

Synodical Notice.

WE have received a communication from the Rev. Mr. Christie, Synod Clerk, for publication in the *Record*, intimating that the stringent order of Synod relative to the return of Statistics of the various congregations within the bounds, by the first of January at farthest, had been neglected by six congregations. He mentions the names of the defaulters, which, however, we would rather not publish at present. But we hope that on the appearance of this notice, this very important matter will be attended to without a moment's delay by those who may have forgotten it, in order that the general return may be ready for our March number.

CHURCH AT HOME.

FAREWELL SERMON.—On Sabbath, Nov. 3rd, the Rev. Dr. Leitch, our talented minister of the Established Church here, preached his farewell sermon previous to his departure from amongst us to fulfil the important and responsible office as Principal of Queen's College, Kingston, Canada. The Church was well filled, chiefly by his own parishioners, very few strangers being present, as it was imperfectly known. The Rev. gentleman chose the same text as he gave when first entering upon his ministry 18 years ago—1st Cor. ii. 2, "For I determined to know nothing among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." He briefly but feelingly alluded to the many changes that have taken place in the parish since that time; of the many witnesses who then heard him declare these words one-third of them have departed this life. He said that, although he may have come short of these determinations, still he hoped that he had been instrumental in some means in leading souls unto Christ, although perhaps the fruits may not be known until many days hence. He went on to say that he leaves here with great reluctance, having lived so cordially and agreeably and spent so many of his best and happiest days during his incumbency here; and in his advancing years it was not for ease nor worldly aggrandisement, as he had every comfort here that he could desire; but, being called to a wider sphere of usefulness and active life, he found it to be his duty to accept of it—as it would not be asked at the great day of reckoning what enjoyment you have had but what services you have rendered. And, when bidding us all farewell, he said, although the broad Atlantic was between us, he would always cherish the recollection and remember us in his prayers, and hoped that he would not be altogether forgotten by us. We part with Dr. Leitch

with feelings of deep regret, being sensible of the many spiritual advantages which we have derived from him. He took a great interest in the welfare of the young in Sunday Schools, and took not only a prominent part in the cause of education in his parish but throughout the country where his aid could extend, and was unwearied in missionary efforts. And from his abilities, high and varied attainments and Christian worth he will be ably qualified to occupy and discharge efficiently his duties in the new sphere of labour into which he is now to enter, and will be able to extend and further the interests of the Church of Scotland.—*Fifeeshire Journal*.

The Canada "Presbyterian."

WE have received the *Canada Presbyterian* in an enlarged form. It now contains 32 pages, and is published at a dollar instead of half a dollar as formerly. We wish our contemporary every possible success. When we take into account the fact of the number of adherents of the Church of Scotland in Canada, we are rather surprised at the meagre circulation of this periodical. It ought to be at least 5000, and could easily be raised to that point if ministers of the Church willed it. We can testify, that as a general rule, where the *Record* circulates most largely, there the collections are the most satisfactory, and the interest in the affairs of the Church greatest. But we suppose in Canada as in N. Scotia—there are those whom no appeal will move to raise a finger in behalf of the organ of their Church. As an illustration of this state of matters, we may mention that one small and very poor station in the Presbytery of P. E. Island sends us very nearly as many subscribers as a Presbytery containing four ministers and five or six Churches. We regret the cause which has obliged our respected contemporary to alter his form, but trust it will have the effect of rallying the Church around him, and making the organ of that Church more efficient than it has ever been before.

Hymns for Public Worship.*

The Church of Scotland certainly cannot be charged with rashly innovating on its forms of public worship. It is now ten or fifteen years since the General Assembly first remitted to a committee certain overtures on the propriety of introducing hymns in the public service of the Church. Since then, committee after committee has been appointed, convener has succeeded convener, and various selections of hymns have been submitted, but it was only last General Assembly which at

* Hymns for Public Worship. Selected by the Committee of the General Assembly on Psalmody. Published by authority of the Committee, David Arnot, D. D., Convener. Paton & Ritchie, Edinburgh.