

in the crops, in consequence of long continued drought; and how mercifully the dark forebodings of that anxious period were disappointed by the return of genial weather. While uniting in grateful recognition of the hand of God in interposing, thus markedly, for the rescue of a large portion of our country from threatened scarcity or famine, it will also be felt to be proper and seemly, in view of the disastrous civil war among a neighbouring people, and the dangers to which events connected with it have at times exposed us, to mark, with special thankfulness to Him who holdeth the hearts of all men in His hands, the continuance of peace in our land, and throughout the highly favoured Empire of which it forms a part. It will not be forgotten, in the observance of this day of Thanksgiving, that the blessings to which reference is here made, as well as all other tokens of the divine goodness, enjoyed by us as a community, present a call to repentance no less than to gratitude and praise.

ROBERT URE, *Moderator of Synod.*

Home Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

KNOX COLLEGE.—OPENING OF THE SESSION.

On Wednesday 1st of October, the day appointed for the opening of Knox College for Session 1862-3, the public introductory lecture was delivered by Professor Young; on "the Philosophical Principles of Natural Religion." The lecture was distinguished by great ability and power of mind, clear and accurate logic, combined with beautiful simplicity of style. It was listened to with deep attention, by the students, as well as by the ministers and other strangers who were present.

In our limited space we cannot attempt to give even a meagre outline of the lecture. The object of the Professor was to show that the usual arguments in favour of the being and attributes of God, drawn from reason, are, logically viewed, unsatisfactory, and that our assurance of the existence and perfection of God, like our assurance of our own existence and of the existence of an external world, is based on consciousness. We hope to give the lecture itself in another number.

Principal Willis presided and conducted the devotional exercises.

We rejoice to state that the number of students is considerably increased. Between 60 and 70 are now in actual attendance, without reckoning those who are taking a university course, before commencing the study of theology in Knox College. The work is now going on with spirit. We trust that the prayers lately offered up in behalf of the Theological Institution in all its interests may be heard, and that in answer to them, there may be a large outpouring of the influences of the Spirit both on Professors and Students.

GODERICH.—The Rev. Robert Ure, formerly of Streetsville, was on the 8th ult. inducted as pastor of the congregation at Goderich. The field under the superintendence of Mr. Ure is extensive and important, and the prospects of usefulness are most encouraging. We doubt not that by the blessing of the Great Head of the Church, the happiest results will flow from the tie now formed between the people at Goderich and their new pastor.