

which they had previously enjoyed, without interruption, from their earliest years; and that they were now called to witness in the solemnities of the day, the accomplishment of their earnest desires and prayers, in the permanent establishment of a Gospel Ministry among them, and the recovery of the valued and endeared privileges of their native land. Surely God's promises to his people and his faithfulness therein, must in such circumstances have come home to the believer's heart, with peculiar distinctness and force. Indeed it was hardly possible to avoid making especial application of Isaiah's prophetic announcement:—"the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them—and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

The religious condition of Ferguson's neighbourhood, so far advanced beyond many older settlements, affords a pleasing instance of the good effects of union and harmony among a people in pursuing a common and important object. Had those minor differences in religious sentiment which too often prevail to the hindrance of the Gospel, been allowed to divide the counsels and efforts of this young and interesting community, the support of a regular pastor would have been impracticable for many years—and these years, whatever they might have added to the worldly resources of the people, would have contributed largely to the progress of religious indifference, ignorance and error. But while all praise is due to the people for their unanimity and zeal in this matter, it ought not to be concealed that they owe much of their success in it to the counsel and exertions of Mr. Ferguson of Woodhill, who, with a munificence that well deserves to be recorded and imitated, erected at his own expense the neat and commodious Church of Ferguson, and made it over in free gift to the heads of families in the settlement.

A. G.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—An ordinary Meeting of this Presbytery was held at Hamilton on the 12th inst. The Rev. Donald McKenzie, of Zorra, was

appointed Moderator for the ensuing six months.

A numerous signed petition from the townships of Caledonia and Cayuga, on the Grand River, was presented, in which the petitioners expressed an earnest desire that a Missionary of this Church should be sent amongst them, and their readiness to contribute to his support to the utmost of their ability: Mr. David McCluny, and Mr. John Cowden, who had been deputed to present the petition, were heard in support of it. They offered various interesting statements respecting the spiritual destitution of these townships and the adjoining settlements, and the desire that prevailed to obtain the ministrations of this Church, expressing their full conviction that very liberal contributions would be made for the support of a Missionary. The Presbytery received these statements with lively interest, and requested the deputation to intimate to the petitioners that as soon as a Missionary was at their disposal, the claims of that part of the country would be attended to. The Presbytery farther appointed Mr. Gale to visit the above-mentioned townships.

The Presbytery had then under consideration the proper steps to be taken for providing an adequate number of Missionaries, and resolved to communicate on the subject with the Committee of the General Assembly on Colonial Churches—with the Glasgow North American Colonial Society, and its auxiliary at Aberdeen—and with the Synod of Ross. They also resolved to authorise and request the Glasgow Society to send out two Missionaries to be supported at the expense of the Presbytery, and appointed a committee to conduct this correspondence, and to report at next ordinary meeting.

The draft of an address respecting the observance of the Sabbath, ordered to be prepared at last Meeting, was given in, read, and approved. The Presbytery ordered it to be printed and distributed under the direction of the Clerk, among the congregations within their bounds, and enjoined Ministers to read it from the pulpit.

The Rev. Mr. Tawse having accepted