

# THE Home and Foreign Record.

OF

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

JUNE, 1874.

## THE COMING SYNOD.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces will meet this year in Poplar Grove Church, Halifax, on the Tuesday of June, at half past 7 o'clock, p. m. The opening discourse will be preached (D. V.,) by Rev. Isaac Murray, Moderator.

The approaching meeting must certainly prove one of great interest. The protracted debates of the past two years are not likely to be repeated; and yet there are important questions to come up for discussion, on which a considerable diversity of view is known to prevail. There will, therefore be without question sufficient conflict of opinion to render the whole proceedings lively and interesting.

The great subject unquestionably is Union. That there is not unanimity in any branch of the negotiating Churches has become evident. That there are difficulties in going forward is clear to all. On the other hand, there may be equal perils in delay, if the large majority in all the negotiating bodies should be found favourable to progress. We are persuaded that light will appear, that the path of duty will open up, and that the issues of coming deliberations will be good.

The *Psalms* Question has been engaging the thoughts and investigations of many members of Synod, young and old, preachers and elders; and the Synod's debates and decisions on the Overture before them, will be watched with prayerful interest, by the great body of our congrega-

tions, and more especially by the more earnest, active, and devoted of our people.

Then we are to have a *Deputation* from the Free Church of Scotland. Rev. Messrs. Burns, of Kirkliston, (a nephew of the late Dr. Burns of Toronto), and Wilson of the Barclay Church, Edinburgh, have sailed for America, and doubtless are at this moment in the United States, deputed to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States at St. Louis, on the 21st of May, then the Canada Assembly at Ottawa, early in June, and our own Synod at the end of the month. The receiving of these honoured Deputies from one of the Parent Churches, and men so recently employed actively in the Great Scottish Revival, will be a time to be remembered by all who shall enjoy the privilege of being present and sharing in the celebration.

When we add that the breath of the Spirit has been quickening the devotion and spiritual activities of some at least of our ministers and elders who will take prominent part in the work and in the speaking and praying at Synod, we have said all that is needful to shew the high probability that this annual gathering will excel in interest all past gatherings, save those at which Unions have been actually celebrated.

We have no doubt that suitable provision will be made to entertain all who come, and that a goodly number will attend, coming early, and continuing till the work has been wholly or well nigh finished.

But our expectations will not be realized