

only requires to be blown a little to make it mount into a flame.

February 26.—Visited S. P., Irish Presbyterian, whom I was called to see yesterday. Found him still alive, and able to converse freely. He said he felt the Lord was about to call him hence, and that a few days more would finish his race here, and that he felt more and more comfort at the thought of leaving this sinful world. Was much surprised to find W. R., alluded to on 21st, gone; I doubt not he sleeps in Jesus. Several of my people worse in health; but apparently more thoughtful. Two young men told me that they think there will be a great change in the army after these afflictions, and that many of those who recover will lead new lives.

February 17th.—Visited Palace Hospital; all my people improving in health there. Added six to my list, five of whom have just come from the Crimea. All seemed most thankful for books and tracts.

February 28th.—Visited nearly the whole of my men in the General Hospital. Four apparently dying—two of them, I fear, impenitent. One man, who is getting better, and whom I formerly thought impressed, seems truly penitent, and says he wishes to prepare for the Communion. Gave him something to read on the Lord's Supper. Found out four Presbyterians whom I had not before seen. Visited also the Sable Hospital; all there doing well.

Meeting of the Canada Synod.

We publish in the present issue of our periodical a report of the proceedings of the Synod of our Church. The address of the Moderator, at the close of the Session of the Court, will be found well worthy of attentive perusal. Many subjects of interest were discussed, and we trust that the action and deliberations of this Synod will be productive of good to the Church. It is indeed gratifying to witness the efforts made to draw more closely the bonds of brotherhood between our own Synod and those of the Church in the Lower Provinces. Our brethren there have been making the most praiseworthy exertions for the extension of the Church, and the cultivation of friendly intercourse and the manifestation of Christian sympathy will prove cheering to both sections of the Church, while the result may yet be the meeting of a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in British North America. We trust that the subject of lay representation will receive the careful consideration of sessions. It is very important that the Eldership should be brought to take a deeper and more active interest in the proceedings of our Church Judicatories. After attendance at meetings of Presbytery or Synod a warmer interest cannot but be felt in all the operations of the Church at large as well as locally. Much difficulty has often been felt as to with whom the granting of churches for religious purposes other than those of worship should rest, and it is well that an authoritative decision of the Synod has been come to, declaring it to be with the Kirk Sessions. The position of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund is in many respects gratifying, but now that so many new annuitants have in the Providence of God been cast upon it we trust that congregations will see it their duty to give it a larger measure of support, and will extend to the forthcoming appeal of the Commission of the Fund a warm and generous response. The appointment of a Standing Committee on

Church property is not without importance. The affording of information as to the proper legal mode of acquiring and holding Church property, the ascertaining of the extent of such property now held, and the collection of statistics as to the efforts in Church and Manse erection from time to time being made, will naturally fall within the province of their duties, and prove useful to our Churrn. The Synod opened under solemn and affecting circumstances; the attendance was numerous, and a feeling of humiliation was manifested, while ere entering upon the duties of the Synod, a special devotional service was engaged in, looking to the direction and guidance of the Great Head of the Church. During the Session one of the number was taken sick and within a week passed away from Earth and its trials and duties,—another call to humiliation and to prayerful efforts for the extension of our Church. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that He will send labourers into the Vineyard."

The position of our Church is in many respects peculiar: our trials have been not a few; the openings for usefulness are increasing; the calls for pastors are numerous; it behoves then those who love our Zion to be earnest in prayer, that faithful men may be raised up to break the bread of life to the many vacant congregations in the land, and to supply the places of those Ministers whom from time to time God calls from the scene of their labours. May it be put into the hearts of many of our young men to say in view of the clamant calls for more pastors, "Here am I, Lord, send me."—*Canada Presbyterian.*

The Deputations to the Synods in the Lower Provinces.

We have pleasure in intimating that the Rev. Dr Mathieson and the Rev. A. McKid, the Moderator of the Synod, have proceeded to Halifax as delegates from the Synod of Canada to the Synod of the Church of Scotland of Nova Scotia, now in session. We also learn that the Revs Dr McGill and Professor Weir, the delegates to the Synod of New Brunswick, purpose proceeding to St. John, New Brunswick, to attend the session of the Synod there, which will commence on 10th of August next and design, if possible, arriving there a few days before the opening of the court. We shall await with interest the issue of these missions and trust that greater sympathy and closer union, contributing to the spread of true religion, may be the result.

For the Monthly Record

The congregation of St. Andrew's church, in the Town of Pictou, under the Pastoral charge of the Rev. A. W. Herdman, is at the present time in a more flourishing condition, than at any former period of its history. The discontinuance of ministerial services for some years previous to the arrival of Mr. Herdman, and the secession of a large number of people to the Free Church of Scotland—created a partial disorganization in the temporal, as well as the spiritual affairs of the congregation which required great perseverance and patient endeavour to overcome.

Although the people as a body retained unimpaired their love for the church of their Father's, and were anxious that it should grow and prosper among them, yet the strength of united action and hearty cooperation were wanting, and it was no easy

matter to organize—from the scattered and somewhat discordant elements, which then composed the congregation, an united and energetic body.

That happy result has however been obtained, and we are principally indebted for our present prosperity, to the earnestness and devotion of a few of the lay members of the church, and to the constant and devoted exertions of our minister. The congregation contributes liberally to the various schemes of the church, which they are called upon to assist, and have likewise within the last two years expended a considerable sum of money in repairing and improving their church. We have recently at an expense of over £100 altered the arrangement of the pews in the lower part of the church by means of which the comfort of the people is greatly increased, and the collection of church stipends much facilitated. During the last winter a lot was purchased by the congregation, upon which a manse is now in course of construction, which is estimated to cost about £600, and which will be completed about the month of October next.

It is pleasantly situated at a convenient distance from the church. And we hope that when finished it will afford an acceptable and agreeable residence to our respected Pastor, and operate as an inducement to the younger members of the congregation, to continue, and if possible exceed the efforts, which their fathers are now making, to advance the prosperity of this congregation.

From this short review you will perceive that an increasing interest in the welfare and prosperity of the church is evinced by the people of this place. On the last Sabbath of June, our Sacrament was dispensed in English and Gaelic. The Rev. J. Scett, of St. Matthew's, Halifax, assisted in the former whose fervour of devotion, and spirituality of matter, made a most favourable impression. His sermon on "following the Lamb," on Sabbath evening was felt to be exceedingly appropriate. The Gaelic Labourers, Messrs. MacGillivray, and MacKay, edified their audiences. The assemblage was large, especially considering New Glasgow held their Sacrament on the same day, and altogether it was a comfortable and refreshing season.

May God grant His blessing with the means now in operation, and to their favourable signs grant his own spirit that souls may be converted and many gathered to Christ.—*Com.*

We are obliged to omit our summary of news for this month. Scotch Education Bill lost in the House of Lords, 80 to 3.

THE FREE GAELIC CHURCH, PERTH.—There has been a dispute among the members of this church, arising out of a difference of opinion as to whether one or more Gaelic sermons should be preached on the course of the Sabbath. The result has been that a disruption of the congregation has taken place, and that about 100 communicants, besides others, have come back to the Established Church. The Presbytery of Perth have made an application to the Home Mission Fund.

BAPTISM OF THE INFANT DAUGHTER OF THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF STAFFORD.—Florence, the infant daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Stafford, was baptised on Saturday, by the Rev. Dr. Cumming, minister of the Scotch National Church, Crown Court, Covent Garden.