

stand that Captain Macdonald of Sandside, has presented the Rev. Robert Wright, assistant to the Rev. Mr. Robertson, of New Greyfriars, to the church and parish of Dairsie, vacant by the death of the Rev. George Scott.—*Scoteman*.

QUARTERLY DISPENSATION OF THE SACRAMENT.—The Sacrament was dispensed on Sabbath in a number of the City churches, in accordance with a new arrangement, whereby there will be in future a quarterly dispensation of the Sacrament. The Saturday afternoon services only were observed as at the half-yearly sacramental occasions.

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH.—A communication was read from the congregation of St. Columba's Church, to the effect that the Rev. Duncan Stewart, Inverness, and Rev. Norman McLeod Morren, had been nominated candidates to the office of helper and successor to the present incumbent, and praying the Presbytery to proceed in terms of the constitution of the Church. A memorial from certain members of the church was also read complaining of irregular and improper conduct on the part of the managers in conducting the nomination of assistant, no person having been allowed to vote who had not been at the preceding sacrament, and no mandatories being allowed in the vote. The memorial prayed that the Presbytery would inquire into the proceedings connected with the nomination.

After some conversation, the memorial was placed in the hands of a committee appointed to co-operate with the minister of the church, with the view of preserving the peace and harmony of the congregation. The Presbytery appointed Mr. Stewart to preach in St. Columba's Church on Sabbath, the 17th and Mr. McLeod on Sabbath, the 24th, both in English and Gaelic.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—Dr. Stevenson of South Leith, has been appointed to the Chair of Ecclesiastical History, in the University of Edinburgh, in the room of the late Dr. Robertson.

SCRIPTURE READER TO THE 71ST.

To the Editor of the Glasgow Courier.

DEAR SIR,—I have just received the following letter from the Rev. Mr. Ferguson, Army Chaplain:—

20th Dec., Camp, 71st,
Kotter, One March from Gwalior.

"My dear Doctor,—A Glasgow paper, of 27th Oct., has just come to hand; it has rejoiced my heart, and—(why should I be ashamed to say it?)—has made me weep. I can bear without expressed emotion, painful and trying circumstances, when a single warm grasp of the hand, of genuine sympathy and help in the hour of need, will open the fountain of my tears. Thank you, thank you, thank you, old true friend and brother! Many prayers will ascend for this from the

Church of Christ in the 71st, and such a welcome we will give to our Scripture Reader from Glasgow! I felt sure that I had only to mention our need to you, and through you to the benevolent citizens of Glasgow, in order to insure ready and speedy assistance. Your appeal, I feel confident, will go with irresistible force to the hearts of thousands. Were it necessary the 71st would guarantee £200, and, in the name of the regiment, I offer it now in whole or in part, though I feel somehow as if this were almost an insult to such a city as Glasgow, when coming forward to assist its own regiment. We made our first march this morning towards Sealcote, where we shall probably be stationed for the next three years. Our daily prayer meetings continue over the line of march. The chapel tent is pitched daily. At our last communion, on the first Sabbath of this month, a considerable number of young soldiers joined us, and things look very hopeful. A Scripture Reader will be an immense boon. He will go about among the men in a manner which I cannot possibly do, with my Sabbath duties, the hospitals, &c., always on my hands. Again I thank you, and the people of Glasgow."

I feel assured that the above letter will be gratifying to those who have assisted in this good work, and stimulating others to put forth that small measure of exertion to complete the subscription.

NORMAN MACLEOD.

REVIEW OF THE PAST MONTH.

Our Provincial Parliament has been opened, but beyond some close personal skirmishing, nothing has been done. Mr. Howe proposes to build ten miles of the trunk line of the railroad, to incline afterwards to Pictou or Cumberland, according to the action of the other provinces.

The fugitive slave case in Canada has been brought to an end on a technical objection, and Anderson has been set free. This case excited an amount of sympathy and interest in Great Britain, even greater than in Canada, the opinions of the Canadian judges being loudly condemned both by the press and in Westminster Hall.

Seven States have now formally seceded, and a President has been appointed for the Southern Confederacy. Contrary to the opinion of every one, no collision has yet taken place, for the simple reason that the Secessionists have been allowed to do as they please, seize forts, magazines, munitions of war, and appropriate at their own discretion the revenues, arms and public property of the United States. It is scarcely possible to conceive greater imbecility in a government, unless, indeed, they intend to recognize the right of the South to separate on their own responsibility. The new President will b-