

THE LATE REV. JOHN MACRAE,
STORNOWAY.

This excellent minister died at Stornoway on the 10th inst., after a short but severe illness. On being licensed in 1827, he went as a missionary to Nova Scotia, where, in the face of considerable difficulties, he succeeded in organising a large congregation, consisting almost entirely of Gaelic-speaking people, in connection with the Church of Scotland. In 1843 he returned to his native land, and was inducted to the church and parish of Redcastle in Ross-shire. This sphere of duty was so little congenial to one of Mr. MacRae's ardent temperament and active habits, and elevated ideas of ministerial usefulness, that, on receiving a unanimous call from the influential congregation of Stornoway in 1847, he at once, though at a large sacrifice of emolument, transferred himself to this more promising field of labour, where he continued for upwards of thirty years the zealous and devoted services which so distinguished him as a minister of the Church, and so endeared him to the people under his charge.

In the sermon preached on the Sunday after his funeral it was truly said of Mr. MacRae that in many respects he was the very type and model of what a minister of Christ ought to be. His powerful intellect was sedulously cultivated to the last, and stored as a garner with things new and old, for the edification of his hearers. His pulpit ministrations were scholarly, and marked by calm earnestness—"rightly divining the word of truth." He believed thoroughly, and felt intensely, that in seeking the welfare of the Church of his fathers, he was seeking the advancement of "God's kingdom and righteousness" in the land. At the same time the deceased was singularly free from bigotry. If there was any one thing, apart from the grosser sins, that he used more to lament than another, it was the exhibition of this unlovely spirit in any professing Christian of whatsoever name. In proof of his large-heartedness in this respect, may be mentioned the willing help he extended to all, without distinction of sect or party, who appealed to him in their time of need; and, specially, to the brotherly fellow-

ship he was accustomed to hold within these sacred walls, as well as elsewhere, with ministers of another denomination. The whole tenor of his life was a demonstration of the one desire that possessed him—the desire to see all good men working together for the good of all, under the rule of the one great Master, endeavouring to keep the unity of the spirit of the bond of peace.—*H. & F. R.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

DEATH OF REV. F. JARDINE.

"With deep sorrow," writes the Rev. Thomas Slater, of St. Andrews, George Town, Demerara, on 24th October last, "I have to inform you that the hand of God is on us again. We have lost Mr. Jardine, the popular minister of St. Thomas' Church. It was on the evening of the second inst., that he complained of giddiness. At noon of that day he had ascended the lighthouse in company of a friend, a Rev. Dr. Anderson, from Trinidad, who was my guest for a fortnight. They lingered on the tower for nearly an hour, in the intense and unusual heat of the sun, which has prevailed for several months over the whole of the West Indies, and he caught sunstroke, which proved fatal on the sixth day thereafter. He died on the evening of the 8th. I had returned from my furlough, but had not resumed full duty, and it was ineffably sad for me to come back and hear golden opinions regarding him, his loyalty to duty and punctuality in work during my absence, and then to see the brave, strong and good little man wrenched away from a sphere he was so competent to fill. 'How long, O Lord, how long? Let it repent Thee concerning Thy servants!' When I left in June, both of us apprehended that a shadow of long duration was about to settle on our town congregations. And lo! the last has been first—I think of it with fear and trembling. The Lord pity me, spare me, and give me back my old strength, that I may stand in the breach, and gather up the reins that have dropped from the chariot-eeer's hand.

"A minister is of course wanted for the vacancy, which will be officially reported, at latest, by the following mail."—*H. & F. R.*