

fyng as they are encouraging to those who have ever taken a deep interest in this branch of the Synod's Home Missionary operations :—

Mr. MACLAREN.—This excellent catechist has been continuing to prosecute his useful labours during the year, among the Gaelic population on the confines of the counties of Perth, Stirling, and Dumbarton.—“I generally,” he says, in a communication lately received from him, “devote the week to visiting the sick, conversing with the aged, and in calling upon families in which I have the opportunity of communicating religious instruction. On Sabbath, I hold two meetings as formerly, in different places. The parishes which I have visited during the year are the following :—viz., Kilmadock, Port-of-Monteith, Callander, Balquhiddy, and Aberfoyle. In the first of these parishes, there is only one place, namely, Drimnack, a small village in which I hold meetings. These are attended by a number of Highlanders who reside in the village, who are very grateful for my visits, as they seldom have the benefit of religious instruction in their native language. In the parish of the Port, there are four places where I regularly hold meetings with the people. There being no other provision in this parish for meeting the spiritual wants of the Gaelic population, the people are thankful for the opportunities of instruction which are afforded, and our meetings are all well attended. In Callander parish there are ten places where I visit—some of which, owing to the extent of the parish, are so far as 19 miles from the parish Church. In Aberfoyle, I have four different Stations.—In general, I may say, that my reception, in all the localities, which I visit, is gratifying in a high degree. Prejudices against Dissenters in every quarter are giving way. Though I would ever wish to speak with caution as to the good done through my weak instrumentality, still I humbly trust that my labours have not been altogether in vain. The marked attention which is discovered by the people to what is said when addressing them on the all-important concerns of the soul and of eternity—the wistful look, and sometimes the silent-rolling tear, are all symptoms of awakened interest, and encourage me to hope that salutary impressions are produced. May the spirit of all grace seal these impressions, and give in due time the promised increase !”

INVERNESS.—This congregation continues to prosper under the pastoral care of the Rev. Alexander Munro, by whom, when he was acting as a Missionary, the Congregation was formed, and who is now its regular appointed minister. Mr. Munro, whose exertions on behalf of the Gaelic population are well known, labours in the sphere where providence has cast his lot, with indefatigable zeal and activity ; and, in an eminent degree, God seems to be blessing his labours. The membership of the Congregation is now 40—a number which, considering the terms of admission to our communion, and the general habits of the people in the North in regard to communicating,—forms a very respec-