

charitable purposes we will allow them!!" Such a law puts the church in a most degrading position, assuming that it is ready to further its ends by wrong means. Not only will churches avail themselves of such a privilege, but the influence of the Church of Rome has been the means of securing this exceptional legislation. Surely it is one of the strange sights! A church setting itself up as a reformer of men's morals, while itself obtains special liberty to practise immorality! If the light that is in thee be darkness how great is that darkness! If the salt have lost its savor wherewith shall it be salted? There is need to be up and doing in the great work of French Evangelization which our church has undertaken. We must carry it on more vigorously in self defence, or we may find our liberties one by one, crushed under the iron heel of an unscrupulous ecclesiastical tyranny.

An overture was presented at the Assembly from the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa in favor of taking steps for more stringent legislation against lotteries. It was referred to a special committee.

On July 21st, 1788, Rev. Dr. MacGregor arrived in Picton to begin his work as a Missionary. This may be called the beginning of the active work of Presbyterianism in the County. Wednesday, 21st inst., will be the centenary of that event, and the Presbytery of Picton at its last meeting, passed the following resolutions:

1. That the Presbytery meet, in or near, Picton town, on Wednesday, July 21st, at one o'clock p.m., to hold a public celebration.

2. That Dr. Patterson be requested to give an address on the State of Picton County at the time of Dr. MacGregor's arrival; that Rev. D. B. Blair be requested to give a sketch of Dr. MacGregor's life and labors; and that Rev. Dr. MacRae, of St. John, be requested to give an address on the progress of Presbyterianism in the Maritime Provinces during the last one hundred years.

3. That Rev. G. Carson, Messrs. H. Primrose, and D. McDonald, be a committee to make arrangements with regard to place of meeting, and attend to other local matters.

4. That Rev. D. B. Blair, Dr. Patterson, and J. F. Forbes be a committee to draw up a minute for insertion in the Presbytery's Records, appropriate to the occasion.

5. That all further arrangements be left to a committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. Sinclair, McLean, and McLeod, and Messrs. McKay of Riverton, D. McDonald of Green Hill, and J. D. MacGregor.

The following is the petition sent by the Assembly in response to the request of the Foreign Mission Committee:—

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY, QUEEN VICTORIA, &c., &c., &c.

*The Petition of Your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in General Assembly convened, humbly sheweth:*

1. That the Church which your Petitioners represent has been for thirty-eight years engaged in Missionary work in the islands of the New Hebrides.

2. That in the same work Presbyterian Churches in Scotland, New Zealand, and the Australian Colonies are also engaged.

3. That there are, at the present time, thirteen missionaries with their wives, all British subjects, aided by more than one hundred native teachers, engaged in the work of establishing and organizing schools and churches, in teaching the natives the doctrines of the Christian faith, and leading them from the degradation of heathenism to a purer and better life.

4. That thirteen of the islands containing more than half the population of the New Hebrides, have been already occupied and brought to a greater or less extent under the influences of Christianity.

5. That fourteen of the languages and dialects spoken in the group have been reduced to writing and portions of God's word in all these tongues have been printed and given to the natives.

6. That until recently all the interests in these islands, other than native, were British.

7. That the influence of French occupation, even if convict be not sent, to the islands, will be disastrous to Protestant Missions, as may be seen from what has taken place in the neighboring group of the Loyalty islands.

Your petitioners, therefore, most earnestly pray that Your Majesty may be pleased to withhold your consent from any proposals for modifying in any way the arrangements now existing between Your Majesty's government and the government of France, with respect to the independence of the New Hebrides Islands, or if that be found not to be practicable that Your Majesty may be pleased to take order for the annexation of the Islands to the British Empire.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

We are sowing seeds of truth or error every day we live, which are sure to take root in somebody's life.