

a skilful organist. This took place about the middle of the ninth century. From Rome, the organ found its way as far and wide as the influence of the Pope extended. The Greek Church, which never acknowledged the Pope, never admitted instrumental music into the Church. If the organ is a good thing, we are certainly indebted to Rome for it.

I have now discharged what I felt to be a duty. I have stated my objections to the Scriptural authority claimed for the organ in the worship of God. The reader may receive or reject the views I have expressed. Let him judge for himself. I have not particularly noticed "A. P.'s" last article, nor do I intend doing it. I will only say of it, that it must have been written under too much excitement, and that, throughout, it is very unlike the writer. The criticism on my arguments I leave to the reader, who may, if he thinks it worth while to take the trouble, judge, by referring to my articles, how far that criticism is fair and just. "A. P." is perfectly justified in defending his views, while he is satisfied they are right; but, in his last article, the manner of doing it was rather fitted to defeat the object in view.

A. M'L.

The Meeting of Synod.

WE have had a very pleasant meeting of Synod. Though not quite so largely attended as last year, it was a respectable representation of the Church. If the elders of such large and important congregations as Pictou, New Glasgow, Charlottetown, Gairloch, and Saltsprings, &c., were absent from their posts, it was all the more creditable to the small congregations of Truro, River John, Wallace River, and others, that they were represented by the lay as well as by the clerical element. We had also to deplore the absence of old valued members like Messrs. McLean and McKay. The Prince Edward Island Presbytery appeared in the person of Mr. Duncan, and Cape Breton sent us only Mr. Brodie. The minister of St. John's, Newfoundland, was, as usual, absent, and there was no collection reported from that quarter. In all, twenty-six members were present, including Mr. Ogg of New Brunswick, who discharged the duties of corresponding member with a courtesy, diligence, and ability that gained for him golden opinions from all.

Besides the usual routine business, several important matters had to be discussed, and practical measures were adopted with reference to one or two of those. In the first place, we have fairly started the Foreign Mission, and a collection for it has at last been enjoined. A special Island is to be selected, on which native agents appointed by Mr. Geddie are to labour, in order that they may prepare the ground for the European or American missionary, whom, we trust, God will yet send to

us. These native agents are to be paid by us, reports of their labours to be sent regularly to us, and thus we shall be doing something, and at the same time be committing ourselves to the work. We have resolved to engage the pioneers, and now when a missionary comes forward, he will feel that he is not to enter on a field wholly strange and wild. Mr. Geddie's address to the Synod was characterized by that clearness and quiet power which belong to true eloquence. He wastes no words on trifles, he is never diffuse, but goes straight to the point, saying in unmistakable language what he has to say. The members of Court were deeply affected, and Mr. McMillan especially spoke with much feeling, and even intimated that he was much exercised in his own mind as to whether it was his duty to offer himself for the work. May God raise up men to carry out the standard from us, to set it up in the distant islands of the sea! Let us pray more earnestly to the Lord of the harvest, and we cannot be left without an answer.

Another most important subject that occupied the attention of the Court, was the question of a Divinity Hall. It was felt that it was of little use for us as a Church to give to young men preparing for the ministry instructions in Arts in Dalhousie College, unless we were prepared to take them up at the end of their literary course, and enable them to study Theology in a separate institution. No endowment would be required for this purpose. An annual collection from the congregations of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in addition to the grant that the Colonial Committee would undoubtedly give, would be quite sufficient. From the general tone of the speaking on this point, it could easily be inferred that a feasible plan would be laid before the next meeting of Synod, and that it would be received and at once acted upon. Such a native ministry would soon lengthen the cords of our Church in the Lower Provinces, and the sooner such an institution is put into operation the better. By no other means can a Church increase, or even exist anywhere, save as an exotic.

In the report on the Young Men's Scheme, the pleasing intelligence was communicated, that we were to reap now some further fruit from it, inasmuch as the Rev. John McMillan had been lately licensed in Canada, and had just arrived, to labour in his native Province. His services are to be at the disposal of the Presbytery of Halifax, in the meantime, as they are most needed in that quarter. Mr. McMillan, we are confident, will prove to be an accession to our strength, of much value, for he comes to us highly distinguished as a scholar and a missionary. It is deeply to be regretted that Mr. McQuarrie, the companion of Mr. McMillan, has been obliged to relinquish the idea he has so long entertained of the ministry of the Gospel, on account of bronchial affection, which medical men have