

manes. I know of none. The genuineness of the profession, made at baptism, was tried in the church, not in an intervening period between baptism and admission to the church. Now the same principles which the New Testament teaches me to apply to the baptism of adults, it of course prescribes for the baptism of their children. As I should not conceive myself warranted to baptize an adult, on any profession of faith which would not warrant my receiving him to the table of the Lord;—neither do I consider it right and scriptural, to baptize the child of any man, on a profession that would not justify his admission into the church. I can think of no principle, which, as a rule of practice, is definite and intelligible, but this. I am well aware of the different sentiments entertained, and the different course pursued by many (I might, I fear, say, by most) of my paedobaptist brethren in the south. I cannot but think them very far in the wrong; and I have never been able to find any thing like fixed and precise ground amongst them, on this subject. . . . I would not baptize, where I could not conscientiously receive to communion on the same profession of faith. *

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.—This Presbytery, consisting of four Districts—the Western, Brock, London, and Huron—was constituted on the 12th instant. The Rev. D. McKenzie, of Zorra, was elected Moderator, and the Rev. A. McColl, of Chatham, Presbytery Clerk.

SOIREE.

On the evening of Tuesday, the 11th instant, the congregation of St. John's (Free Church) of this City, held a soiree in the St. George's Hotel. A goodly number of the 93rd Regiment were present as guests on the occasion. The meeting was designed both to promote mutual fellowship amongst the congregation, and to give a token of respect to as many soldiers of that distinguished corps, members or adherents of the Free Church, as could attend. And we believe that the result in no respect disappointed the promoters of the meeting.

There was a large attendance of the ladies and gentlemen of the congregation, and about 50 soldiers, who sat down to tea and coffee, with every suitable accompaniment.

James Gibb, Esq., acted as Chairman. The Rev. Professor Rintoul, of Knox's College, Toronto, implored the Divine blessing, and at the close of the report the 133rd Psalm was sung—the precursor of the congregation and a party of the military leading the singing—after which the Rev. James Fettes, Missionary of the Free Church of Scotland, offered up thanks.

The tables being cleared, the Chairman made a few appropriate remarks on the importance of cultivating harmony and mutual affection amongst the members of the same congregation, and expressed his satisfaction in thinking that they were in the way of doing this, and of showing at the same time their regard to those defenders of the country, who have for a season been attending with them on Divine ordinances, and who were now about to leave Canada, it might be for ever.

The Chairman then called on Mr. Rintoul to address the meeting, who gave a short but interesting account of the progress and prospects of Knox's College, and urged on his hearers the importance of their forming a just opinion of Canada East, as a field of missionary labours.

Various and interesting addresses were also given by Mr. J. S. Howack, the Rev. Mr. Fettes, the Rev. Mr. Marsh, of the Baptist Church, Mr. Grogan, and several of the soldiers. The soldiers who spoke gave it to be understood, that they were, by the regulations of the service, prevented from speaking for their comrades, but it was very plain that the appropriate and Christian like sentiments which they uttered were the sentiments of all.

The addresses were blended with the singing of appropriate verses.

The military retired soon after nine o'clock, and the meeting was continued considerably later.

Thanks were given by acclamation to the Chairman, and after praise and prayer, and the apostolic blessing, all retired delighted with the exercises of the evening.

The soldier's employment (as one of the speakers appropriately remarked) would be gone in a better age that yet awaits the world; but while we are to have soldiers, we would say happy the country that has defenders like the brave, and we trust we may say, the pious Ninety-Third.—*Quebec Morning Chronicle*, July 14th.

From the Halifax Presbyterian Witness.

DEPARTURE OF THE REV. ALEXANDER FORRESTER.

On Saturday last this highly talented minister took his departure in the steamer for Britain. Previous to his embarkation, a deputation from the congregation of St. John's Church, in this city, waited upon him with an address, expressive of the warmest attachment and gratitude. During the short period of the Rev. gentleman's residence in this country, it has been his lot to secure, to no small extent, the affections of those who were honoured with his acquaintance, or privileged to sit under his ministry. We hailed his arrival as the harbinger of good to the interests of our Zion, and subsequent events have verified our fondest anticipations. Missioned by the Church on an embassy involving the interests of immortal souls, his exertions have proved that he has been alive to the importance of his trust. On his landing amongst us difficulties of no ordinary magnitude presented themselves, and to the removal of these he applied the energies of a master mind. Since the termination of his labours in the College, he has been engaged in a tour to the Eastern part of the Province, and has also visited Cape Breton, Prince Edward's Island, and New Brunswick. In each of these places his labours have been felt, and from each the strongest proofs have been received of the attachment of the people to the principles of our church, and of their desire to contribute to the fund for the endowment of a Professorial Chair. The statistics of which he is the bearer will afford ample testimony not only to his labours, but contribute most materially to diffuse information relative to these destitute localities. The regret evinced at the departure of Mr. F., affords a strong proof of the interest entertained in his welfare; and should, we think, operate strongly with the Colonial Committee to use their endeavours to secure his services permanently amongst us. Such a measure we view as momentous to the interests of vital religion, and highly conducive to the success of the Theological institution. Whatever may be the issue of the applications in behalf of the appointment of the Reverend gentleman to this office, we are not singular in the belief that it would be difficult to select one whose varied qualifications would more justly entitle him to it.

Before leaving Halifax, Mr. Forrester addressed the following circular to the adherents of the Free Church in the Lower Provinces. It is quite evident that in their case, as in our own, the chief reliance for a supply of ministerial labourers, in the the large and rapidly extending field, is upon a native-trained ministry. In the Institution about to go into operation in Halifax, there is no doubt the instructions given will be of the best kind, calculated to produce "a well-trained and highly-qualified ministry." May the Head of the Church put it into the hearts of not a few to devote themselves to the great and honourable work of preaching Christ, and Him crucified. We trust this school of the prophets will be sustained by the prayers and liberality of the members of the church, and that the blessing of God may rest upon it.

CIRCULAR.

To the Adherents of the Free Church and the other Presbyterians in the Lower Provinces of British North America:

MY CHRISTIAN FRIENDS,—I have now finished my hurried tour of visitation in the Lower Provinces. Before returning to my native land, allow me to address to you a few parting words, in connection with that great College movement, on which the Parent Church has so recently embarked, for the benefit of these Colonies.

From an accurate Table of Statistics now in my possession, it appears that there upwards of 65,000 professed adherents of our cause in the Lower Provinces, and about 10,000 more in a state of neutrality, but who would gladly receive Religious Ordinances at our hand. There, to do anything like justice to them, would require not less than seventy-five Ministers of the Gospel, while the actual supply is about twenty, with three or four Missionaries, and a very few Catechists, leaving thereby a deficiency of fifty-five.

And how is this immense destitution to be remedied? How are these spiritual wants to be supplied? In no other way, we reply, than by a well-trained, a highly qualified Ministry from among your own sons—a Ministry thereby inured to your climate, acquainted with your habits, and adapted both physically and mentally to all the circumstances of a new country. And never then did the Parent Church, acting in concert with the Church here, betake herself to a more important undertaking, in so far as the real well-being of these Colonies is concerned, than when she set agoing a Collegiate Institute at Halifax. Never did she put herself in a position more in accordance with the whole history of the propagation of Christianity in the world, or more calculated, under the Divine blessing, to regenerate the soul and edify the body of Christ.

The plan by which the Church proposes to carry out this noble Institution has been again and again set before you. It is simply this:—The Parent Church provides and supports the Professors for a period of four years; and it is confidently expected that during the lapse of that time such a fund shall be raised, the interest of which shall be sufficient for the permanent endowment of two or three Theological Professors.

For the management of all matters connected with this fund, a Central Board has been established, and Congregational or District Associations have been formed, or are being formed, throughout the Provinces.

The business of the Central Board shall be, to use all diligence in diffusing information, in organizing local Associations, in receiving from the Treasurers and Clerks of Presbyteries quarterly reports of the progress of the fund, and in publishing at the end of every financial year, which is fixed for the end of the month of October, an accurate statement of all the receipts from the various Associations.

The business of the local Associations (consisting of a small Committee, with Treasurer, and a body of Collectors) shall be to counsel and encourage the Collectors—to see that every effort has been used for the purpose of obtaining subscriptions in the various districts—to send quarterly reports to the Central Board of the progress of the fund—and to arrange that on the 26th day of October the Treasurer remit the whole sum raised through the course of the year—and to endeavour, as opportunity presents, to meet for prayer on behalf of the whole Institution.

Such, Christian friends, is the agency appointed for the carrying out of this important undertaking; and sure I am, from the spirit already evinced by you, that if that agency does its part, proceeding in a systematic, orderly manner, and in the spirit of prayer, you will do yours, and contribute towards this fund, as the Lord hath prospered you. Reflect, I beseech you, on the opportunity now presented you of having the most talented and prosperous of your youths educated gratuitously, (there will be no fees required by the Theological Professors) for the highest possible office that mortals can fill here below. Reflect upon the important truth that this is the only way by which the interests of Presbyterianism can be maintained and