

consciences, by withdrawing from co-operation with them, *so long as it is necessary*, in the great work which the Lord has called them to in the mission-fields of their adopted home. The time no doubt is probably approaching when the co-operation, at present called for, shall be no longer needed. Meanwhile, the claims on the aid of all the home churches, pressed by appeals from New Zealand and Australia, as well as from Canada, do undoubtedly demand the earnest sympathy and liberal support of the Church of Scotland, and the Committee will not allow themselves to believe that for any reason she shall fail in her support and sympathy.

But the Report, with its appendix, now laid before the General Assembly, represents the effort of the Church of Scotland to fulfil her duty to our expatriated countrymen, far beyond the limits merely of the great colonies of the British Empire. The history of the Committee's work from the beginning fully illustrates the design of their appointment to have been to follow, on behalf of the Church, her spiritual children with anxiety as to their eternal welfare, wherever they may become resident, in any place *anywhere abroad*. Through the operations of the Colonial Committee the Church thus seeks, as to Scottish emigrants on every distant shore at the very time when the need is greatest, on their first settling down in their new home, to aid in providing for them the ministrations of the Gospel, according to the Scriptural standards of faith, and the simple forms of worship of the Church of their Fatherland; and what effort could better become the character of a living Church whose Christian activities crave full expression in every field of missionary enterprise? The Home and Foreign fields have each of their urgent claims to be equally respected in the right discharge of our missionary duty. No living Church healthfully exercising its Christian activities, will ever neglect the

one for the sake of the other. But claims just as urgent are presented by the field, distinct from both our Home and Foreign Missions—as it were, between them, and partaking of the character of both—where lies the work of the Church among our home-bred Presbyterian emigrants to the colonies and residents in foreign countries. And assuredly, wherever with reverence the Master's voice is heard asserting the relations of all just claims on the support and sympathy of a living Church, His judgment as to what we owe to *Home and Foreign Missions*, and to our *Missions to Scottish emigrants abroad*, will reach us in the solemn words of the familiar sentence, "*These ought ye to have done.*" AND NOT TO LEAVE THE OTHER UNDONE."

*In name and by appointment* }  
*of the Committee.* }

ROBERT H. MUIR, *Convener.*

THE MANSE, DALMENY, EDIN- }  
BURGH, 21st May, 1877. }

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#### THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Holy Spirit is the beginner and finisher of the work of grace in the hearts of the redeemed. He enlightens, sanctifies, and comforts, and is given by the Father to those who ask him. And as the corn of wheat is by degrees softened and dissolved in the ground, and gradually, without our perceiving it, assumes a life of its own, puts forth a germ, and silently continues to grow, until the blade makes its appearance above ground; so, according to holy Scripture, is the process in the renewed heart. It loses by degrees its own peculiar form, its old inclinations and views; it is sensible of something within, living and powerful, which frees the spirit more and more, and raises it above this world, until the day dawn, the morning star arise, and the mystery, 'Christ in us,' be made manifest in it."