

of those arrangements which God has contrived and set in operation to preserve and perpetuate the memory of the just, and who can tell the extent to which the world is blessed by the vouchsafement at any period in its history of one holy life? "The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF HEW RAMSAY.

"It is seldom, my brethren, that a family, a congregation, a community, have occasion to lament so deeply the ravages of death as we now do the premature departure from among us of that just man, whose mortal remains we last week accompanied to the grave. Many of you and multitudes around you are not slow to testify to the rare excellence of his busily and speedily spent existence. I could wish that some one, who has been privileged for years to enjoy the intimacy of his friendship, were in this place to pay a becoming tribute to his respected and blessed memory. Brief, very brief, but while it lasted, full of promise and buoyant with hope, has been the intercourse permitted to him who addresses you. Yet such was the open and approachable character of our beloved friend, that this period, short as it has been, has not passed away without leaving a very decided impression that this community has been deprived of one of its most worthy and favourite citizens, and this congregation of its most valuable member. Possessed of a penetrating but shrewd observation; blessed with an enlarged and most useful experience; keen and earnest in the acquisition of knowledge, of which he had amassed extensive treasures; and gifted with a rare power of pleasantly and profitably communicating his ideas; calm, a man of unobtrusive but genuine piety, which imparted a subdued tone to all his words and gestures—he must have been the soul of many a happy company, and it is difficult to conceive a man with whom one could hold more agreeable or improving intercourse. Of amiable and gentle manners, he was accessible to all—kind and sympathizing, much of his time and means was devoted to the service of others. Distinguished among many for his singular forethought, understanding, and prudence; for the soundness of his judgement, which was often appealed to; for the excellence of his counsel, which was extensively acted upon; for his high principle, which preserved a beautiful consistency of life; for his tact of management and willingness to work—the important position which he held in public life, though neither the foremost in office nor the most conspicuous in notice, was natural and proper, and his connection with many of our most useful institutions was greatly valued as it was greatly blessed. A husband and a parent, much of his happiness seemed to be enjoyed in the domestic circle, and he conducted the religious duties of the family with interest and pleasure. A devoted and zealous member of our Church, he took much delight in the foundation and management of our most valuable schemes, and reviewed the proceedings of our Ecclesiastical Courts with affection and regard. An office-bearer in this congregation, much of what has been the means of providing your comfort and stability originated with him, and he was ever ready to give an active and cheerful support to all that is calculated to establish and extend the interests of pure and undefiled religion. In a word, and that in the language of Scripture, he was 'not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.'

"His useful and honourable career has been brought to a close. He has been cut down in the prime of life and in the midst of his activities. He has gone to his rest under the burden of many engagements. It is the Lord's doing. It must be a kind dispensation, however severe. It is our warning. Up and do! May the Lord give us grace to kiss the rod with which we are smitten, and from his rod and word to gather the peaceful fruits of righteousness. We lament his departure, but we are comforted with the

thought, that his memory is and shall be blessed. Amen!"

From our Correspondent in Canada.

NEXT week the Synod of our Church in Canada will commence its sittings. Many interesting questions will be discussed, and many important matters disposed of. May all the members be imbued with much of that wisdom which cometh down from above, and may the Spirit of the Great Head of the church be present to enlighten and guide. I notice that from several Presbyteries overtures will be transmitted on Sabbath Schools, Statistics, Missions, the College, &c.

It is probable that the question of a General Assembly for British North America will assume something like shape. It has been talked of now for two years, and if anything is to be done it should be done quickly. The organization of this Institution would be attended with many advantages, and would tend greatly to consolidate our ecclesiastical materials, and direct our whole machinery.

There will be no correspondent this year from Nova Scotia, which is to be regretted; The Synod of New Brunswick will find an able representative in the Rev. W. Donald, of St. John. The Synod will meet at Hamilton this year. In that city there will be a gathering of ministers from many widely distant points between the Bay of Chaleur and the shores of Lake Huron, an extent of territory whose superficial area is somewhere about 350,000 square miles. Some will meet who never met before and who may never meet on earth again. Some will renew the greetings they have exchanged for many years. Others who, from the great distance of their charges from either of those cities where it is found most convenient to hold the Synod, have for years had little or no ministerial intercourse, will be present. Attendance at a meeting of Synod in Canada is not now the arduous and expensive undertaking it used to be, and that only a short time ago. Of late the facilities for travelling afforded by the Steamboat and Railway routes with their numerous branches have created quite a revolution in this respect. The arrangements are such that one can leave Quebec in the evening and arrive in Hamilton early on the forenoon of the second day, and that too, in such a way that very little fatigue is experienced from accomplishing the journey; nor are the contents of one's purse many dollars the less, especially if its owner be a clergyman, for in the exercise of a kind but not unprofitable consideration, he will have the liberal deduction of one third from the usual fare. This good practice, however, is confined as yet to the steamboats. The locomotive gentry are not so accessible a class of public servants.

A very important duty to be performed in connection with our Church in Canada is that which the Trustees of Queen's College, Kingston, will soon be called upon to discharge, namely, the election of a Professor

of Hebrew, Church History, and Biblical Criticism. The chair from which these branches of Theological learning are taught became vacant last summer by the very sudden demise of Professor Smith, a man whose vast and accurate scholarship as an Orientalist would have reflected honor on any College. Soon after this melancholy event the Trustees or some of them made an attempt to fill the vacancy previous to the commencement of the winter session and a meeting was actually called by circular and advertisement for the purpose. It was, however, ultimately determined, and the course was surely a wise one, to defer the election till spring so that an opportunity might be given to candidates to come forward, and that there might be a chance of securing the services of the best qualified person that could be had. The result is an interesting one. It will not diminish the responsibility nor simplify the duty of the Trustees in the matter; but it is in many respects most satisfactory. There are no less than fourteen candidates in the old country and two on this side of the Atlantic. Nothing can be of greater consequence to the well-being of our church than that its training institutions should be the seats of learning, prudence, and piety. In this aspect the hope is to be entertained by every sincere well-wisher of our Zion that the choice on this occasion will be a truly happy one.

The fifteenth session of Queen's College was brought to a close about ten days ago. On the whole it seems to have been a successful session. The attendance was greater than in former years, amounting to within a very few of 120. Ten of those were students in Divinity, one of whom will soon be taken on trials for science by the Presbytery of Kingston, if the ensuing meeting of the Synod grants permission. I observe that the degree of Master of Arts has been conferred on John Livingston, Pictou, Nova Scotia; and on enquiry I have ascertained that all the students from Nova Scotia, four in number, have giving great satisfaction; This attendance from your province is most gratifying. It cannot be doubted that the young men of Nova Scotia need only to have their attention directed and their hearts encouraged towards the ministry to ensure an ample supply of clergymen for our Church in North America. The business of the session terminated in the delivery of an admirable address by Dr. George, the vice-principal. It is expected to appear in the next number of *The Presbyterian*. A very pleasing incident occurred as the Vice-principal returned to his house. The students in his different classes, together with a deputation of his students in former years, waited upon him and presented him with a very handsome gold watch and appendages, valued at £61, together with an address expressive of their gratitude for his unwearied and self-sacrificing exertions in their behalf and of their admiration of his commanding abilities and christian character.

"The Monthly Record" for May reached me a few hours ago. This is an excellent