

with the view of opening up the way for more friendly and intimate intercourse, and more ready and cordial co-operation for evangelical objects. On account of the pressure of business this matter was referred on the part of the Presbyterian Church to the Commission of Synod, for more mature deliberation, and we are glad to observe that in the meantime an advance is making in various ways, and in more places than one, to the practical attainment of the object in view. A pleasing instance of this occurred at the opening of Knox's Church, Toronto, on which occasion the Ministers of various Evangelical denominations took part in the services. We now notice with great satisfaction, the commencement of a course of lectures to be delivered in Toronto, on subjects of deep and pressing interest to the Church of Christ generally—the first of which (being introductory and mainly designed to point out the dangers to which the great truths of the Gospel and the interests of the Church of Christ are exposed in the present day, and the duties required of all who are concerned for them) was given by the Rev. Henry Esso, in the Independent Church, on the 12th ult., the second (on the Holy Scriptures, as the only rule of faith and practice) by the Rev. Mr. Ross, in Knox's Church, on the 15th ult., and the third (on the right of private judgment) by the Rev. Mr. King, in the Methodist Chapel, Adelaide Street, on the 26th ult. On all these occasions the attendance has been numerous and respectable.

OAKVILLE, AND TRAVELGAR MILLS.—The Rev. Wm. Rintoul of Streetsville, preached in the former of these places on Sabbath, the 2nd March, to a large congregation, and at the latter on the day following. On Monday, (3rd March), meetings of the members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church of Canada were held at these stations, which were regularly organised as H. M. Stations of the Presbytery of Toronto. They have since been visited, we understand, by the Rev. Mr. King of the Free Church of Scotland. At the latter place the friends of the Presbyterian Church are taking steps for the erection of a place of worship.

A NURSERY, OR SEMINARY FOR THE "LADIES OF THE SACRED HEART," is about to be constructed at Montreal, to aid in spreading Roman Catholic doctrines among the Protestant children of British settlers. The French Canadian papers are delighted with the idea. These ladies now reckon no less than sixty establishments of their order in different parts of the world. They are found to be powerful auxiliaries in spreading the Popish religion, and the French papers in Canada note with great satisfaction that "many intelligent Protestants in the United States send their daughters to their Seminaries." Some of the young ladies become so delighted with the quiet lives of the pious Sisters, that on completing their education they consecrate themselves to the service of the church for life.

SCOTLAND.

DR. CANDLISH'S CONGREGATION.—Dr. Candlish's congregation, at the opening of their new church, on the first Sabbath of the present year, collected towards extinction of the debt on the building, a sum considerably exceeding £700 (£718). It appears that, in the course of the same week, the congregation raised a further sum of £1000—making in all the sum of £1718, raised in one week for the extinction of debt on their place of worship. They had, as we understand previously contributed £4270 to erect the church; so that the total sum raised for that object amounts, as near as may be, to £6090—which is enough to clear the entire expense—including the price of ground £1000, beadle's house, with other accommodation—and to leave a considerable surplus in the hands of the congregation. On inquiry, we find that this congregation has contributed to the General Building Fund of the Church, £3512—to the General Sustentation Fund, £4340, and that

the collections at the church doors, for the Deacons of the Church, the poor, and other objects of the congregation, have amounted to about £2170—giving as the total amount of funds collected by the congregation, for the local and general objects of the church, during the space of little more than sixteen months which have elapsed since the Disruption, the sum of not less than £16,323.—*Scottish Guardian.*

UNITED SECESSION CHURCH.—The United Secession Presbytery of Perth, on 21st inst., agreed to adopt and transmit to the Synod, a memorial to the effect,—That there is serious apparent discrepancy between all the Standards of the Church and certain recent decisions of Synod, on the doctrine of Atonement, particularly the decision of October 1813, which the Synod is accordingly requested to explain in such a manner as to disown the apparent sanction which it gives to the doctrine on the subject of Atonement, contained in the specialties published by the then two senior professors, as if it were the creed of the Secession Church, and to recall the recommendation, issued on that occasion, against using the phrase, "limited Atonement," and all similar phraseology, which, as contrasted in the deed of Synod, with the phrase, "Universal Atonement," the memorial states, can refer, not to intrinsic value, but to persons, and so appears to contradict and forbid the hitherto unanimously admitted doctrine of the Church, as stated by the Synod in 1830, "that Christ, in making atonement for sin, was substituted in room of the elect only," while at last Synod it was expressly declared that, by recent decisions, no change was intended in the doctrine of the Church. A memorial to the above effect was moved by the Rev. Mr. Milne, and seconded by the Rev. J. Forsyth, and supported by the Rev. Messrs. Balfour, Scott, Marshall, D. Young, J. Clark, McQueen, and Ross. The Rev. Mr. Newlands moved that the memorial be rejected, and all such doctrinal discussions henceforth peremptorily forbidden, and those aggrieved allowed to adopt what course they please. This motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, but only after the last clause was withdrawn, and even then it was only seconded. Dr. Young moved, that no memorial be adopted, as the case would come before the Synod independently of the memorial, and that members might not be committed to any particular course. This was seconded by Mr. Pringle, and supported by Messrs. Lamb and R. Clark, and ultimately by Messrs. Smith and Newlands. Dr. Jamieson, while much satisfied with the memorial, moved, that the Synod be simply requested to expunge all recent decisions on the doctrine of Atonement, and fall back on the unanimously admitted Standards of the Church; but as this, it was stated, had been attempted ineffectually at last Synod, the motion was withdrawn; and ultimately the memorial was adopted by a large majority. Mr. Ramsay was Moderator; and several ministers, who had previously expressed concurrence in the memorial when announced, were unavoidably absent.

THE OLD AND NEW GREY FRIARS CHURCHES, EDINBURGH, were destroyed by fire on the morning of Sabbath, the 19th January. We notice this conflagration chiefly on account of the interesting associations connected with these Churches. Here, in 1637, began that contest for the vindication of the religious liberties of Scotland, which employed Leslie, Cromwell, and William of Orange, to settle during the succeeding half century. Here the National Covenant of Scotland was entered into. In the surrounding burying ground 1,200 prisoners taken at Bothwell Bridge, by the prelate and Erastian party, were confined for nine months exposed to the inclemency of the weather; and here Alexander Henderson, Dr. John Erskine, and Dr. Andrew Thomson, exercised their ministry at successive periods.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Matters seem to be hastening to a crisis in this body. The Rev. Mr. Miles, of Glasgow, one of its Ministers, has been recently cast out by Bishop Russell for hold-

ing Ministerial fellowship with the Rev. Sir William Duubar, of Aberdeen, who was some time ago anathematised in the true Popish style by Bishop Skinner. Mr. Miles, who was ordained in the English Church, is publishing a series of pamphlets, exposing the anti-scriptural character which, on investigation, he finds attaching to the canons and offices of this church. This is the Church which has been, of late especially, describing itself as enjoying peace, while all around is agitated by controversies and schisms. Mr. Miles is the successor of Mr. Montgomery in Glasgow,—who, during the recent contest in the Church of Scotland, drew into his congregation, and the Scottish Episcopal communion, not a few individuals brought up in Presbyterianism. These parties having been chiefly perverted by the promises made and the hopes inspired, of an asylum of undisturbed tranquility in the bosom of this self-styled Catholic and Apostolic Church, must now feel themselves in no very enviable position. By the way, these occurrences afford a very good test of the boasted unity and Catholicity of the Episcopal Churches. Messrs. Drummond, Dunbar, and Miles, who have been severally expelled by the proper prelate authorities in Scotland; and whose sentences have been carefully notified to the prelate authorities in England, still remain in good standing in the English Church, and are still qualified to enter without question on any spiritual charge within that Church.

At a recent meeting of the Free Presbytery of Edinburgh, the Rev. James Begg gave notice of his intention to propose at the succeeding meeting a petition to Parliament in reference to the conduct of the Duke of Buccleugh, in refusing sites for Free Churches.

STATE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT IN Paisley.—The accounts of this burgh shew the whole sum received for seat rents during the past year to be £73 3s. 4d., while the expenses independent of stipends, amounts to £101 7s.; yet the Presbytery are striving to obtain possession of the *quoad sacra* churches, and are proposing to petition Parliament for their endowment.

ENGLAND.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, — REGENT SQUARE, — LONDON.—On Sabbath, the 12th Jan., there was an Ordination of Deacons in this Church. A more solemn or satisfactory ceremonial was never witnessed. After the reading of an admirable selection of passages from Scripture, and an excellent discourse by the Rev. James Hamilton—the Minister—Messrs. McKenzie, Mowbray, Hogg, Webster, Mathieson and McKay and Dr. Stewart, were Ordained and admitted in due form to the Status of the Deaconship—receiving the right hand of fellowship from their excellent Minister and his noble band of hard-working, "life in earnest" Elders and Deacons.

ENGLAND—THE SCHEM IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH.—The Bishop of Exeter having issued an order to his clergy to conform strictly to the rubrics in all respects, such as the wearing of the surplice in preaching, and other points equally important, a violent ferment has been excited throughout his diocese, and especially in Exeter, where several of the clergymen required the protection of the authorities in going to and from Church. The Archbishop of Canterbury has published a letter recommending in substance mutual forbearance, and the leaving of matters, in each locality, as they are or as they were, as may be found most expedient. The proposed meeting of the Bishops to attempt the settlement of these matters, is abandoned as useless, or only liable to make matters worse,—seeing they were as little likely to agree as their clergy or flocks, and had besides no authority to issue any mandate of general obligation. Indeed there seems to be no authority any where within the Church, and an appeal to the Queen or Parliament is generally spoken of as indispensable. The well known and excellent Dr. Scorsby, together with his curate Mr. Pollexfen, has felt