

ASTRONOMY IN GAELIC—We observe that our townsman, Mr D. M. Connel, teacher, has lately published a treatise in Gaelic on the Solar System, intended as a text book in schools. It appears there are few original works of any kind in the Celtic tongue, and an authority has stated that there is not in it a single original publication on science. Mr Connel would, therefore, seem to have struck out a new path, and we see that Principal Dewar, Dr McLeod, of Morven, Mr M'Lauchlan, of Edinburgh, and other eminent Gaelic scholars, as well as several contemporaries, have given the treatise a high character. The Very Rev. Principal of Marischal College says:—"It is fitted to be very instructive and useful to the Highlanders. The language is pure, simple, and correct; the style is pleasing and elegant."

THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The proceedings of the special meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales have been brought to a close by the passing of the following resolution:—"That various charges of unfaithfulness to the sacred principles of evangelical truth having recently been made against the body of Congregational ministers, this meeting deem it incumbent to express their deep and deliberate conviction that such imputations are unfounded and unjust; and they hereby record their assurance, that the ministers of our churches, as a body, maintain an unabated attachment to those great Christian principles on which they have been incorporated from the time of their formation; but while the meeting would earnestly commend a faithful adherence to the essential truths of the gospel, and a prominent and unmistakable exhibition of them in the pulpit, they would earnestly desire that a charitable construction should be put upon the terms in which they are expressed, and that they should on all occasions be maintained and vindicated in a Christian spirit."

Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

FOREIGN MISSION.—A letter, dated in the end of last year, has recently been received from Rev. Mr. Geddie, missionary, Antioch.

With the letter were received seven small publications from the Press of Antioch, from four to twelve pages each, with a few wood cuts. Five of these are in the dialect of Fontana, and one in that of Tana. For each of these three Islands a first Book has been prepared and published. There is a specimen copy of each of these. In the language spoken at Antioch there is a Catechism, two little works consisting apparently of Scripture selections and a small collection of Hymns. These little works are interesting as the commencement of religious literature among a people emerging from the darkness of heathenism to the light of Christian truth, and as constituting part of the means by which they are to be raised from barbarism to civilization.

Widows' and Orphans' Fund, Canada.

We are glad to observe, from the last number of the Canadian Presbyterian, that the Ministers there are making vigorous efforts to increase the resources of this highly important

and useful Fund. It has been formed and is sustained, partly by an annual contribution from each Clergyman, and partly by yearly collections throughout the different Churches, and has already proved highly advantageous to a number of dependant families. The recent deaths of so many members of the Fund, has thrown a very considerable additional burden upon the funds of the Committee, and therefore, we are happy to learn that the last Congregational collections, made in January, are, many of them, unusually liberal.

St. Paul's Church, Montreal, per Rev. W. Snodgrass,	£40	3	3
St. Andrew's Church, Do., per Rev. A. Matheson, D. D.,	36	0	0
St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, per Rev. J. Barclay, D. D.,	31	3	0
St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, per Rev. J. Machar, D. D.,	21	0	0
Cornwall, Rev. Hugh Urquhart, D. D.,	17	8	9
Lachine, Rev. Wm. Simpson, together with a large number of smaller sums, amounting in all to upwards of the sum of	17	8	9
	£250	0	0

The Rev. James Christie.

By letters lately received from the Rev. Dr. Fowler, Convener of the Colonial Committee, we are happy to learn that the Rev. James Christie has been appointed Missionary within the bounds of the synod of Nova Scotia. The Committee are anxious that his attention should be directed to Prince Edward's Island, where, from recent accounts, there is still much room for additional labourers.

Presbyterian Church, Moncton.

We announced last week that the congregation of Galashells had made a collection for the erection of the new Presbyterian Church at Moncton, New Brunswick; and we have now the pleasure to state that the Congregation of Moncton has collected the sum of £33 13s. for the same laudable object.

The Rev. Thomas Jardine.

During the last six or eight months, we have been again and again cheered and encouraged by the zeal and liberality of the Church at home in sending out so many able and accomplished young men to act as missionaries within the bounds of our Synod.—Since the month of May last no less than eight welcome and devoted labourers have arrived amongst us, all of whom are now actively and usefully employed in different portions of the extensive and long destitute missionary field belonging to our Church. Mr. Jardine, the last of these missionaries, and in no respect inferior to any of his predecessors, arrived a few weeks ago, and has since preached with much ability and acceptance in the different churches in this city. He intends soon to commence his missionary labours in the country, where a wide and promising field of usefulness is opened for him.

Important to Ministers, Missionaries and Students

IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

An advertisement may have been observed in the Home and Foreign missionary Record of the Church of Scotland, for February, to the following effect:—

"An Edition of the Holy Scriptures, with MATTHEW HENRY'S COMMENTARY, in Nine Volumes, Imperial Octavo, is in course of publication by Nisbet & Co., London, at the price of 45s per copy to Subscribers.

"A few friends, Members of the Evangelical Alliance, having had their attention called to the importance of bringing such works within easy means of purchase to those whose office calls them to expound the Word of God, have undertaken to contribute and collect a portion of the Subscription Price of the above-mentioned Commentary, so as to offer One Thousand Copies at the price of 20s per copy to Ministers, Missionaries, Probationers and Divinity Students, of Scotland, who will take the work *bona fide* for their own use.

Through the kindness of some friends of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, a proportion of the 1000 copies, has been reserved for applicants (being ministers, students &c) belonging to the Presbyterian Church in these provinces, in connection with the Church of Scotland.

It will however be observed, that in order to offer this valuable commentary at 20s. the publishers require to raise a supplementary fund by contributions; but we have every confidence that this fund will be cheerfully assisted by the liberality of our friends here. In the next number of the Record, we trust we shall be able to mention the arrangements which will in all probability soon be made, with the view of securing to our clergymen a participation in the privilege which will thus kindly be put within their reach.

Letters and Monies received, February, 1857.

W. D. Morrison, St. John's, Newfoundland, enclosing list and £12. 9s. 4d. Rev. George Harper, Middle Musquodjuit.—directions attended to.—Finlay McNeil, Georgetown, P. E. I. with £2. directions attended to.—William McLean, St. Andrew's N. B.—directions attended to. Duncan Mc Donald, Pleasant Hill, enclosing list and £1 10s.—requests complied with as far as possible. Rev. Wm. Murray—alterations made as requested. Alex. McGregor, Big Island, Merigonish, with list and 5s. Wm McDougall, Barney's River, Merigonish, with list and 15s. enclosed. Rev. Donald McDonald, Charlottetown, P. E. I £15. enclosed—names added to list. John W. Morrison, Charlottetown, P. E. I. £5. enclosed with list—directions attended to. William McNab, Wallace, draft for £2, 2s 6d. paid—alterations made as requested. John Gray, Hopewell, Pictou, list enclosed—alterations made as requested. W. Gordon, Pictou, enclosing £2 5s. with list. T. A. Gibson, Montreal, enclosing list and £1. Alex. Fraser, Clinton, C. W. per hands of W. Grant, 2s. 6d.