

Monthly <sup>FOR THE</sup> ARCHIVES of <sup>the</sup> Province

# THE RECORD

OF THE

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET HER CUNNING."—Ps. 137, v. 5.

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#### THE YOUNG MEN'S SCHEME.

We have always regarded this scheme with the deepest interest, and shall continue to wish it every manner of success. Indeed, we speak our conviction when we plainly declare that just in proportion to the zeal and vigor with which it is carried out, must be the prosperity and successfulness of our Church in this Province. This conviction is the result of mature thought. The connection between the prosperity of our Church and the energy with which this scheme is carried out is to us very apparent. Let us glance for a moment at the past history of our church in this Province. Long and earnestly have the friends of the Church of our Fathers been asking the question—how are the walls of our Zion to be repaired; and how are our vacant churches to be filled with ministers? Long and wistfully did they look across the Atlantic to catch a glimpse of the object of their hopes and their prayers—ministers coming from the Parent Church to break among them the bread of life. Yet

long were they forced to look in vain. Weary, anxious years must pass on and still the sanctuary remain silent. Their urgent appeals were met with kind answers, expressing sympathy but lamenting the impossibility of sending aid. Their most sanguine hopes were often crushed in the very bud—still they continued to look—hoping even against hope—never doubting the love and care of the old Church of Scotland for her expatriated children. And it now becomes an interesting question whether or not this confidence had been misplaced—whether she was or was not worthy of this simple reliance? It is true, expected ministers did not arrive on our shores—churches petitioning for clergymen did not receive the object of their petition. Yet let us consider what was the cause of these disappointments. Was it owing to the lukewarmness of our friends at Home—was it because the Colonial Committee did not exert itself to secure the services of Gaelic speaking ministers? Assuredly not—neve did any church feel more deeply for our want