for chapel improvements. This settlement is highly satisfactory, the new pastor having received a most cordial welcome from his people.

REVIEW OF THE PAST MONTH.

THE last month of another year! How brief the period seems, to look back! How instructive in its very brevity to use the present hour! A New Year is drawing near, bringing us new duties, fresh trials, and other prospects. It would be well at the present season to balance affairs with our conscience, and ask ourselves a few pertinent questions. What progress have we made—what preparations are we making, for the better country? How stand our accounts with the world? Have we been living up to the Scripture injunction to live at peace with all men? Have we been doing our duty to our neighbor, to our Church, and Christianity at large? Have we quitted ourselves like men in all our reciprocal and relative duties, or has there been indifference, time-serving, or neglect, or selfishness, or covetousness or meanness in our hearts or actions. Godward or manward? If there has, now is the time to cleanse our hearts, and put on new and better resolutions. Let each one ask himself, Have I done my part towards my Church? Have I been a regular attendant on the house of God? Have I taken my share of responsi-