

or him, he will approve himself, by the grace of God, a faithful minister of the Word of life to his brethren of the family of Abraham.

### The Home School; or Hints on Home Education:

By the Rev. Norman McLeod, Minister of the Barony parish, Glasgow. Edinburgh: Paton & Ritchie. Glasgow: T. Murray & Son.

This is a most valuable domestic manual for parents of every rank of life. It is full of excellent admonition, sage experience, and practical hints, conveyed in plain and pleasant language, and altogether contains a body of advice which any earnest parent, who desires to do his duty to his children, cannot fail to profit by. The importance of home education cannot be over-rated. The universal experience of mankind tells us, that the first and most lasting impressions are those which the child receives under the paternal roof-tree, whether it be exalted or humble. Yet this fireside education is not understood to be extending amongst us. "Life," say the author, "is becoming so public that meetings and committees, minutes and resolutions about everything under the sun, are apt to rob the family circle too frequently of those who ought to be its best and most useful members. There is also, in some quarters, a tendency to sink the parent and the family in the priest and the church; in others, to sink all these together in the dead sea of selfish individualism." The effort, therefore, of Mr. McLeod to bring back "the old domestic virtues of the land" is one which all good men will rejoice to see prosper, and they cannot better second his views than by doing what they can to press his little book largely into circulation. The man who rears his family under a gilded ceiling may draw useful counsel from it; but it is especially valuable to the man in humble station, who it is presumed, is less enlightened on this important subject than his wealthier neighbour, and whose children are more exposed to the peril of pitfalls, by rubbing shoulders with the vicious class, whom they cannot help coming into contact with, as fellow-residents or street associates.

The author divides his work into the following chapters, viz.:—A few words to parents on the importance of their children—The earthly and heavenly parent—Christian Baptism and Christian Education—A few words on Training—Christian Education in right feelings towards God—Habits. Right feelings towards parents, obedience, self-sacrifice, industry, perseverance, truth, honesty; Mrs. Wesley's training of her family—Training, by example and precept—Training, with love, firmness, perseverance, and watchfulness—Prayer—Results. Encouragement to Christian parents; difficulties and objections—Conclusion. The chapters under those various heads are brief but

complete; and they are written so freely and gracefully that one is led on to read from pleasure, and cannot fail to derive instruction at the same time. We may add that Mr. McLeod, with true filial respect and attachment, expresses his dedication as follows:—"To my Father and my Mother, who have blessed and gladdened their children and their children's children.—*Glasgow Herald.*"

**PRESBYTERY OF ST. ANDREWS.**—At the meeting of this Presbytery on Wednesday 28th Novr. Dr. Cook gave notice of two motions on the subject of education—the one to petition Parliament for an Act to raise the parish schoolmasters' salaries; and the other to orature the Assembly to consider what means the Church should now take, to make better provision for those places where there no parochial schools. He said they need not now look to Parliament, doing anything to extend the parochial system; and it was time the Church should see what she could herself do to extend schools as nearly as possible on that footing.

**THE REV. MR. CAIRD.**—Her Majesty has commanded the publication of the sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Caird of Errol in Crathie Church in October last, during her Majesty's sojourn at Balmoral. The sermon is entitled, "The Religion of Common Life."

**PRESENTATION.**—The Right Hon. Sir, George Clerk of Pennicuik, Baronet, has presented the Rev. John Home, assistant to the Rev. W. Robertson of New Greyfriars Edinburgh, to the Church and parish of Pennicuik. This appointment is in accordance with the unanimous wish of the parishioners. Mr. Home, who was educated at the Public Seminaries of Dundee, studied at the University of St. Andrews, where he distinguished himself. He was licensed only six months ago, and is already favourably known as an eloquent and impressive preacher.

**ST. ANDREW'S PARISH, GLASGOW.**—A powerful appeal was made by the Rev. Dr. Runciman from the pulpit on Sabbath the 2d current, for the education of the children of the poor in St. Andrew's Parish. The result was that on the 9th nearly £300 were contributed in the form of donations and annual subscriptions. The parish school, under the able and zealous teachers, Mr. Lochhead and Miss Cameron, is in the most efficient state. The Week-day evening school still maintains its high character. About 400 children are receiving gratuitously a sound and useful education; and the congregation of St. Andrew's Church has resolved that education shall be offered to every poor child in the parish.

## THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

(For the Monthly Record.)

### A Missionary visit to Lochaber.

In accordance with the injunctions of the Presbytery of Piottou I have lately visited Lochaber. The journey is somewhat long, and at this season of the year unavoidably fatiguing. I have generally had to perform the journey alone. This is no improvement, especially on a cold winter day. As in other and higher relations, so on a long journey, it is not good for man to be alone; and the appointment of monks, black and grey, to missionary enterprises by such a wise church as that of Rome is somewhat unaccountable. This expression of my experience arises out of former journeys to this quarter, for it is agreeably reversed in this by the company of Mr. Archibald McPhie, who had come the way from Lochaber to attend our meeting in New Glasgow, an unmistakable proof of his zeal and willingness to add deeds to words, and help his Church as well as talk about her. Having passed through Sutherland, River Settlement, where are a large number of people belonging to the Presbyterian bodies, but principally coming through Barney's River district—a place with an Irish name and a Highland pronunciation, belonging to the Church of Scotland and Free Church—and through Adingbar, Forks, a rising village, where is a small Church belonging to the Church of Scotland, we arrived at Mr. McPhie's house the same night. On Sabbath morning after a short journey of four miles, I preached twice in the old Church at Lochaber. The morning was stormy, the wind high and the rain pious and cold. Most had to come from a considerable distance, and the place was more than half full. I performed the service with difficulty, my throat being sore with cold. The circumstance of the large part of the audience being late induced me to preach twice, which I had not intended under the circumstances. On coming back it was agreed, amongst us that my sore throat was on the whole a benefit to the Lochaber brethren, inasmuch as it forced me to speak excessively slow, and I was better understood in a Gaelic settlement. Men of different kinds, it seems. It is a peculiar affair which does not admit of being looked at in at least two-lights. All will allow that a great deal is already exacted of us by the exigencies of the times; but that this is a new qualification of a Missionary Minister. The same night I met most of the people of the South River, expounded the scriptures and baptised. Arrangements have been made in this place, whereby the *Record* may be taken to the extent of one in every family. Two active persons, Messrs. Wm. Cameron and Alexander Macnaughton, are appointed to call around for the subscriptions. This is an object which we ought to keep in view, it is most especially the interest of our congregations to make themselves acquainted with the general movements of the Church.