

for England, where he expected to arrive during the present month.

Full particulars respecting Mr Ellis's important visit to the capital of Madagascar are, of necessity, reserved until his return, but, in the meantime, it may gratify our friends to learn the following facts.

On the 5th of August, our friend, accompanied by some of the native officers, deputed for the purpose, left the Port of Tamatave for the capital, and, after surmounting the difficulties of the journey, he entered Antananarivo on the 25th of that month. Here he met with a most cordial reception from the Prince Royal, and the principal nobles and officers vied with each other in manifesting their respect and good-will to their visitor. During his stay Mr Ellis also enjoyed many opportunities for meeting the Christians, and ascertaining highly interesting particulars regarding their past history and future prospects. He was also favoured with an audience of the Queen, and partook of the hospitalities of the court. Everything in fact was done by the authorities, and especially by the Prince, to manifest their appreciation of the visit, and their desire to render it agreea-

ble. The invitation, however, had been strictly limited to a month, and Mr Ellis most thankfully embraced the favourable opportunity for becoming personally acquainted with the excellent Prince and the native Christians; but he found with regret that he would not be permitted to extend the period of his stay, and consequently at the end of the month he took leave of his hospitable entertainers, and with the same marked courtesy and attention that had been shown to him on his journey down to the Capital, he was accompanied back to Tamatave.

Whatever may be the result of Mr Ellis's visit, as a means in preparing the way for the ultimate resumption of Missionary operations in Madagascar, it is certain that much valuable information has been obtained respecting the people and the circumstances of the country, which could not have been acquired otherwise than by personal inquiry and inspection; and whenever, in the good providence of God, Madagascar shall again be thrown open to the free spread of the Gospel, the agents to be employed in the good work will thus be enabled to go forth under circumstances of peculiar advantage.—*Ibid.*

## News of the Church.

**OPENING OF THE SEMINARY.**—The Philosophical classes of the Synod's Seminary were opened on the 3rd ult. A heavy snow storm prevented the attendance of the members of the Committee; and Professor McCulloch, owing to the state of his health was not able to deliver the introductory lecture. The total number of young men in attendance is sixteen, of whom however two are only attending the languages, preparatory to entering as regular students. Of the fourteen regularly enrolled students, seven are in the first year of the course, five in the second and two in the fourth.

**PRESENTATION TO MR MCKAY.**—We have much pleasure in recording that the young people of Parrsboro' and Maccan have presented to their pastor, Rev James McG. McKay, as a New Years gift, a superior sleigh and a very fine Buffalo Robe. Such evidences of the appreciation of pastoral services must be extremely gratifying to the min-

isters of whose care, and diligence in discharging the duties of the ministerial relation they afford such strong proof.

**CALLS.**—Mr John Currie, preacher of the Gospel has accepted a call from the Congregation of Maitland.

The congregation of Economy and Five Islands have given a unanimous call to Mr Alexr. Cameron, preacher of the Gospel.

### Notices, Acknowledgments, &c

Monies received by the Treasurer from 20th February to 20th March, 1857:—

<i>Foreign Mission.</i>	
Feb 22. Hugh McDonald, Esq,	
St River. Antigonische £2	0 0
Mar 5. J W Dawson, Profes-	
sor McGill's College,	
Montreal	1 5 0
<i>Home Mission</i>	
Mar 9. Annapolis, per Rev J	
L Murdoch	5 7 6

J & J Yorston acknowledge receipt of