

of this section of Rev. Dr. Duff's congregation we have to record that this building is erected not by means of begging abroad or holding "Bazaars," but by the subscriptions of forty or fifty families of Presbyterians at Mahone Bay itself."

Rev. DONALD MORRISON returned to Nova Scotia early in June after spending the winter in Edinburgh, prosecuting his medical studies. He met with much kindness on every hand—as well from the Free and U. P. Churches as the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

We have devoted so much space to the subject of Union in Scotland, that we have room only to refer to the meeting of the Free Assembly in Edinburgh on 21st May. Dr. Guthrie's opening sermon was eloquent as usual. Rev. Dr. McLeod of Snizort was chosen as his successor. The Colonial Committee's report made mention in the most kindly terms of Nova Scotia; and Rev. Dr. Forrester and Mr. Morrison both addressed the Assembly in connection with the report:

Rev. A. Ross has arrived here from Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, on a short "for-
lough" for the benefit of his health. Rev. P. G. McGregor, and Rev. Mr. Walker are absent in Britain for the same object of recruiting their health, impaired by the arduous labours of many years.

We receive hopeful tidings from various districts in which our Home Missionaries are labouring. The troubles that may arise in some quarters are more than compensated for by the peace and unity and prosperity prevailing in others. *Quiet progress* is the characteristic of the last few months in most of our congregations and Mission stations.

Obituary Notice.

THE LATE JOHN DOUGLASS.

"Earth" says Robert Hall "is daily losing the fairest of her children, and heaven is being replenished with the spoils of earth." From week to week our congregations are

yielding their quota of ripened spirits, to join the great multitude before the throne. During the last winter, the County of Pictou, and perhaps the same has been the case in other counties, has lost an unusual number of persons who have "come to the grave in a full age like as a shock of corn cometh in in its season." Among these perhaps there was none riper gathered into the Master's garner than the individual whose name stands at the head of this article. We have not hitherto inserted in the *Record* notices of individuals, who after adorning the gospel in private life have passed from the church on earth, but the individual above named was so widely known for his spiritual mindedness and faithfulness as an office-bearer, and his life was so closely connected with the past history of our church in the County of Pictou, that we feel it due to his memory to insert a more lengthened notice than usual.

The deceased was born at Middle River, in the year 1774, the year after the arrival of the ship *Hector*, the first emigrant vessel from Scotland to Pictou, in which vessel his parents were passengers. Thus he had his share in the toils and privations of the early settlers in that county. In his early days there was not a minister of the gospel in Pictou or in the eastern part of the Province beyond Truro. But he enjoyed the instruction of pious parents, and his father, who was one of the few Highland settlers that could read, held a meeting on the Sabbath day with the Gaelic people for devotional exercises and reading the scriptures or other religious books, generally called "a reading." Such was the zeal of himself and his wife for religious ordinances, that they carried him when a child through the woods all the way to Truro that he might receive baptism from the Rev. Mr. Cock, then the nearest Presbyterian minister, and who occasionally visited Pictou to preach there. When he was about twelve years of age, Dr. McGregor arrived, who happening to meet him shortly after, entered into conversation with him in his own kindly manner, invited him to come to preaching and earnestly pressed him to improve the means of grace which he was henceforth to enjoy. The