

THE

# Home and Foreign Record

OF

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

APRIL, 1874.

## DEATH OF REV. DR. KING.

The Rev. Andrew King, D.D., Emeritus Professor of Systematic Theology of our Church, died at Helensburgh, Scotland, on the 24th February. He was eighty-three years of age. Previous to the Disruption of 1843, he was one of the Glasgow Parish ministers. He took an active part in the Non-Intrusion controversy, and was one of the brave Five Hundred who signed the PROTEST and left the establishment. In 1848 he came to Nova Scotia as Professor of Systematic Theology and Church History for the Free Church College,—having been commissioned by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church. He arrived here on the 18th October, and delivered his inaugural lecture on the 2nd November. From that day, till he finally left our shores, in 1871, he was closely identified with the growth and progress of Presbyterianism in these sea-Provinces. He was willing to spend and be spent in the Master's service. He certainly never spared time or strength. He never refused an invitation or neglected an opportunity of preaching the Gospel of Christ while his health permitted.

In the spring of 1870 he was ill for several weeks, and his increasing infirmities warned him that he could not long discharge the onerous duties of his office with comfort or satisfaction to himself. He accordingly communicated to the Synod of 1870 his intention to resign, and his willingness to do so whenever the Synod should relieve him by appointing his successor. The Synod on that occasion elected a gentleman in Scotland who declined to accept

the position. The Synod adopted unanimously the following Minute respecting Dr. King. We quote it as fully and literally expressing our own estimate of our venerable father's services and his character and attainments:—

“In connection with the retirement of the Rev. Andrew King, D.D., from his work as Professor of Theology and Church History, the Synod agree to record their deep sense of the value of his services throughout a period of 22 years in training young men for the work of the ministry in these Lower Provinces. His extensive acquaintance with the literature of his department, the lucid order and fulness of methodical treatment which he brought to bear upon the exposition of theological topics, the precision with which he defined the point at issue in controversy, and the incisive logic with which he exposed and refuted error, found their appropriate sphere in the Divinity class room; while the grave courtesy and kindness of his manner at once maintained the dignity of his chair, and secured the affection of his pupils. His thorough familiarity with the procedure of Church courts, his firmness in maintaining the principles of Presbyterian government and discipline, and his wisdom in applying them to the varying circumstances of the Church gave weight to his counsel in Presbytery and Synod. And so long as his strength permitted he laboured abundantly, in the pulpit, in committees, and otherwise, to promote the interests of the Church and the edification of the people.”

Dr. King's health improved so far in 1870, that he was able to discharge the duties of his chair with unexpected efficiency during the session of 1870-1, till within three weeks of its close, when he was brought to the brink of the grave by congestion of the lungs. He recovered and