

## POETRY.

## COMMUNION WITH GOD.

Led by a father's gentle hand  
Through this dark wilderness of woe,  
We long to reach that peaceful land,  
Where streams of lasting comfort flow.

O may our meetings here be blest,  
To fit us for that holy place;  
May faith and love inflame each breast,  
With zeal to run the heavenly race.

Here may the Spirit shed the light  
Of truth, to guide us on our way;  
God's Word upon our conscience write,  
And teach us how to watch and pray.

We will dismiss each worldly thought,  
When thus we commune with our God;  
Our theme shall be, the love that brought  
A Saviour from his blest abode.

We'll think how Jesus lived and died,—  
The pains and sorrows that he bore,—  
The blessings which his love supplied,—  
The home to which he's gone before.

There we will hope to rest ere long,  
And gladly change before his throne,  
The pilgrim's for the conqueror's song,  
Saved by redeeming grace alone.

BATHURST.

## Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

## COLONIAL CHURCHES.

## CANADA.

The following document, from the affectionate spirit which it breathes, and the simple Scriptural terms in which it is couched, will, without difficulty be recognised as laying the Church under a new obligation to the respected individual whose name is officially subscribed to it. As a Church we need to acknowledge, as is here done, our accumulated guilt in having so long and so grievously neglected our expatriated countrymen; and it is still but the day of small things with us in this respect. Let the pledge implied in our pastoral admonition be faithfully and amply redeemed.—*Scottish Christian Herald.*

## ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To our beloved Brethren, the Ministers, Elders, and People, adhering to the Doctrines, Worship, Government and Discipline of the Church of Scotland, in the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada:

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, now met in General Assembly, taking a lively interest in the temporal and spiritual welfare of our countrymen in all parts of the world, feel at this time a peculiar concern for the safety and peace, the steadfastness of faith and christian practice of our kinsmen who are scattered abroad over the face of the vast territory of British North America, and especially of that portion of it which has been recently harassed by intestine commotion and the alarms of war.

We assure you, brethren, that it has been unspeakably satisfactory to us to learn how prudently, quietly, and peaceably the great mass of the Presbyterian population have conducted themselves amidst the troubles and temptations of the times, and how patriotically and ardently, although in many instances at a great sacrifice of private interest, they have devoted themselves to the reestablishment of order and tranquillity. This loyal and honourable course, from which slighted claims and deferred hopes have not prevailed on them to deviate, we ascribe mainly to the sound principles with which they had been early imbued by parents, who, fearing the Lord from their youth, submitted themselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, their hereditary reverence for the example of their Scottish progenitors in days of public jeopardy, and to the wholesome and hallowing influence, which, under great difficulties and disadvantages, many of them derive from the administration of the word and ordinances of the Gospel.

That the benefit of waiting on God in these holy solemnities is so partially dealt out among you, is to us matter of heavy lamentation and great searching of heart. We deeply participate in the disappointment and discouragement which you experience, in observing so many unequivocal symptoms of the growing influence of those who are hostile to your claims for a legislative provision, which, according to our understanding, had been as amply and expressly secured to you as to the members of another Established Church, whose Ministers we have ever as-

serted, have no higher claim to the designation of a Protestant Clergy than those who labour among you in word and doctrine. But we confidently trust that no considerations of having your expectations frustrated for a season, will, in the slightest degree, chill the ardour of your exertions in the maintenance of the laws, and the preservation of the constitution from the outrages, which, if unresisted, must prove more fatal to the colony than to the mother country. We do not by any means despair of the arrival of better times to the Presbyterian Church, and we are sure that if you continue to be guided by the pure and peaceable spirit of christianity, and to show, out of a good conversation, your works with meekness of wisdom, the interests of your Church will ultimately be established on a firm foundation, and, in being followers of that which is good, you will achieve a triumph greater than any temporal advantage.

In the absence of adequate support from the state, we must own, that though we have not been disposed to overlook, we have too sparingly supplied, your lack of spiritual privileges. As a portion of our Lord's vineyard, planted by the right hand of the Lord himself, who prepared room before it, and who caused it to take deep root, and to send out its boughs to the sea and its branches to the river, the Presbyterian Church of Canada had claims on the sympathy, countenance and aid of this land, to an extent far greater than have ever yet been sufficiently recognised. But if we have been deficient in zeal and activity, or tardy in administering encouragement and help to our brethren beyond the Atlantic, it is now the more incumbent on us to redouble our diligence, and we earnestly hope that it will be given us in this our generation so to act, in the spirit of power and of love, and of a sound mind, as at once to animate you by our example, and to advance, by free-will offerings of our worldly store, the sacred objects, which, according to your power, yea, and beyond your power, you are already labouring most strenuously to attain.

We heartily approve of a scheme which has been brought under our notice by our esteemed brother, the Reverend John Machar, Minister at Kingston, for raising the most destitute parts of your adopted country more speedily to the possession of gospel privileges, by the employment of duly qualified Missionaries, whose office it will be to fan the slumbering flame of devotion among those who are at present scarcely within the reach of the joyful sound, and to prepare the highway of holiness and truth, in which the wayfaring man may walk uprightly and surely, without being led away by the error of the wicked. In these times of adventurous innovation, there is too much cause to apprehend, that within the bounds of your territory, as well as in other corners of the Christian Church, some may be carried about by diverse and strange doctrines, or ensnared into disorderly courses, through the crafty and insinuating acts of such as, whatever may be their professions or their motives, are in reality, though perhaps unconsciously, labouring for the establishment of an influence unfavourable to the cause of christian truth, as well as subversive of lawful authority and the secular interests of the people. We entreat you, brethren not to forget the old paths in which your fathers found quietness and assurance; and while you seek to be established in the present truth, let it be your unvarying resolution to listen with extreme caution to whatever schemes have not had their practical utility demonstrated by the experience of past times.

Amidst the fluctuation of temporal things let it be your habitual exercise to seek for light and comfort in the sure word of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and to stir up one another to the faithful performance of the duties of a religious life, as the most effectual antidote against the impatient love of change and turbulent designs fomented by the enemies of social order and the stability of our national institutions. As far as in us lies, we are disposed to contribute to the expence of professionally educating such young men recommended by your Presbyteries as are likely to prove serviceable to the church in the office of the ministry. And on all occasions it will afford us pleasure to strengthen your hands in doing the work of the Lord.

It is our earnest prayer to the God of all grace and consolation that your souls may prosper and be in health; that through the favour of the Supreme Governor among the nations, your civil privileges may be secured against the perils arising from anarchy, faction and violence; that you may live together in unity and concord; and that you may all be happily instrumental in building one another up in your most holy faith, so as to be made meet for the possession of an eternal inheritance, in a better country, which is an heavenly.

Given at Edinburgh this 27th day of May, 1839.

By authority of the General Assembly,

JOHN LEE,

Clerk. Eccl. Scot.

## AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, the 29th ult. the Second Anniversary of the Prince Edward Island Auxiliary Bible Society was held in the Court House. The Chair was taken by his Excellency Sir C. A. Fitzroy, Patron of the Society, at a few minutes after eight o'clock. The meeting was attended by her Ladyship the Patronsess of the Charlotte-town Ladies Bible Association, and a large assemblage of Ladies and Gentlemen, who manifested a deep interest in the object for which it was held; and it was hoped that when an hour was appointed that would find the more busy portion of the community comparatively at leisure, a more general attendance would have been given. We are persuaded, that all who were present must have enjoyed the proceedings very much; and we hope this report of them may induce more to avail themselves in future, of the interest and pleasure which such a meeting is so well calculated to inspire.

Proceedings commenced by His Excellency calling upon the Rev. Robert Douglas, of St. Peter's, to engage in prayer. This being done, a very interesting Report of the Committee's proceedings for the year, was submitted by the Rev. James Waddell, Corresponding Secretary. As the Report is to be published and circulated, in a pamphlet form, it may at present be sufficient to state, that it shows a list of donors and subscribers, for the two past years, respectively amounting to the numbers of 68 and 76, and an aggregate of free contributions amounting to £96 15s. 3d. Since the last Anniversary, the Society has imported 155 Bibles and 206 Testaments, and the issues from the Depository since the commencement of the Society's operations, have been 120 Bibles and 193 Testaments. There is still a considerable stock on hand, and a new supply from the London Depository is daily expected from Halifax, where it some time ago arrived, amounting to 82 Bibles and 150 Testaments.

Contributions have been forwarded from Societies in the Presbyterian congregations of St. Peter's, Covehead, Princetown, Richmond Bay, Bedeque, New London and Cavendish, to be transmitted to the funds of the Parent Society; and from the Charlottetown Ladies' Bible Association a very handsome amount has been forwarded for the same purpose. A just tribute of praise was awarded in the Report to the zeal and activity of the Right Hon. Lady Mary Fitz Roy, in patronising and conducting the Ladies' Association, as well as to the Committee of that Institution, whose to our own personal knowledge, have been very assiduously engaged in the work.

The Report embraces, likewise, some statistical notices of the Parent Society in London, and which are indeed calculated to astonish such as have not regularly watched its annual operations; and concludes with an appeal to the philanthropist and christian for countenance and support.

An abstract of the Treasurer's accounts was submitted by W. Cundall, Recording Secretary, which will be printed along with the Report. It exhibits a balance in hand, including sums transmitted to be forwarded to the Parent Society, of £89 11s. 11d.

A number of Resolutions were submitted in order, supported, in several instances, by eloquent and impressive speeches, and unanimously adopted.

The Chair having been taken by the Hon. J. Brecken, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, it was Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be given to His Excellency Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy, for his continued patronage, and for his kind attention to the business of the meeting.

The Doxology was then given out by the Rev. W. Smith, and the apostolical benediction pronounced by the Rev. J. Waddell, when the meeting dispersed.—*Colonial Herald.*

## Correspondence.

For the Guardian.

## ON EDUCATION.

No. II.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

In hazarding a few remarks on the mode of imparting instruction to the young, I shall begin by observing that I consider the establishment of a uniform system of education to be a desideratum, for among other reasons, that a pupil changing his residence, or his teacher, could resume the regular course of his studies with no other interruption than the intervening lapse of time; whereas now, in such cases, he has often to unlearn much that has cost time, expence and trouble to acquire; and is again set to acquire what a subsequent instructor may, in the same manner, condemn as valueless, or detrimental.

Believing however, that the necessity for establishing some uniform mode for imparting instruction to the rising generation will not be contested, and that it is therefore unnecessary to pursue that branch of the