

for want of a thorough common sympathy and devotion to the general interest on the part of our office-bearers, and especially our wrongheadedness and indifference in reference to the Young Mens' Scheme, without which, or something to supply its place, our decrease as a Church is inevitable, we ought to hang our heads in shame. However, as we shall return to this subject once more we may remark now, that great as our drawbacks and our deficiencies are, we may charge ourselves with illiberality to the gospel (as we do) but, till some change takes place, no other Presbyterian body in this Province can afford to make such an accusation.

CHURCH AT HOME.

OBITUARY OF THE REV. HUGH M'KENZIE OF INVERNESS.

In our obituary of last week, we noticed the death of the Rev. Hugh M'Kenzie, minister of the third charge and congregation of Inverness. He was born in the parish of Nigg, Ross-shire, and died in his sixty-first year, after a laborious life spent in the service of the Redeemer. He was from his earliest days engaged in teaching. In the parish school of Tarbet, and in that of Hamilton—which, being one of seventy-nine candidates, he gained by comparative trial—he proved the ability with which he could educate the young; and on the other side of the Atlantic, where he spent thirteen years teaching six days of the week in an over-crowded school, and preaching on Sabbath to crowded congregations, he has erected for himself many memorials which will never be forgotten. Such labours, coupled with the severity of a Nova Scotian climate, doubtless impaired a constitution naturally the strongest. But he has left after him many samples of his usefulness. Several of his pupils hold eminent stations both at home and abroad, who would not be slow to testify the debt they owe him. Several honourable members of council abroad, whose advice now directs the destinies of an important colony, owe to him those business habits and that punctual training which has raised them to their high position. But he is gone. The prudent councillor counsels no more, and dust has enveloped its kindred. All who know him lament his departure, and they will long grieve over his loss. From the funeral sermon preached by the Rev. Alex. Macgregor on the 12th inst., we quote what follows:—"A few days have only elapsed since a much respected servant of Christ, and one of the ministers of this town and parish, has been removed to the world of spirits, and has left the sphere of his earthly labours for ever. We have directed your attention to the passage from which we have been discoursing (2 Tim. iv. 7, 8) for this cause that during his protracted illness and

while on his death-bed he repeatedly mentioned this portion of the Word of God with much apparent satisfaction, as descriptive of the state of his mind. In faith he looked to Calvary, he listened to the cry "It is finished," and he believed firmly in the promises which he so earnestly preached, and in forcible language inculcated upon his hearers. As a man he was characterized by strict integrity, and by rigid principles of honesty and justice. He knew not what it was to perform a dishonourable action. Free of all hypocrisy himself, he discountenanced all semblance of it in others. With just indignation he exposed the pretences and inconsistencies of the worldly professor. As a friend, he was sincere and steadfast, and as a councillor, he was judicious and prudent, cautious and discriminating. Possessed of much common sense, and of a well cultivated and enlightened mind, his admonitions and directions even as to temporal matters were wise and salutary; while in spiritual, and infinitely more important matters, he gave the most solid and valuable instruction from the Word of God. He was a sincere and devoted friend of the poor. He laboured hard by night and by day to serve the interests of the depressed and helpless, for which it is to be hoped he is now enjoying the promise of God, 'Blessed is he that considereth the poor.' He looked upon his flock as a father upon his children, and well do his now bereaved people know how indefatigably he performed the private duties of his office. With humility and kindness he entered their dwellings, suited himself to their varied circumstances, comforted the sick and dying, admonished the heedless and indifferent, warned the rebellious and headstrong, and became all things to all men that by the grace of God he might gain some. With paternal tenderness he invariably treated the youthful part of his flock; and that the children in town regarded him as a father, was amply shown by the great crowd of them who attended his funeral. In every relation of life the departed servant of the Lord was a pattern of propriety and virtue. As a father and husband, he was dutiful, affectionate, and indulgent. As a neighbour and friend, he was sterling and steadfast, and desired to do good unto all men, entering with genuine sympathy into the feelings of all under his charge, rejoicing with those who rejoiced, and weeping with those who wept. Thus, as a pastor, his heart was in his work, and he was ready to spend and to be spent for the good of his people. As a faithful steward of the mysteries of God, he endeavoured to give every one a portion of meat in due season, and all for the glory of God and the salvation of perishing souls. But now he has rested from his labours and has gone to joy the promises, 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth; yea, with the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them.' He fought