

"4th, These powers shall be exercised by a convention of delegates from the Judicatories thus confederated, the ratio of representatives to be one minister and one ruling elder for every three ministers in each Presbyterian body or Presbyterian Mission.

"5th, That the officers of the Convention shall be a moderator and a clerk, to be elected at each meeting."

The Heathen.

The Brahmo Somaj has recently held its forty-fourth anniversary. A lecture was delivered by the well-known Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, to a large auditory. Some time ago the followers of this sect spoke of it as "the Church of the future," expecting that it would embrace the inhabitants of all India and all Asia, if not all the world. Now they confess that formal admissions into their body are few; but they console themselves by the belief that the "spirit of Theism" is extending on all sides, doubtless, partly through their influence, but still more through the spread of education and missions. The decline of the Somaj appears to us undeniable. The leaders of the Somaj act honestly and earnestly according to their light. But that is dim; and the dawn of Theism will be succeeded by the sunrise of Christianity. We had hoped that the leaders of the Somaj would be drawn nearer to the gospel. We cannot see that they have been so; they still profess a shadowy Theism which ignores the deeper facts of human character and condition, and speaks of Christ only as a great and holy teacher. "Leviathan is not so tamed." A sharper and stronger weapon than any the Somaj can wield is called for in order to pierce the scaly hide of Hinduism; a deeper and holier creed is needed to satisfy the soul when awakened to a sense of sin and its alienation from God.—*F. C. Record.*

MISSIONARY INFLUENCE IN AFRICA.

—"There is no doubt" says the *Times* correspondent, "that through missionary influence many of the barbarous customs have nearly ceased. Such are, the burial of a certain number of a great man's wives and slaves with his dead body to serve him in the next world, and the

sacrifice of maidens at the entrance of rivers to propitiate the god of the sea, lest he should silt them up and put a stop to navigation. Some, too, of the mission stations are an excellent example to the natives of neatness and order, without departing from simplicity. The stations at Old Calabar and Gaboon are beautiful with flowers and gardens full of useful and ornamental trees, shrubs, and vegetables. These the natives are taught to cultivate, and they are learning to appreciate their value."

Poetry.

In Memoriam.

THE REV. PETER KEAY,

Late of Greenock Church, St. Andrew's, N. B.

Sudden and sad, oh! Death, most grievously,
Sudden and sad, thy ruthless summons came,
Scarce leaving time for one brief heavenward
cry,

Ere the Soul left its earthly, quivering frame—

But his was prayer more than of parting
breath,

His death to us, than him, more fraught with
woe,

Not o'er the Soul, thy transient victory,
death,

Tis but the body that thou layest low.

Heedless of censure, and unmoved by praise,
The duties of his sphere were ably done,

His work he loved, in it, his strength and
days

Were spent, till their last course was well
nigh run.

Nor will the flock beloved by him, forget
The lessons by his love and practice taught,
Ah no! though dead, to them he speaketh
yet,

In memories of tender, pensive thought,

As husband, and as father, he was kind,
His household cultured in the fear of God,
To faults of others, than of self, more blind,
Guileless, life's path oft wearily he trod.

Larger than brilliant, was his mental phase,
(face?)

His simple heart was full of charity,