

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

JULY, 1864.

WE give up a large portion of our space this month to the proceedings of Synod, of which we are enabled to present a very full account. Room has also been made for a brief notice of some of the principal topics discussed in the two Scottish General Assemblies.

As regards the annual meeting of our own highest Church Court, it passed off fully as pleasantly as any we ever remember. There seemed to be a closer keeping to the work on hand; and, in consequence, a larger amount of business was despatched in a shorter time than usual. It is hoped that the various proceedings will tend to inspire the officebearers of the Church with increased zeal in the discharge of their duties, to promote the edification of the people waiting upon their ministry, and to strengthen the stakes and enlarge the borders of our Zion.

THOSE of our readers who are particularly interested in the French Mission scheme will read, with gratification, of the enthusiasm displayed in its behalf at the meeting of Synod. It is surely not to be believed that the ardour aroused will pass away as the early dew. Some gladdening tokens of better things to come have already appeared, and let us hope that the day of full prosperity is at hand. While waiting the implementing of the determination, expressed in Synod by the representatives of congregations, to make a special effort in behalf of Mr. Baridon, it seems the easiest thing in the world for such of our readers as are disposed to help the Committee in their present emergency, to enclose a dollar bill or two in an envelope, and address it to the Treasurer, Archibald Ferguson, Esq., Mansfield street, Montreal. The Convener has issued a circular on the subject, to which the immediate attention of ministers is solicited.

The operations of the Juvenile Mission must on no account be interfered with; but

if the children of the Church can contribute something in aid of the day school, a new cause of thankfulness will present itself. Their little offerings will be much prized, and, with the enlarging blessing of the Lord upon them, will be a most useful instrumentality.

FROM the digest of the Report of the Committee on Finance, it will be seen that a considerable deduction on former prices for the Minutes of Synod, has been agreed upon. A full set, from the commencement of the Synod in 1831, to the last meeting inclusive, may be had for five dollars, postage paid. Already the number of complete sets on hand has been reduced to two; and as soon as these are bespoken, the minutes of 1863 will be reprinted, when a number more will be ready. They bind very neatly in two pretty large volumes, and ought to be in the hands of most of our members—at least of all our officebearers. The execution of orders will afford infinite pleasure.

THE employment of an agent for the better working out of our Schemes is broached in our columns by a valued correspondent. We invite attention to the subject and his remarks upon it. There can be no question that an agency such as he indicates would tell immensely upon the advancement of our different enterprises; otherwise the experience of other Christian denominations, who have wisely resorted to it, goes for nothing. We are of opinion that, without circumscribing in the least the sphere at present occupied by voluntary unpaid labour, such a combination might be made of general duties connected with the several departments of activity, as would not only be self-sustaining in a pecuniary point of view, but also prove very profitable to the Church in other respects. How this could best be accomplished is the point likely to occasion a diversity of opinion. We hope to see the