

teated by one who is decidedly the most popular man in Britain.

The Church has lately had to mourn the loss of Dr. McLeod of St. Columba's Church in this city, and father of Dr. N. McLeod of the Barony, whose memory is still so fresh and so loved in the minds of many Pictonians. The Highlanders, and Gaelic-speaking portion generally, in an especial manner mourn the loss of him who, during the long term of his life, was eminently the Highlander's friend. But weep only for the Church which has lost one of her brightest earthly ornaments. Weep not for him; he is now enjoying the reward of the "good and faithful servant."

An item of news which, if not heard before, will be received with pleasure by your readers, is the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Caird to the Theological Chair of this University, vacated by the resignation of Dr. Hill, whose old age and increasing infirmities have incapacitated him from longer filling that Chair which he has now for upwards of twenty-two years filled with eminent success and acceptance. A fitting tribute has been paid to him by his former and present students. An address, magnificently done up, was read and presented to him, and his permission requested that his portrait should be painted and hung up in the Divinity Hall, which permission was granted by the Rev. Dr. The grief of the College at losing Dr. Hill must be greatly compensated by obtaining in his place the man whom we conscientiously believe to be the greatest orator living.

Mr. Nichol, son of the late Professor of Astronomy, has been appointed Professor of English Literature—which class has now, for the first time, been established.

I observed in one of your former numbers an account of the vacancy of assistant and successor to the Rev. Mr. Brown of Rutherglen. This vacancy has been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. W. F. Stevenson, late assistant in St. Matthew's, Glasgow, and, I believe, a friend and college chum of the "four." The voting was all but unanimous for Mr. Stevenson, and the people of Rutherglen may congratulate themselves on obtaining, for their present pastor, so able and efficient an assistant and successor.

G.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE event of the month in England has been the publication of the work of Bishop Colenso on the Pentateuch. Bishop Colenso has long been known to hold peculiar views on many theological subjects. In missions, as soon as he went to his South African diocese, he took the unusual position of advocating the tolerance of polygamy among converts. The Bishop, who is noted as an arithmetician, has spent the comparatively leisure

years of his episcopate in ascertaining the capabilities of pasture land; and studying similar questions, and applying the calculations obtained to the history given in the Pentateuch, he announces as the result, that the supposed facts are mythical; that the rapid increase of the descendants of Jacob to the time of Moses, the celebration of the Passover, the march through the wilderness, and the numerous incidents attending it are impossibilities. The difficulties suggested by the Bishop have almost all been considered before, while he seems to proceed on the assumption, that the miraculous element is to be simply rejected without the action of which many portions cannot of course be upheld. This bold challenge rung upon the shield of the orthodox faith at a time when the *Essays and Reviews* case is pending in the Court of Arches, has excited universal attention, and the war is likely to wax hotter and hotter until the position of the Church is more clearly defined. Bishop Colenso has, it is said, adopted his present course fully prepared for all consequences, and anxious to test the question of the breadth of the National Established Church.

THE triumph of the Democratic party in many of the Northern States of America has excited new hopes of an early peace. This party is, however, as little disposed to favour secession as its opponents. The chief cause of its success seems to have been a desire to preserve slavery, and a consequent hostility to the proclamation of the President. It is, however, probably too late to prevent the carrying out of the new policy, and the prospect is still good that, through this war, the slave system will be extinguished, or receive such injury that it will gradually sink to decay. Meanwhile it is to be hoped that no efforts will be spared to secure new centres for the growth of cotton by free labour. From India, the British West Indies, the Fiji's and other Pacific Islands, in which the plant grows most luxuriously, there can be no doubt that more can be obtained in a few years than will supply all the demand, and that we may thus, in any circumstances, be made independent of the accursed slave traffic, which, colour it as we may, is utterly to be abhorred by all Christian men.

THE cholera has been sweeping over Northern China with most disastrous results. The mission band at Chefoo has been almost entirely swept away. In the crowded native cities multitudes have perished.

THE Irishmen in London have attempted a great anti-Garibaldi demonstration at Blackheath. The meeting was opposed by the Cardinal and clergy, who knew well enough the contemptible minority in which they would be placed if open discussions were held. It passed off with little result.

ON the occasion of Dr. Candlish's inaugura-