

In our own Synod, there was much discussion this year,—whether edifying or not, is a question which each one present is alone competent to decide for himself. Two things ought to be noted by our people, that the raising of £250 by the Presbytery of Pictou on or before the first of Sept. will terminate our labors as to the Endowment Fund, and that the Divinity Hall Committee wait that consummation to resume their labors. It is a cause of thankfulness to God that the endowment is so near completion, and to most of us it is matter of astonishment, for it was never expected it would be accomplished so soon. Our people have no reason to be ashamed of themselves in this noble enterprise. In proportion to their numbers, their efforts have never been exceeded in this Province. Dalhousie College is a credit to the patriotism of Presbyterians, as they have devoted their funds not to the services of their own Churches alone, but of the whole Province.

THE Union of the other Presbyterian Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, has been, during last month, consummated at St. John. It was preceded by a decision on the part of the Nova Scotia Synod, declaring that instrumental music in Churches was not warranted by their standards, which has since given birth to discussion in the *Colonial Presbyterian*.

THE war between Austria and the allied powers of Prussia and Italy was begun on the 20th June. The Italians lost the battle of Custozza,—an engagement of considerable magnitude,—there having been upwards of 100,000 men engaged on each side. It is said that the Italians lost 20,000 in killed, wounded, and missing. The Prussian part of the programme began by a movement in Hanover, which secured that kingdom, the two Hesses—Auhalt and Hesse-Darmstadt. The main army marched into Saxony, and thence into Northern Bohemia in two large divisions. Enormous and bloody battles have been fought. At Sadowa, the Austrians lost in all ways about 40,000 men. Hopes of peace have turned out illusory. Austria has surrendered Venetia to Napoleon as umpire. Still, Italy being in alliance with Prussia, and, above all, being beaten and desirous of an opportunity of redeeming its honor, does not appear to be satisfied. Prussia, true to its traditions, longs for more territory and greatness. Her policy of late years has been characterised by treachery and want of principle. The Austrian army would appear to be made up of abler materials than the Prussian—in physique, cavalry and artillery, but the needle-gun outweighs all advantages, slaying five to one. The slaughter of these ten days, from the 27th June to the 7th July, is enough to fill the Christian heart with despair. The form of Christianity may rule the world, but its spirit exercises very little influence upon its general affairs.

THE change in the British Ministry, and the successful laying of the Atlantic Cable, are the only other events which we have space to chronicle. A. P.

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 We have to acknowledge receipt of the Calendar of Queen's College, Kingston, C. W., for 1866; a Pastoral Address by Principal Snodgrass, Moderator of Canadian Synod; a Sermon by Rev. Mr. Mair, Martintown, C. W., on "The Sabbath."

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Lay Association--McLennan's Mountain

Collected by Misses Isabella Cameron and Annie Fraser	£0 12 9
Isabella McDonald and — McPherson	9 3
Christy A. Fraser and Cath. McRae	1 1 10
Mary Cameron and M. A. McPherson	1 14 3
Catherine McDonald and Bella Forbes	16 7 4
Annie Fraser and Mary McPherson	5 7 4

Total £5 0 4

June, 1866. ALEX. FRASER, Sec'y.

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Monies received.

PRESBYTERY CLERK'S FEE.

River John Kirk-session	\$4 00
Albion Mines, St John's Kirk-session	4 00
	W. M. M.

1866

June—Cash, St Andrew's congregation, Halifax, per Rev G. M. Grant, for missionary services rendered	\$30 00
Paid to Rev James McDonald	\$30 00
“ Rev Mr McCunn, travelling expenses	10 00
	\$30 00

W. McMILLAN, Presbytery Clerk.

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SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

1866

HOME MISSION.

July—Collection in St Andrew's Ch., New Glasgow	£3 15 0
L. McDougall, Esq., C. Breton	2 10 0
L. McDougall, Esq., C. B., for expenses of Deputation	1 6 0
Alex. McEachren, Esq., C. B.	10 0
J. S. Hart, Esq., C. B.	2 6

SYNOD FUND.

River John congregation	1 6 0
Barney's River congregation	19 4 0
Belfast congregation, P. K. I.	2 2 0
St Andrew's Ch. New Glasgow	1 17 3
St Paul's Church, East River	1 9 9
St Columba's, W. B. East River	2 19 3
Roger's Hill congregation	1 16 4 4
Albion Mines congregation	2 16 0
Saltsprings congregation	16 0

YOUNG MEN'S SCHEME.

St Andrew's Ch. New Glasgow	4 2 6
J. S. Hart, Esq., Cape Breton	2 6

WIDOW'S FUND.

Cash from Mrs John Graham, West River	16 0 0
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W. GORDON, Treasurer.

Pictou, August 1st. 1866.