

from his pen, viz: "▲ Book of Devotions and Sermons, designed chiefly for the use of Mariners."

FREE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA.—This Court met on Wednesday last according to appointment. The Rev. Alexander Forrester, of Chalmers' Church, Halifax, preached from 1 Cor. ix, 24.—"Even so hath the Lord ordained that they who preach the Gospel, should live of the Gospel."

After public worship the Synod was duly constituted, and the Roll made up. The Rev. Murdoch Stewart, of St. George's Channel, was appointed Moderator.

The whole of Thursday was spent in Devotional Exercises, and in hearing Reports from Ministers of the different Presbyteries, relative to the state of Religion, and the progress of the cause of the Free Church in the respective localities.

On Friday the Synod was occupied in hearing Reports of Committees, as well as Statements from the Ministers within the bounds of the Presbytery of Halifax in reference to the state of Religion in the congregations and preaching stations respectively.

On Saturday, after hearing from Mr. Forrester an account of the condition of his congregations, and the exertions that are being made to clear off £800 of the debt on Chalmers' Church, the Synod proceeded to the consideration of the most important question that came before them, viz., the Sustentation of the Ministry.

On Monday the Reports of several Committees were given in.

After some alterations in the management of the Collegiate and Academy Institutions, placing the Professorial Fund, Current Expenses Fund, Academy and Building Committees, under one Committee of Management, and after some other routine business, the Synod adjourned to meet at New Glasgow on the last Thursday of June, 1852.—*Halifax Guardian.*

DALKEITH.—The Annual Congregational Soiree in connection with Dalkeith Parish Church was held on Tuesday evening under the presidency of the Rev. Norman M'Leod. The hall, which was beautifully and taste fully decorated, was crowded in every available part by a highly respectable audience, the occasion being invested with especial interest in the prospect of the departure of the highly popular and much esteemed incumbent to the Barony Parish, Glasgow. After devotional exercises the Chairman in a characteristic speech of eloquence and power feelingly alluded to his translation from his present charge to a more extended sphere of usefulness in Glasgow, and expressed his great satisfaction at the harmony and unanimity of the call which he had received, unsolicited on his part, and which he felt to be a call from Providence. After referring in eulogistic terms to the gentlemanly conduct of the Home Secretary, and passing a high encomium on the talents and worth of his successor, Mr. Wright, the Rev. gentleman concluded by reading the Annual Congregation Report, which exhibited a flattering increase in the collections for the various Schemes of the Church. Addresses were likewise delivered by the Rev. Mr. Nisbet, of West St. Giles, Edinburgh, and the Rev. Mr. Malcolm, Glasgow.—The latter wished Mr. M'Leod all happiness and prosperity in his new charge, and remarked that from the condition of the Barony Parish (which contained a pauper in every three of the population when he first came to Glasgow) his Rev. friend would have every opportunity for the exercise of those high talents which made him one of the most brilliant ornaments of the Church to which he belonged. An efficient band by the excellence of their singing tended much to the evening's enjoyment. We understand Mr. M'Leod will be inducted into the Barony Parish in the latter end of July.—*Caledonian Mercury.*

INDUCTION AT AYR.—On Friday forenoon the Presbytery of Ayr met in the Old Church, Ayr, and inducted Mr. Shaw, from Bonhill,

into the second charge of that parish in room of Mr. Cathill resigned.

PARISH OF DALKEITH.—His Grace, the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, has presented the Rev. Robert Wright, Minister of Luss, to the parish church of Dalkeith, vacant by the translation of the Rev. Norman M'Leod to the parish of the Barony of Glasgow.

ST ANDREWS.—The Rev. Dr. W. Brown was formally inducted on Saturday last into the Chair of Biblical Criticism and Theology in this University, vacant by the removal of Dr. T. T. Jackson to the Chair of Church History in the University of Glasgow. Dr. Buist, Pro-Rector for the present year, presided on the occasion.

ORDINATION.—Last Thursday the Presbytery of Dunkeld met at Auchtergaven for the purpose of ordaining the Rev. Edward Place Dewar, son of the Very Reverend Principal Dewar of Marischal College, Aberdeen, as assistant and successor to the Rev. Thomas Nelson, Minister of the parish, who has been unable to officiate for a considerable time in consequence of bad health.

DR. LOCKHART, FRASERBURGH.—The *Herald* says that this gentleman, after sentence of deposition was pronounced against him by the General Assembly, presented a Note of suspension and interdict to stay proceedings. The Lord Ordinary (Colonsay), after hearing parties, held that the matters brought before him were strictly within the province and jurisdiction of the Church Courts, dismissed the Note of suspension and interdict as incompetent, and found Dr. Lockhart liable in expenses. [The decision of the Lord Ordinary has been unanimously confirmed by their Lordships of the First Division. Dr. Lockhart, who has been found liable in expenses, has foolishly and recklessly appealed to the House of Lords.—*Ed. Presb.*]

WHITEHALL, June 30.—The Queen has been pleased to present the Rev. William Purdie Dickson to the church and parish of Cameron in the Presbytery of St Andrews and county of Fife, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Dr. William Brown.

The Queen has also been pleased to present the Rev. James Somers to the church and parish of Barry in the Presbytery of Aberbrothock and county of Forfar, vacant by the deposition of Mr. William Simpson, late Minister there.

Mr. Samuel Bagster, who died recently in London at the advanced age of seventy-eight years, was one of the oldest of the bookselling brotherhood. The world is largely indebted to him for his long continued and indefatigable labours to facilitate the critical knowledge of the Holy Scriptures.

The Rev. Dr. Robinson and his Lady have sailed from this port for Bremen. Dr. Robinson goes to Germany, preparatory to another visit next year to Palestine, in view of bringing out another edition of his invaluable researches. There is no room to doubt, that, if spared to complete his second exploration, the revised edition of the Researches will become the standard work on Palestine for all the world.—*N. Y. Christian Intell.*

ORIGINAL POETRY.

Composed in the woods during an idle hour.

How sweet within this lone retreat,
Far from the curious eyes
Of the obtruding world, to hold
Communion with the skies!
With Nature and myself at peace,
My soul exults in her release,
And upward mounts on Seraph wing,
Aloud JEHOVAH'S praise to sing.

O Thou Supreme! enthron'd above,
To Thee all praise belongs.
Send down Thy Spirit, Holy One,
To fire earth's feeble songs:
With those who laud in Heaven above
The wonders of Redeeming Love,
Harmonious let my paeans rise
To Him that framed the earth and skies.

Around, above, Thy power, Thy love,
All nature does declare;
Each blade of grass aloud proclaims
How great Thy wonders are.
The verdant turf where I repose,
Each floweret fair that round me grows,
The music of the vocal grove,—
All sing of Him that reigns above.

And shall I then alone refuse
With songs to join the rest?
Shall man the only atheist be,
With noblest reason blest?
No! Ever let my soul rejoice
To sing Thy praise with thankful voice,
Until shall come my final doom
To rest within the peaceful tomb.

But death, What is it? Shall it quench
That immaterial spark,
Which, freed from earth, is ruled by laws
Mysterious now and dark?
No; as the Sun, that seeks the West,
Sinks not into a final rest,
But in the Orient mounts again,
So shall it rise, more bright to reign.

Then let me for that day prepare
When all from death shall rise,
And the Archangel's awful trump
Shall rend the earth and skies,
That from His sovereign judgment-seat,
While Angel myriads round Him wait,
My gracious Lord my name may read
With blessings on my worthless head.

AMICUS.

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