

they somehow mismanaged in attacking the "Redan," while the French were successful in carrying the "Malakoff." So the French got the praise. Russia, however, sustained a greater defeat than the loss of her fleet and of her immense army. The character of good soldiers which her troops had gained in the campaigns against the first Napoleon, was entirely lost. Even in defending her own soil, the Russian soldiers could not stand against an equal number of either French or English. At Alma the Russians were beaten at all points by an army much smaller than their own, although the Allies were the assailants; and at Inkermann seven or eight thousand British soldiers held the fort victoriously against the furious efforts of forty thousand Russian soldiers. The effect of these disastrous defeats on the mind of the Russian Emperor, the Czar Nicholas, was such, that he sickened and died in a few days after.

(To be continued.)

### THE LATE REV. W. FLETCHER.

**R**EV. AND DEAR EDITOR,—Allow me to add another item to Squire McKay's very excellent REMINISCENCES of the late Rev. William Fletcher. The Gaelic people of Merigomish invited him to preach for them, and gained his consent. The Rev. Mr. Patrick of Merigomish asked Mr. Samuel Cameron and Mr. Alexander Forbes about it, and finding that it was so, he said: "Let him not preach in the open air. While I have a pulpit he is welcome to preach in it. It would be ungodly in me to keep you from hearing the gospel in Gaelic, when I cannot preach in Gaelic myself. Let me know when he is to come, and I will give it out from the pulpit." This was done; and on the next Sabbath Rev. Mr. Patrick announced from the pulpit as follows: "I have great news for you. A Gaelic Minister right out from Scotland is to preach here next Lord's day, D. V. I ask you to send the news far and wide to all Gaelic people. Tell them to come that they may hear what they may remember with joy throughout the endless ages of eternity." Next morning, just after breakfast, Mr. Patrick was at my father's door asking to be put across the harbor to spread the news of the Rev. Mr. Fletcher's coming. A great congregation assembled accordingly on the Sabbath, and heard with intense delight and emotion, never to be forgotten, the fervent preaching of the gospel of salvation in their

native language, by the Rev. Wm. Fletcher. The memory of that day is dear and sacred by tradition in Merigomish till this day. It came like a "sunny blink" from heaven to many humbled souls. I am glad to be able to add this item to the reminiscences of those early times.

I am yours, sincerely,

FINLAY CAMPBELL.

Merigomish, N. S., Sept., 1887.

### LETTER FROM SCOTLAND.

WATERSIDE, THORNHILL,

August, 1887.

**D**EAR MR. MELVILLE,—I send you a copy of the "SCHOOLS and SCHOOLMASTERS of the Parish of AUCHTERHOUSE for the last two hundred years." I should like very much if you would give them a note in your Magazine. I do not think there will be many, if any in your district, that know about that old Parish, excepting yourself; but in your Student days you knew it well. We have explored the Seidlaw Hills together, and on looking down from the White Tap of "Kilpurnie," we thought we never saw a scene so fair as the wild moorland, sylvan, and pastoral Parishes of Auchterhouse and Lundie. The writer is Mr. John Robertson, F. E. I. S., now the Parish Schoolmaster; and I think he has given us a very faithful outline. Two hundred years of schoolmasters' work, one would think, might almost extend to the "Crack of Doom," but my friend Mr. Robertson has made a good history of them. "The Dominies" were a wonderfully good lot, in regular succession, but when the side views turn up they are often queer. Some of them get the coals laid pretty heavy on their heads; I suppose deservedly so. You may be surprised at the youth of Scotland being taught, and school-houses managed, in such a primitive way, where "Divots" were cast at so much to cover the schoolhouse,

"But strapping chiefs and clever hizzies  
Were reared in sic a way as this is!"

Mr. Robertson is worthy of hearty thanks for his research; and with a new winter coming, if he could find leisure to sketch in the same way "THE MINISTERS OF THE PARISH" for the same time, I am sure you, as one, would vote "AYE."

With kind regards, I am, etc.,

DAVID CLARK.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

We find this a truly interesting pamphlet.