

until the hopes of those who strenuously laboured to preserve at once the unity of the Synod and its consistency and purity, were utterly extinguished, and they found themselves compelled to fall back on their original position. The persevering efforts made in Committee to find common ground on which all might unitedly stand, the various forms of expression proposed, by the adoption of one or other of which the former declarations of the Synod might have been honestly made good—our sincere attachment to the great principle involved in that struggle, unequivocally manifested—our real independence secured, so that we should be no longer identified with the Scottish Establishment in its present condition,—the readiness to await the issue of any process that might be deemed best for changing the designation of the Synod, were there only a single movement made for that purpose—all these labours in Committee, the parties by whom they were mainly prosecuted, and the reception which they met with—could not possibly be detailed, and must remain unknown to the world almost as entirely as the motives which prompted them. And yet they form an important element for judging aright of the conduct of parties on this trying occasion; and if they could be fully spread out before the Christian community, the charges of violence, precipitancy, and recklessness brought against those who from being in the minority are liable, in popular estimation, to be regarded as the sole causers of the disruption—these charges would be stripped of their plausibility, and found to be utterly groundless. But "it is a very small thing that we should be judged of men's judgment,—he that judgeth us is the Lord—whose judgment is according to truth."

The attention of the Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada is respectfully directed to the following Extract from the Minutes of the Commission of Synod assembled at Hamilton on the 7th and 8th inst

"The Commission having considered the Report from the Presbytery of Hamilton, respecting the several congregations thereof, and the reference from said Presbytery for instructions in regard to the matter of said Report, and considering that similar instructions may be of use to other Presbyteries: Resolve, that for the guidance and direction of all parties concerned in the new position in which they are placed, the following regulations shall for the interim be in force, and shall continue so, until the Synod shall order otherwise:—

"1. That whenever the members of a congregation or congregations adhere to the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and to their minister, either formally by a deliberate expression of their opinion and purpose, or when such a formal adherence is deemed unnecessary, virtually, by declining to express their dissent after he shall have stated and explained to them his renunciation of connexion with the Scottish Establishment, then such minister shall be held as sustaining the same pastoral relation to his congregation or congregations as though no change in the external relations of the church had taken place.

"2. That all or so many of the Elders in any such adhering congregation as shall also adhere, shall be recognized as members of the Session of such congregation.

"3. That so much of the existing constitutions of adhering congregations as does not require or imply connexion with the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, shall be held as binding until new constitutions, if such be deemed advisable, shall be adopted by congregations themselves, and sanctioned by their respective Presbyteries.

"4. That where no new arrangements for ministers' stipends are entered into by adhering congregations, it shall be understood that they are responsible for the fulfilment of the engagements under which their ministers had been at first placed over them.

"5. That where only a minority of a congregation renounce connexion with the Scottish Establishment, and adhere to the Presbyterian Church of Canada, the case shall be submitted to the Presbytery of the bounds, with a view to their taking such action thereon as may be deemed best for edification.

"6. That in the event of any dispute about the application of these regulations, or about other matters arising out of our separation from a connexion with the Scottish Establishment, the same shall, without delay, be referred to the Presbytery of the bounds for counsel and direction, by members of the Church or adhering congregations.

"7. That for the guidance and direction of all concerned, copies of the above regulations shall be submitted to the Sessions and managers of adhering congregations, and read from the pulpits on a Sabbath so soon as they have come into the hands of Ministers.

CHEAP PUBLICATIONS.

SCHEME OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The object of this important enterprise is "to secure the republication of the good old Theological literature of Scotland, in such a form and under such arrangements as will bring it within the reach of every family. This object the Committee seek to accomplish by an extensive subscription on the principle of the Parker, Wodrow, and other Societies, but at a greatly reduced price—four shillings, sterling, a year is the sum to be subscribed, and for this sum every subscriber is to receive three volumes every year, of a good size and large type; each volume containing about 350 pages. This is on the supposition of the subscribers amounting to about 10,000. Should the number fall short of that amount, it may be necessary to restrict the issue to two volumes, but so far from apprehending such a result the Committee contemplate such an increase in the number of subscribers, as may warrant them, under a right system of economy, in issuing at least the three volumes a year to each subscriber,—the number of subscribers being unlimited. It is the intention of the Committee to begin with the writings of Knox, and to publish as their first volume, some of the practical treatises of the great Reformer."

We are extremely desirous that this scheme be profited by in Canada. Several individuals have already intimated to us their wish to become subscribers, and we have now the satisfaction to state that Mr. McKenrick, of the firm of Ramsay & McKenrick, Booksellers, Hamilton, has agreed to act as agent for the Scheme in this section of the country. Intending subscribers ought to send in their names and subscription money (about 5s. currency) to Mr. McKenrick without delay. It is hoped that a similar arrangement will immediately be made in Toronto, and the other principal towns of the Province.

We are happy to observe that the Rev. Mr. Henry, of Lachute, and the large and prosperous congregation under his pastoral charge, have recently declared their adherence to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. We also learn with pleasure, that the Rev. Mr. Wightman, of Camden, &c., has cast in his lot with us. The congregations of York Mills, Caledon, Nassagaweya, St. Thomas, and Tucker Smith, have given in their adherence to the Synod; and the Rev. William Graham, recently a Missionary under the Presbytery of Hamilton, has accepted of a harmonious call from the last mentioned congregation, and will be speedily ordained as their Pastor by the Presbytery of Hamilton and Toronto. The congregation of Knox's Church in the City of Toronto, and that under the pastoral care of the Rev. James Harris, who with their worthy pastor have intimated their intention to adhere to the Synod, are about to make a joint application to the Presbytery to be united. A considerable addition is to be made immediately to the place of worship occupied by Mr. Harris's congregation, for the temporary accommodation of the united congregation.

THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, AND THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA.

The cheering intelligence has just reached us, that at a recent meeting of the Commission of the Free Church of Scotland, the Rev. Messrs. Guthrie and Begg, of Edinburgh, and the Rev. Mr. McFarlan of Renfrew,—three of the most eminent ministers of that Church,—the Rev. William Burns,—son of the venerable Minister of Kilsyth, and a nephew of Dr. Burns of Paisley,—and several other Ministers whose names have not reached us, were appointed to proceed to Canada. Mr. Burns is already on his way to this country,—Montreal being his immediate destination. Mrs. Guthrie and Begg were present at the Commission, and accepted the appointment, and there is good reason to expect their early arrival, and that of Mr. McFarlan, who, however, was not present when appointed. The call from Toronto to Dr. Burns did not reach him until after the meeting of the Commission, but we learn that he is disposed to entertain it favourably, and may be expected to preside at the opening of Knox's Church, next summer. For this intelligence we would thank God and take courage.

We are glad to observe that the tract styled "Danger and Duty," published some time ago in England, by the Rev. Mr. Marks, the author, we believe, of "the Retrospect," and a truly evangelical minister of the English Establishment, has been recently reprinted by Mr. Brown, of Toronto, who has thereby done good service to the cause of true religion amongst us. This valuable little treatise furnishes a brief but comprehensive summary of the real tenets and sentiments which the High Church and Puseyite party are disseminating and acting upon wherever their influence extends, and it will enable its readers to form a just estimate of both the anti-protestant, soul destroying tendency of the system, and of the amazing extent to which it has already been adopted. The proselyting spirit universally manifested by this party, the insidious guise of nominal protestantism under which it prosecutes its work, and the preponderating worldly influence which it possesses, render it a matter of the utmost consequence that the counsels and warnings of such men as Marks should be extensively circulated.

We greatly regret the delay which has unexpectedly occurred in the publication of the first number of the "Record." It has been occasioned partly by circumstances incident to the commencement of such publication,—but principally by the negligence of those in charge of a public conveyance, in detaining the manuscript of the Pastoral Address.

The Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and others friendly to our cause, are requested to communicate as soon as possible with the Publisher as to the number of copies of the *Record* required in their several localities. As the *Record* is published at a price that will barely cover the expenses of publication, it is expected that all letters to the Publisher will be post-paid, and that subscribers will make their payments in advance.

The next "Record" will contain an abstract of the Minutes of the Meeting of Synod at Kingston, and of the Commission at Hamilton, and an account of the labours of our Missionaries principally within the bounds of the Presbytery of Hamilton, compiled from their own correspondence.

PUBLISHED by JAMES WEBSTER, James Street, Hamilton, to whom all commands may be addressed.