

THE MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE

Church of Scotland

IN

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, & ADJOINING PROVINCES.

VOL. XV.

DECEMBER, 1869.

No. 12.

"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—Ps. 137: 5.

THE PAST YEAR.

WE have now reached the close of another year. In looking back, there are many things which must be a source of great delight to our readers; but there are other facts in the past twelve months of our history which can only be cause of regret. Our strength as a Church is weakened by the fact of so many vacancies still existing within the bounds of the Synod; but these vacancies continue from year to year, principally from the difficulty of obtaining Missionaries, and this again owing to the urgent demand for men in the Home Church and in other parts of the India and Colonial fields. We write in good spirits, however, as the Home Mission Board has already made an earnest appeal to the Colonial Committee for a large reinforcement; and if the men can be obtained, we shall begin again strengthened and encouraged. In almost every other fact connected with our Church, we have cause for nothing but rejoicing. Organization has lessened the unnecessary expenditure of the money so largely and liberally contributed by the Home Church. And surely if a young man feels himself more a man when he earns the money which he spends, not the less will the young Church in the Maritime Provinces feel herself a Church the less she spends of her Mother's income. In this respect the Home Mission Board has been doing good work, and during no period of its short history has it done better than during the past twelve months.

Several vacancies have been filled up during the year. To St. Andrew's, Halifax, vacant by the departure of the Rev. Chas. M. Grant, B.D., as Missionary to Calcutta, the Rev. John Campbell has been appointed; and to Campbelltown, N.B., Rev. William Murray. To Portland, St. John, the Rev. George Caie has at length been inducted, after having not only built up a congregation, but also a Church for them to worship in. The Rev. Mr. Fogo, after labouring for some time within the bounds of the Presbytery of Halifax, is now regularly settled in Nashwaak and Stanley, N.B. Another appointment which afforded very great pleasure to every Churchman in the bounds of the Synod, was that of the Rev. Finlay R. McDonald to the old charge of Newcastle, vacant by the lamented death of the Rev. Dr. Henderson. The last induction of the year