

We have now in press a number of books and tracts in the Portuguese language.—The Shorter Catechism has already been issued. We are also trying to secure the services of a competent translator, so that we can put the Catechism, and other books, into the hands of those speaking the Spanish language. And we have authorized the Presbytery of Brazil to employ a colporteur as soon as a suitable person can be obtained.

The circulation of the *Visitor* has met with a gratifying increase during the past year. We now issue one hundred thousand copies of the monthly, and thirty-four thousand copies of the semi-monthly, each month, and we ask your co-operation in securing a still wider circulation of this excellent paper.

During the last year we had 155 colporteurs in commission, who reported over 11,000 days of labor, sold 62,000 volumes, donated 47,000 volumes of books, and 2,000,000 pages of tracts. This we regard as a great and blessed work, and one which should enlist the cordial co-operation of our churches. Some of these colporteurs have spent *three-fourths* of their time among those destitute of the means of grace, and have scattered among them these books and tracts. Is it not our duty to attend to these scattered sheep of the fold, and will not our churches aid us in doing so? Let me give one instance of the good accomplished by this agency. A colporteur went into a village in Indiana, where there was no stated means of grace, no church, and but few professors of religion. As the direct result of his faithful labors, twenty-four persons were converted, and a Presbyterian church was organized.

Hengstenberg.

The news have recently reached us of the death of the celebrated German theologian, Dr. Ernest William Hengstenberg of Bonn. He was born at Fredenberg, on the 2d of October, 1802, and was the son of a Protestant minister. His earlier studies, which were pursued at the University of Bonn, were chiefly occupied with philosophy and the Oriental languages, in which departments he attained to great eminence. He soon, however, turned his attention to the study of Divinity, and while yet quite a young man, he was made professor of Theology at Berlin, receiving at the same time the diploma of Doctor of Divinity, an honor which has been conferred upon only a very small number of Protestant theologians in Germany. Dr. Hengstenberg was widely known as the principal editor of the *Evangelische Kirchenzeitung*, which under his able management took its place among the most important organs of the Orthodox party of Prussia. He has been a volumi-

nous writer, his principal works consisting of commentaries on different portions of the Holy Scriptures, among those that are most widely known being his "Christology of the Old Testament, and Commentaries on the Messianic Prophets," his "Commentaries on the Psalms," his "Commentaries on the most important and difficult parts of the Pentateuch," and his "Commentaries on the Apocalypse of St. John."

News of the Church.

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met on the 1st ult., in Primitive Church, New Glasgow, and was constituted by the Rev. George Patterson, moderator, *pro tem.*, with whom were present the Revs. David Roy, John Stewart, George Walker, James Bayne, D.D., Alexander Sutherland, D. B. Blair, J. Mackinnon, K. J. Grant, A. J. Mowatt, A. McL. Sinclair, and J. B. Watt, ministers; and Messrs. Geo. Underwood, Rodk. McGregor, and Robt. Murray, ruling elders. The minutes of the last meeting were read and sustained.

Mr. Layton's report of missionary labour performed at Fisher's Grant and at Little Harbour, was read and sustained. The Rev. Thos. Cumming was appointed to preach at Little Harbour and Fisher's Grant on the first Sabbath of this month, and Mr. Nelson at the same places on the second and third Sabbaths of the same month.

The Rev. Alexander Sutherland asked leave to be absent from his congregation for two months, and that the Presbytery supply his pulpit from the second Sabbath of July to the first Sabbath of August—which was granted. It was agreed to appoint the Rev. Mr. Ross to be moderator of the Session of Earltown and West Branch during Mr. Sutherland's absence. H. Gunn, Esq., appeared as commissioner from that congregation to request that a member of Presbytery be appointed to preside at a public meeting of the congregation to be held in Earltown Church, on the 8th inst., for the purpose of taking steps towards getting a settled pastor among them. The Rev. Mr. Ross was accordingly appointed.

It was agreed to transmit an overture from the Revs. George Patterson and John Mackinnon to the Synod, agent, That ministers who are separated from their congregations by the direction of Synod, to be employed otherwise in the service of the Church, do, while so employed, retain their seats as members of the higher Church Courts.