

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

SEPTEMBER, 1862.

OUR POSITION.

Conceiving it desirable that there should be no misapprehension as to the relations of this journal towards the Church, such as we learn exists in some quarters, we deem it right to state that "The Presbyterian" is not now and never has been the organ of the Church, or of any Synod or Presbytery thereof, although it has been for nearly fifteen years past, the only medium of communicating intelligence to the congregations and the public, which the Church has enjoyed. It was originated by laymen during a period of weakness and trial. The step then, *i. e.* in 1847, received the hearty approval of the Synod, who agreed to give it their cordial support, and who further in the following year, recommended the ministers and congregations of the Church "to use their best endeavours to increase and extend the circulation of "The Presbyterian" as a medium for conveying ecclesiastical and missionary intelligence to the several congregations." This duty the paper has faithfully performed during all these long years. It has moreover been sustained by the unpaid services, and often when needed, by the pecuniary contributions of members of the Lay Association, and it has been and is conducted by true hearted sons of the Church who earnestly desire its prosperity; and who are of opinion that as there are differences of sentiment in the Church and among the ministers and elders of the Church, on matters of moment to its best and highest interests, there should be granted full liberty to all to express and publish their views, (provided these views are expressed concisely and in a Christian spirit,) as the best means of bringing about ultimate agreement and united and cordial co-operation. And such liberty the editors of "The Presbyterian" are resolved to give—neither withholding their own views, nor the views of those who agree with or differ from them.

From the Report of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, recently published, we learn that during the year ending 15th April, 1862, there has been paid for ministers' and missionaries' salaries in Canada, bursaries to the students at Queen's College, &c., upwards of \$5000. And, also, that there has been paid the Church in Nova Scotia, upwards of \$6000. Believing it to be justly due to the Church of Scotland that this her liberality to the adherents of the Church in British North America should be known, it gives us great pleasure to insert it in the columns of our paper.

In our columns of this month will be found an abridged account of the proceedings of the Assembly of the Church of Scotland. We hope that this account, which we have taken the very earliest opportunity of inserting, will be satisfactory to Senex, who lately gave expression to his impatience, in one of our local papers. In future we would kindly ask him "to add to his virtue patience," and charitably remember that we "cannot make bricks without straw."

In our last number it was inadvertently stated that the Act anent Public Collections was repealed, whereas the Synod renewed the Act.

The Prince of Wales who has lately been sojourning in the Holy Land obtained admission to the Mosque which covers the supposed site of the cave of Machpelah at Hebron. This may be considered one of the most interesting facts in a historical point of view which has recently taken place. Hebron is a city toward which the eyes of the world necessarily turn, since from its locality we date not only so much of religious interest, but also the commencement of our earliest commercial history. The first recorded use of money was the purchase of that cave of Machpelah by Abraham as a burial place for his dead wife: