

# The Record.

NOVEMBER, 1860

BEGINNING OF A NEW VOLUME.

The present is the first number of a new volume. It is commenced at a most interesting period of our history as a church. Before its close, an important change will have taken place, in the incorporation of two churches, heretofore distinct. As heretofore, the *Record* will present to the members of the church, an account of the operations carried on, and of the progress made by our own church, while the operations of other churches, and events taking place in connexion with the progress of the Redeemer's kingdom in other lands will not be overlooked.

We again call for the kind interest of ministers, missionaries, and agents. We have specially to request our friends to revise the subscription lists in their several congregations, and to communicate the result as soon as possible, that we may know how many copies will be required for the year now commencing.

Subscribers are earnestly called upon to remit subscriptions for the present year, and any arrears that may be outstanding.

## KNOX COLLEGE—ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION.

The Session in Knox College has been opened with very encouraging prospects. A large addition has been made to the number of Students this year; and the Principal and Professors resume their important work in circumstances of much hope and promise. It cannot but be matter of congratulation to the Church, and of deep thankfulness to Him who is the Lord of the Harvest, that whilst the fields are white thereunto,—whilst there are multitudes in the remote parts of our land, earnestly longing for a stated supply of divine ordinances, and ready to furnish the means for that end, as God may give them the ability, so many young men, animated, it is to be hoped, by a right spirit, are enrolling themselves for the good work, and saying with devoted hearts: "Here are we, send us." May the Spirit of the Lord guide and prepare them, and send them where they shall have work to do for their Master.

The Synod has with great propriety appointed a day for special prayer on behalf of the College in all its interests. For what can there be more suitable and important as matter for prayer, in the meetings of the saints, than that which concerns the instrumentality which the Lord hath ordained for the spread of the Gospel, for the building up of His Church? This appointment has, we believe, been complied with in all our Congregations. May we not warrantably hope that He who answereth prayer has been hearkening with delight, and giving a gracious

answer to the petitions of His people. And if He has thus been meeting the desire of the Church, and presenting ground of encouragement and thankfulness in connexion with our Theological Institution, surely it is reasonable and incumbent that the Members and adherents of the Church should take a deep interest in its welfare, and make provision for its comfortable and efficient support. We doubt not that this will be generally felt and recognized as a primary duty of the Church.

Considerable inconvenience has all along been experienced, from the fact that the contributions for the College have been gathered up and transmitted at a very late period of the season. The consequence of this has been, that the Treasurer has been without funds to meet the current expenses of the Institution, and the Professors have not received their salaries till several months after they became due. Every one will at once feel that this is not as it should be. The Church has set up the College as a necessary part of her existence, and is therefore bound in honour to see to its regular and satisfactory maintenance.

Nothing more, we believe, is needed than to call the attention of the Church to this state of matters. The remedy is easy and simple. And the Board of Management are unanimous as to the necessity of adopting it at once. All the inconvenience which has hitherto arisen, may be obviated by the Congregations setting themselves to an earlier collection of the College fund. If operations for this purpose were commenced as soon as possible in November, so that at any rate towards the end of December, all contributions might be in the hands of the Treasurer, the existing evil would be removed. A great improvement in this respect was attained last year, and we would, with all earnestness, urge upon the Ministers and Office-bearers of the Church the necessity of immediate steps to complete the improvement, and to remove all hindrances of a financial kind out of the way of the efficient working of the Institution. The claims of the College are second in importance to none of those schemes in which the Church is embarked, and therefore they should be postponed for none. It is to be looked to as the main source of supply of future Ministers to the Church. The Lord has thus honoured it already, and we look for yet larger blessing. Let it not be fettered, or suffer in any respect in its operations through want of funds. The year has been crowned with the goodness of the Lord, and in His mercy temporal prosperity appears again to be returning to the Province. Let the members of the Church evince their gratitude by a liberal response to the call now made, as well as in every thing that relates to the advancement of His cause. "Bring Ye all the tithes into the store-house that there may be meat in mine house, and provide me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

At T.

## CONSUMMATION OF THE UNION IN NOVA SCOTIA.

The fourth of October 1860 will be a day long held in remembrance among Presbyterians in these Provinces. On that day all the remaining difficulties in connexion with the union between our own Church, and the United Presbyterian Church, were surmounted, and the two Synods formally resolved to consummate the Union in June next, and appointed Committees for carrying out the necessary arrangements. In Nova Scotia the day was, in a still more signal manner, marked by the actual consummation of the Union between the two Bodies.

Of this latter event we have just received full and interesting accounts in the columns of the *Presbyterian Witness*. Preliminary meetings of both Synods were held at Pictou on the preceding day for the purpose of settling various matters of business. In the course of the proceedings of the Free Church Synod, Professor King delivered an able and spirited speech, referring more specially to objections which some had raised, on the ground that the word "Free" was to be omitted from the name of the Church with which he was connected. Among other remarks Professor King stated that "when this Church was formed in 1844, it was formed without the word *Free*—it was acknowledged and assisted by the Free Church of Scotland without the word *Free*,—while it was called the "Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia adhering to the Westminster Standards." When it changed this name into "Free Church," in 1848, it did not change one iota as to its principles, and the change of our name did not bring us closer to the Free Church of Scotland. The Presbyterian Churches of Ireland and Canada are not called *Free*; yet they acknowledge the Free Church as their parent, and hold her principles.—The Free Church of Scotland has expressed her approval of our Basis of Union—of the position we are taking—and she will be prepared to welcome us most cordially in our enlarged condition. We shall maintain our connection with her, and she will recognize us as a body holding her principles. The term "Free" is not needed here though it is in Scotland. Here we claim the name *Presbyterian*, and whoever separates from us will have to adopt a distinguishing name. The Established Church is in fetters; the *Presbyterian Church*, if it acts out its principles, is necessarily and always *free*. In the Providence of God the Secession first occupied the ground here, and therefore they had a right to the name *Presbyterian Church*. Whenever the Free Church plants Missions on ground not previously occupied