

a confession, as in the Church of England, that "he has been inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to undertake it." Surely if Episcopalians discover this regard for the spiritual disposition of their candidates that they will deliberately put to them the question, "Do you judge yourself called by the Holy Spirit to this work?" we, Presbyterians, and members of a National Church, should not blink it. Wherefore, to the Committee appointed in the matter of Licensure,—nay, to the whole Synod as the proper body entrusted with and responsible,—do I commend this important subject, only adding that now that we have resolved to push forward in the matter of a Hall, if proper encouragement be given, and as we may then expect to have an amount of licensing to do, it would be well by next Synod to produce such a measure as may tend to ensure the right sort of men, not only in point of scholarship, but of spiritual qualifications.

A. W. H.

Map of the New Hebrides, &c.

THE accompanying Map of the New Hebrides, and other Islands of the South Seas, will be of much interest, we doubt not, to the readers of the *Record*, since our Church has undertaken to maintain a mission there. Our thanks are due to the Rev. Mr. Geddie, for kindly forwarding a number for distribution; and believing that their general circulation would be very desirable, application was made as to the probable cost, &c., of a sufficient number to place one in the hands of each of our readers. We have to acknowledge our indebtedness to the *Record* Committee of the P. C. L. P., through Rev. Prof. McKnight and Jas. Barnes, Esq., who have furnished the same free of charge.

A Sabbath in the City of the Puritans

It would be extremely unfair to form an estimate of the intelligence and piety of a large city from any thing that can be seen, or any facts that can be collected, in the course of a flying visit. Nor do we wish to attempt anything of the kind, for all such attempts must end in failure, and all conclusions so hurriedly formed must necessarily be received with caution and a certain degree of suspicion. There are certain impressions, however, which we always must carry away with us in those visits, and certain general conclusions which will force themselves upon us, and which may not be very far from the truth. It is not so difficult to discover the general tone and temper of the inhabitants of a large city within a somewhat extended margin.

We lately had occasion to visit Boston—a city which must always be interesting to every Presbyterian, founded, as it has been, by men who fought, side by side with our

Covenanting Forefathers, the battles of civil and religious liberty. The "pilgrim fathers" who settled at Massachusetts Bay under Sir H. Rowsell in 1620, were more strict in their adherence to extreme Puritan principles than those in the neighboring settlements of New Plymouth, Rhode Island, and Providence. They never relinquished the principles of a National Church. They recognized the power of the civil magistrate in matters of faith and worship. They severely punished all acts of Sabbath desecration, and gave their best attention to all the ordinances and external observances of Christian worship. Upwards of two centuries have passed since those fathers "have fallen asleep," and their descendants have increased, and strangers from all countries have joined them, so that Boston at present numbers about 180,000 inhabitants. It has all the external appearance of commercial prosperity. The streets are thronged and the hotels crowded. Large warehouses, and elegant shops, stately and massive public and private buildings, bespeak a high degree of material prosperity. On Saturday we visited the Museum and the Gallery of Art. In the former is an interesting collection of the material products of the country—a few good pictures, and some of the usual busts and statuettes. In the latter may be seen some very noble paintings, but they are chiefly copies of the old masters. There is a great dearth of original paintings, so great, indeed, as to lead to the conclusion that the Bostonian is more in his element when inventing machinery than when wielding the brush, and that while he excels in the practical, he has but little power in the higher departments of the fine arts and the works of creative imagination. His country is still young, and the fine arts belong rather to older countries with more venerable and hallowed associations and greater repose.

We awoke early on Sabbath morning with the agreeable consciousness of a day of rest, and the prospect of mingling with the worshippers of another country, and of hearing the same glorious Gospel from other lips. And we confess that our first impressions of a Sabbath in this city of the Puritans were rather startling. We carried with us vivid recollections of Sabbath mornings spent among the descendants of the Scottish Covenanters and the Presbyterians of Glasgow and of Edinburgh, and had expected to find that a Sabbath in Boston would not differ widely from a Sabbath in one of the cities of Scotland. But we were sadly mistaken. We missed the quiet of those noble sacred Scottish Sabbaths. Coaches in vast numbers rolled along the streets. Carriages of every description were abroad with their drivers, Jehu-like, driving furiously. Footmen tramped along the pavements whistling patriotic airs, and occasionally breaking forth into song. It seemed to us as if the city had turned out