

Lamington. The following day was one of those beautiful summer sabbaths which, especially in rural districts, seem to fortell the everlasting rest, and realize to men's mind the green pastures and the quiet waters spoken of in the Psalm. From all their hills and glens the shepherd and farming people had gathered in to the rustic kirk, and a touching sight it was to see, in his family pew the grey-haired Sir Robert Henderson, looking, as every body thought, twenty years younger, and by his side his only son, of whom it might well be said that he had been dead and was alive again. It was a surprising sight, too for the congregation; but their minister explained the case in few and fitting words, and called upon them to unite with him and the family so mercifully

dealt with, in thanksgiving to the Lord of preserving providence and pardoning grace.

The Scottish heart when moved is moved indeed, as all the history of the land testifies or grave natures are apt to feel most deeply. The sober and serious faces around lighted up as though they they had caught part of the summer sunshine, while the minister spoke; and as the whole congregation stood up in Presbyterian fashion, while he prayed and gave thanks, a wordless murmur passed through and filled the kirk, till it seemed that every one present was giving thanks also.

Seasons and years passed away, and the young man thus restored to home and kindred, never forgot the lessons he had learned in these days of troubles and trials.

## Miscellaneous.

### MINUTES OF THE WESTMINSTER ASSEMBLY.

As is known to many of our readers, the Scroll Minutes of the Westminster Assembly are still preserved in Dr. William's Library, in Queen's Square, Bloomsbury, London; and the General Assembly, in 1867, appointed a committee to enter into communication with the trustees of the Library, and solicit permission to have a transcript of these Minutes made for the use of the Church. The request made by the committee, in name of the Assembly, was courteously acceded to by the trustees; and for some time past, E. Maunde Thompson, Esq., of the MS. department in the British Museum, has been employed by the committee in making a careful transcript of the Minutes. Messrs Blackwood & Sons have also most kindly undertaken to publish, at their own risk, the portion of the transcript relating to the formation of the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms. But the subscriptions promised to the committee have not all, as yet, been paid, and a sum of at least £50, in addition to the amount already promised, will be required to enable the committee to get the transcript completed. They therefore earnestly request that those who have not yet paid their subscriptions will do so without delay; and that others who take an interest in the work intrusted to them will kindly supply the funds needed to enable them to bring it to a successful termination.

Contributions may be sent to the Rev. Jas. E. Cumming, Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh.

PRIN. CANDLISH ON THE READING OF SERMONS.—The winter session of the New College was close on Wednesday forenoon, when Principal Cand-

lish addressed the students. He congratulated the newly appointed Professors on the marked success which had attended their labors, and on the warm interest with which their prelections had been listened to. Adverting to the new rule—that the popular sermon should of the last trial discourses be delivered in the presence of all the students in the hall, and that it should be delivered without notes—he said he must take the responsibility of it upon himself, for it was on his suggestion that it was adopted by the Senate. Now, it might be said to him, "Physician, heal thyself. You read your sermons: why should not we read ours?" In explanation and reply, he had to say that he occasionally did so preach, with satisfaction at least. (A laugh.) He held it to have been a happy circumstance in his early training, before beginning his ministry in Edinburgh, that he had for nearly three years the entire charge of a large and influential country congregation, for which he had to prepare and deliver without notes two discourses weekly, and he continued the practice after coming to St. George's. Particularly in the exciting times preceding and following the Disruption, when they were often called to preach almost every day in barns and in the open air, where written preparation shared the fate of the autumn leaves, he never could have met the difficulty but for his early acquired ability to dispense with the use of manuscript. This was a very cogent argument in favour of the view that, whatever method of delivery they might ultimately adopt, they should qualify themselves for being able to address an audience from the pulpit in unready discourse. The remainder of the address consisted of counsel to the students as to the best means of qualifying themselves for the profession on which they proposed to enter.