

doubting the emoluments and efficiency of the school. The pamphlet of Mr. Wilson will be invaluable to all who intend moving in the matter.—*Ed. Magazine.*

University of Edinburgh.

The winter session of the University of Edinburgh was opened on Monday afternoon by the Rev. Professor Robertson, in the absence of Principal Lee, who is confined to the house by ill health. There was a large attendance, chiefly of students, in the chemistry class-room, where the lecture was delivered, and nearly all the Professors were present. Dr. Robertson, in the course of his address, which was of considerable length, made copious reference to the anticipated result of opening up to the public competition civil service appointments. He trusted that the young men of this University would endeavour to wipe off the reproach from their *alma mater*, which had been incurred in consequence of the secondary place that had been taken by Scottish students in the competitive examinations. The reverend Doctor also noticed as one of the causes which tended to lead to this state of things, that there were sent to the University many students who were actually ignorant of the elements of arithmetic, and were almost unacquainted with the rudiments of Greek and Latin. This, he thought, did great injustice to the Professor, who was compelled to act more as the schoolmaster. He recommended, as a practical remedy to meet this evil, firstly, the appointment of assistant tutors in the Chairs of Languages and Mathematics, and, secondly, the elevation of the condition of the teacher of the common school, which was not at present one that tempted men of proper qualifications to venture on the discharge of the duties. He also, towards the conclusion of his address, paid a merited tribute to the personal and public worth of the late Professor Menzies.

Presbytery of Auchterarder.

This Presbytery met at Crieff on the 4th inst., for the purpose of ordaining the Rev. Matthew Rodger, who has been officiating in the West Church. Everything connected with this settlement is most satisfactory and gratifying. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the season, a most respectable congregation assembled. The services were ably conducted by Dr. McDonald of Comrie, who preached an impressive sermon from 2d Cor. iv. 3. Among the ministers present were Mr. Walker, Muthill; Mr. Stoddart, Madderty; Mr. Young, Auchterarder; Mr. Robertson, Monzievaird; Mr. Taylor, Monzie; Mr. Martin, Gask; Mr. Hardy, Fowls; and Mr. Milroy, Logiealmond. At the conclusion of the services, Mr. Rodger received a most cordial welcome from the congregation he has formed. It gives us no small happiness to record the excellent prospects of the West Church, Crieff, which are owing to the generosity of some of the honours of Crieff who have voluntarily contributed to the support of divine ordinances and missionary labours among the people. The gratitude of the surrounding district, and of the whole Church, is due to Lady Willoughby d'Ereshy, Sir William Keith Murray, Bart., Charles H. Drummond Moray, Esq., and Anthony Murray, Esq., for their Christian liberality with reference to the West Church. And it must afford them the highest satisfaction to know that their good wishes are already

reaping practical success in the appointment of Mr. Rodger, whose labours are appreciated by rich and poor alike. He has already formed numerous and flourishing Sabbath classes, and has given more than common promise of the great ends to be accomplished by zeal, talent, accomplishment, prudence, and piety concentrated in the ministry of the gospel.

PRESBYTERY OF KINCARDINE O'NEIL.—This reverend court met at Kincardine O'Neil on Wednesday the 4th of November, Rev. George Hutchinson, Moderator. The ordination trials of the Rev. George McIrvine, Abeyne, as formerly prescribed, were satisfactorily completed, and it was resolved to proceed to his ordination. He was accordingly set apart to the office of the holy ministry and solemnly ordained to the care of souls in Marrius, as successor to Rev. P. Beaton, who has resigned his charge as minister of the Church of Scotland in that Island. Rev. Dr. R. McPherson, Professor of Divinity, Old Aberdeen, joined the Presbytery in the act of ordination, and the Rev. George Cook, Kincardine O'Neil, addressed Mr. McIrvine in suitable terms as to the faithful discharge of the duties of the ministerial office in the important sphere of labour assigned to him. It is intended that Mr. McIrvine shall proceed to the scene of his future labours with as little delay as possible, and judging from his ability and general acceptance as a preacher of the gospel, it is to be hoped that he may have before him an extensive sphere of Christian usefulness, and that he may thus fulfil the anticipations of a numerous circle of attached friends and well-wishers. This is the second labourer sent to the Colonial field from within the bounds of this Presbytery: Rev. James Wilson lately at Invercauld having been ordained here in July last, as a Missionary to Nova Scotia, in North America.—*Aberdeen Journal*

DEATH OF THE REV. JAMES THOMSON OF KEITH.—We deeply regret to announce the death of the Rev. James Thomson, minister of Keith, which melancholy event took place at the Manse on Wednesday, about half-past twelve noon. The Rev. gentleman had been in delicate health for the last two years, but was still able generally to discharge the important duties of his office until, we believe, within the last few weeks. Mr. Thomson was for many years Classical Master in the Elgin Academy, the duties of which he discharged with the greatest diligence and success, enjoying the high esteem and respect of the whole community. He was appointed by the Patron, the Right Hon. the Earl of Fife, to the Parish of Keith in 1825, where he has since laboured with great acceptance among a very numerous congregation, by whom he was really beloved. Indeed, Mr. Thomson was a great favourite with the whole community of Keith, for, along with a deeply-rooted piety, he possessed a warmth of heart and urbanity of manners which endeared him to all. Mr. Thomson was upwards of 70 years of age.

OPENING OF TEVIOTHEAD NEW CHURCH.—This church, which has been erected at the sole expense of the Duke of Buccleuch, was opened for public worship on Sabbath week. After service by the Rev. Robert Young, minister of the parish, the Rev. Dr. Robertson, of Edinburgh, officiated—the nature of true and spiritual worship forming the subject of his discourse. The church was crowded, On Monday a public meeting, which was also well attended, was held in the church. Wm. Mal-

colin, Esq., of Burnfoot, occupied the chair. Mr. Young moved a resolution expressive of the gratitude of the congregation to the Duke of Buccleuch, which was unanimously adopted. Dr. Robertson then advocated the endowment of the chapels belonging to the church. The style of the new building is early English. The Duke of Buccleuch has besides contributed a sum of between £30,000 and £10,000 in similar deeds throughout the country.

SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.—At the meeting of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale in Edinburgh on Tuesday, Dr. Bayly, after referring at some length to the defeat of the Lord Advocate's Education Bill, moved that the Synod had learned with great satisfaction that that bill had been rejected, and at the same time regretted the position in which the schools are at present placed, expressing their sympathy with that meritorious class, and their cordial concurrence with the honours of Scotland in the efforts made by them to better the condition of the schoolmasters.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—MATRICULATION.—Up to this date 1215 students have been matriculated at the University—454 for the medical, 592 for the literary, and 199 for the law classes. At the same date last year the matriculations were 483 for medical, 573 for literary, and 214 for law classes. The number of students who matriculated in 1852 was 1338; 1853, 1279; in 1851, 1229.—*Scotsman.*

CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

Saint Andrew's Church, Clifton, C. W.

On Sabbath, Sept. 21, Divine Service was held for the first time in the new Church connected with our body at Clifton, the village at the Niagara Suspension Bridge.

The Rev. George Macdonell, of Fergus, preached in the morning from Ps. cxiii. 1.—“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.”—And the Rev. J. B. Mowat, of Niagara, in the afternoon, from JOHN III. 31.—“He that cometh from Heaven is above all.” The attendance was very large, being upwards of 500 in the afternoon; the morning attendance was rather less in consequence of the showery weather. The collection taken up on the occasion, in aid of the Building Fund, was £54.

By appointment of Presbytery, the Rev. S. B. Mowat dispensed the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sabbath, Oct. 12th, the congregation having been organised on the preceding day by the formation of a communion-roll of 29 members, the adoption of “The Model Constitution,” and the appointment of Trustees and Managers.

It is always a cause of rejoicing to the Christian, when another building is added to the number of those in which God's people meet to worship and praise Him; but your excellent periodical has seldom recorded an occurrence more calculated to