

and then on the 5th of November we bade adieu to Therapia with all the regret that is felt on leaving a parish where one has laboured long among an attached people. In this instance, no doubt, the regret was lightened by the prospect of returning to our own dear land and comfortable home yet we could not but feel saddened as we thought of the improbability of our ever again beholding those lovely shores, now associated in our minds with a work of such peculiar interest. Most deeply thankful did we feel to our Heavenly Father for having guided our footsteps thither, and for having so mercifully preserved us in the midst of surrounding disease and strengthened us for ministering to its victims. These days are gone but notwithstanding much that was painful and saddening I may truly say, in the well-known words of another, that they have left a relish and a fragrance upon the mind, and that the remembrance of them is sweet." For it is indeed a small gratification, though for my own part humbled by the recollection of much unfaithfulness and shortcoming, to know that there were tokens not a few that our mission had not been unblest; and in looking back on our ten months' sojourn in the East, our memory will ever dwell with fondest pleasure, not on its sunny skies, or its bright blue waters bearing on their bosom the stately vessels of the allied nations and gay with the light and graceful canques skimming over their glassy surface, nor yet on its blooming gardens fragrant with roses and orange blossoms, or its beautiful groves resounding with the nightingale's song, but on our friendly intercourse, during their hours of sickness and suffering, with the frank and warm-hearted sailors in the wards of Therapia hospital.

Tendency of the Present Age.

The lines of practical science converge all to one point, and that point is the union of the human race, by bridging over the vast chasms that yawned between the various families into which it is divided, and which have for ages acted as insurmountable barriers. It is needful for the accomplishment of God's purposes with the human race, that it should be dispersed throughout the whole globe, and the tower of Babel was the miraculous centre of dispersion; but now that man has multiplied and replenished the whole earth, a reverse process is going on, a process of reunion instead of dispersion. Now that every continent and island is peopled, it is fit that there should be a bond of union, so that the kingdoms of this world may more readily become the kingdoms of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And what shows that this tendency of science comes from the over-ruling hand of God, is that it is simultaneous with a corresponding movement in the spiritual world. It was when the missionary spirit began to awaken in the church that God put into men's hands such wonderful agencies as steam and electricity, to level a path for the feet of the Redeemer, and to make a high way for our God in the desert. As soon as the spiritual power was evoked in the church, God supplied the instruments by which that spirit might work. The Book of Revelation evidently indicates the present age as the missionary era in the church, but the missionary spirit would be evoked in vain, unless facilities were afforded for the intercourse between the different families of the human race. Were it not for our steamers, our railways, and our telegraphs, how slow would be the progress of intercom-

munion between the various families of mankind! It is this turning of scientific discovery to the spiritual wants of mankind that in the strongest manner indicates the unity of Him who is both the God of nature and of grace *Ed. Ch. Magazine.*

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Synod of New Brunswick.

We have much pleasure in laying before our readers, many of whom are in the neighbouring Province, a full and detailed account of the proceedings of the Synod of New Brunswick, in connection with our Church at the annual meeting held in Chatham, Miramichi, in August last. The movements and decisions of this court for the extension and prosperity of that branch of the Church committed to their spiritual care, will be read, we have no doubt, with deep interest and much satisfaction, by the numerous friends of our Zion, not only in that Province, but also in all parts of the Colonies and in the mother country.

The Synod of New Brunswick occupies a very prominent and most responsible position in these Lower Colonies, and has exerted and still continues to exert through its ministers a salutary and growing influence upon a large portion of the Presbyterian population of British America. Having its branches spread over a widely extended range of country, from Woodstock to Westmorland, and from the banks of the Restigouche to St. Andrew's, in present circumstances far removed from each other, the Ministers of the Church of Scotland in New Brunswick besides attending to the spiritual wants of their own flocks, have often to undertake long and fatiguing journeys to distant settlements, in carrying the glad tidings of salvation to their attached adherents, who are hungering and thirsting for the bread and the water of life.

It is pleasing, however, to find that through their own representations and the exertions and liberality of the Colonial Committee, the most important vacancies within their bounds are gradually filling up, by the appointment and settlement of fellow-labourers, although, as in Nova Scotia, no sooner is one station occupied than other new fields are continually opening up, requiring Missionary assistance.

The Synod of New Brunswick has always put forth vigorous efforts to supply the wants of her adhering population, and is now making the most judicious and satisfactory arrangements for a continued race of

native preachers to meet the increasing demands for Missionary services.

During the different diets held at the late annual meeting, a large amount of important business, connected with the future prosperity and well-being of the Church was transacted, with the greatest harmony and cordiality, and such measures cannot fail to be attended with truly beneficial results.

Whilst the whole of the proceedings were not only most efficient and harmonious, but such as must gain the cordial approval of the Church, we are ready to acknowledge that we have been more especially pleased with the Synod's views and decisions on the question of Education, elementary as well as theological, and their anxiety to become fully and accurately acquainted with the spiritual condition and wants of their people. The greater the amount of information collected on this subject, they will, no doubt, be the better qualified for conducting their ministerial labours, and carrying on their missionary operations with success.

The Synod deeply regretted the absence of Professor George, the representative of the Synod of Canada, from its meeting, and when we recollect the wisdom and eloquence of that eminent Minister, displayed at the meeting of our Synod, we can form some conception of the loss they sustained at that occasion. They were, however, much encouraged and assisted by the visit of the Rev. Alex. McKay, the representative from the Synod of Nova Scotia, who took a very active and zealous interest in their deliberations, and was most cordially welcomed by all the brethren. Long may this friendship between our Synods be maintained.

Report to the Superintendent of Missions.

By the Revd. George Harper, A. M. Pastor of the Gospel.

In my last report, I stated that I had been at St. Mary's. The church is still only half-finished; but I was told that the building would be proceeded with in a short time. But even to have done so much shows great and praiseworthy zeal on the part of the friends who are not very numerous in this quarter. I think, however, that the fact that the Colonial Committee could not be so expensively engaged in assisting such struggling congregations in obtaining the ordinary religion.

On my way to New Glasgow, after leaving St. Mary's, I had of course to pass through the well-known locality enjoying the Scythian appellation of "the Garden of Eden." Learned men have held different opinions with respect to the situation of Paradise, so far as I am aware, no one has ever been bold enough to locate it in Nova Scotia. I was told that, among other things, the circumstance of their being four streams of water there originated the name—the representatives, of course, of the ancient Pishon, Hiddekel and Euphrates! For my own part, although I distinctly saw "the garden of Eden," which are sufficiently anxious to attract attention, I scarcely got a glimpse of the garden itself. I remember