

trust they will be ready to assist in the erection of this monument to their memory. This has often in the history of that Christian Church been a favourite mode of erecting a memorial to the martyrs for Christ. Four such churches have recently been built in Madagascar at great expense. The martyrs of Eromanga gave their lives in a noble cause, and are worthy of being held in everlasting remembrance. The island is in more favourable circumstances for Missionary work than it ever was before. The Rev. Leith A. Robertson and his devoted wife have the respect and confidence of the whole inhabitants. A band of Christian teachers, natives of the island are spread among the villages and are instructing their fellow men in the saving truths of the Gospel. There are forty-three communicants in the native Church. Provision is being made for the adequate support of the native teachers. The new Church is wanted at Dillon's Bay, and ought to be a monument to the memory of the martyrs of Eromanga. Contributions may be sent through the usual channels to the Rev. Dr. Steel, Sydney, who is Agent for the New Hebrides Mission.

The Monthly Record.

JUNE, 1878.

SYNODS AND ASSEMBLIES.

The Supreme Courts of the Presbyterian churches, both in America and Scotland, have been holding their meetings this month. But meagre reports of their proceedings have as yet reached us. Enough however has come to hand to convince us that in some of those courts there have been lively times over brethren who have been departing from a sound form of words; some perhaps courting notoriety by daring to set themselves up as judges of, and condemn the standards they at one time solemnly adopted and subscribed; and others re-

gardless of hostile criticism and church censure, interpret those standards for themselves, and choosing rather to suffer affliction and persecution than violate their conscience, if necessary. We suppose there will be heretics as long as the goats and sheep are left to herd together. Ecclesiastical intolerance will never diminish the number of "advanced thinkers." The church can well afford, without any danger, to lengthen her cords, and extend her pasture grounds. It were better to admit *some goats* in the enclosure than by too great stringency and intolerance to exclude sheep whose wool and figure may somewhat resemble those of the goats, but who may be sheep nevertheless. We hold that the too great readiness of ecclesiastical Courts to haul over the coals, and worry those of its members, who in interpreting the Church Standards for themselves, differ somewhat from the stereotyped formulated creeds, is more fruitful of evil than the honest doubting of the so-called heretic in enquiring after truth—What humiliating scenes oft disgrace these courts in hot and bitter discussions, in eloquence worse than wasted, and zeal running mad, in dealing with some brother who, may be, has given undue prominence to non *essential*. Such scenes tend more to demoralize the church than volumes of heretical sermons and essays sown broad cast among the people.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

PICTOU, 29th May, 1878.

The usual quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of Pictou was held here this day and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. A. J. MacKichan, with whom were present Rev. Messrs. Herdman, Stewart, McMillan, Fraser, Galbraith, Dunn, McKay, McCunn, minister, and Messrs. Angus Campbell,