

Laing has been called as unable, owing to illness, was read by Professor that the Moderator's

cestry. His paternal Edinburgh, and his Letham and Water-aval supplies during y. His father was a ie, of Tarbet House, e on the 24th March, inburgh when he was e years. It was here rship for which he is h. Edinburgh High eputation, and John nstitution under the holar and instructor sition in the Rector's ada, settling in the young John Laing ot divert him from s he taught school, 48 he entered Knox niversity College. l obtained some of the time of his con-ears as tutor and

credit Mr. Laing Presbytery of the hurch of Scotland. e was ordained in e the congregation led to the Church d success. While art in the general at has now grown oing so much for ly owing to Mr. . The scheme is n as he proposed ducted. In 1871 ke the raising of was only carried at Ottawa, now e, a position for into his present omfort and suc-

ss, giving to his people the matured fruits of his lengthened and ened experience, and where he is highly and deservedly esteemed his personal worth and for his work's sake.

For many years Dr. Laing has taken a deep interest in educational work. Since their first establishment he has been on County Boards Examiners, and was for years examiner in Victoria University, as o in Knox College. In all the stirring educational questions of the y he has been an active and energetic participant. The views he has consistently maintained on the chief matters of controversy are so ear cut and so well defined that his position in regard to these are oroughly understood. He has advocated through good and through ad report an unsectarian religious system of national education. He as strenuously opposed every concession to ultramontane demands in onnection with our school system. In ecclesiastical matters Dr. aing has ever taken an active and independent part. According to e dictates of conscience, he has pursued his course, advocating or oping measures irrespective of the support they might receive in church courts, which, in his view, were for the best interests of the church. He has always commanded the respect of his ministerial rethren for the high personal worth and spotless integrity he has niformly maintained. The Canadian Colleges may have intended to ecognize his deserts, but they were anticipated by Rutger's College, ew Brunswick, N. J., which, in 1883, conferred on him the degree of D. D., to which his scholarship, general attainments and devoted services ully entitled him. Long may he be spared to wear his deserved honours and to labour with yet more abundant success in the service of his Divine Master.

HOME MISSIONS.

The Home Mission operations of the Church are carried on in accordance with the principle that the strong ought to help in bearing the burdens of the weak. If self-sustaining congregations confined their energies exclusively to their own maintenance, the cause of Presbyterianism would not long continue to hold its own. It is essential for the healthy spiritual life of the churches that steady, well-sustained, aggressive effort be maintained. Not alone in this vast country, where change of location is constantly taking place, would large members be lost to the Presbyterian Church, but, what is of still more moment, to Christianity itself. The Foreign Mission cause has received a great impetus of late years, and in this all true Christians heartily rejoice; but it must be apparent that increased activity in one department of Christian effort will not compensate for remissness or indifference in others. The claims of the heathen world are undeniably urgent, but the waste places within our own borders are no less dependent on us for the supply of Gospel ordinances. If those who have first claims upon us are neglected, who is to undertake the work for which we are primarily held responsible?