

FREE PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

The Presbytery of Halifax met here on Wednesday, the 25th December, the Reverend Alexander Forrester, Moderator, pro tempore, in the absence of the Reverend Alexander Romans.

A communication was read from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Pictou, in reference to the further supply which is expected from the Presbytery of Halifax, for the congregation of New Glasgow, while Mr. Stewart is in Scotland.

It was reported that collections had been made for the current expences of the College in Chalmers' Church, and St. John's Church, Halifax; at Dartmouth, at Lawrencetown, at Musquodoboit Harbour, and Cornwallis.

The following supplies were appointed:

- Jan. 5, Dartmouth—Mr. Lyall.
 St. John's—Mr. Forrester.
 Goodwood—Mr. Forbes.
 Sackville—Mr. Romans.
 12, Dartmouth—Mr. King.
 St. John's—Mr. Lyall.
 Lawrencetown—Mr. Romans.
 19, Dartmouth—Mr. King.
 St. John's—Mr. Romans.
 26, Dartmouth—Mr. Romans.
 St. John's—Mr. Lyall.
 Feb. 2, Dartmouth—Mr. King.
 St. John's—Mr. Forrester.
 Goodwood—Mr. Forbes.
 Musquodoboit Harbour—Mr. Romans.
 9, Dartmouth—Mr. King.
 St. John's—Mr. Lyall.
 Lawrencetown—Mr. Romans.
 16, Dartmouth—Mr. Romans.
 St. John's—Mr. King.
 Sackville—Mr. Lyall.
 23, Dartmouth—Mr. King.
 St. John's—Mr. Lyall.

The Presbytery instructed those who were appointed to supply stations to request the parties who have the management of their finances to forward to the Presbytery at their next ordinary meeting a statement of their financial affairs for the year about to close.

The next ordinary meeting of the Presbytery was appointed to be held in the Free College here on the last Wednesday of February next.

WEST-PORT CHURCH, EDINBURGH.

The West Port is a district in Edinburgh which acquired an unhappy no-

tority something more than twenty years ago. The most worthless characters found a nestling place there, and it was dangerous for defenceless individuals to trust themselves within its precincts in the darkness of the night. It is true, even notwithstanding pollution such as all this implies, there were some individuals and families in the district of a very different character, and who were not strangers to the fear of the Lord; but these formed but a small proportion of the population. The bad character of the place was established, and, with the exception, it may be, of the visits of the City Missionary, they seemed to be left just to fester in their own corruption, although their being so left must necessarily react, through their lawless conduct, in a just retribution on the professed Christians around them, who were so indifferent to their spiritual destitution. At length, the attention of Dr. Chalmers was directed to the locality; and, having obtained some information, especially from the City Missionary, concerning its wants, he took it up as a place in which he might practically develop the views which he had long pressed upon the public, as to the true principles on which a home missionary operation ought to be conducted. Christian friends placed at his disposal means for carrying out his plans. A church was erected within the locality. A minister was appointed to try what the humanizing influence of the gospel could do there; and we allow that minister, the devoted Mr. Tasker, to tell his own touching tale of his experience in the five years that have elapsed since he was settled as minister in the West-Port Church. We give his own statement, without abridgment, and we would just remind our readers that while in all the wickedness which may have characterized the West-port, we see how low man may sink, when abandoned to the native tendencies of his own heart, in the extent of change which has been effected, in comparatively so short a time, in that locality, seemingly so hopeless, we see also what the simple message of the gospel can, through the divine blessing, accomplish.

(From the Free Church Missionary Record.)

DR. CHALMERS' TERRITORIAL CHURCH, WEST-PORT, EDINBURGH.

BY THE REV. W. TASKER.

On the forenoon of the first Sabbath of April 1845, the present minister commenced