

CORRESPONDENCE.

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.

27th.—Visited Palace Hospital; all my people improving in health there. Added 6 to my list, 5 of whom have just come from the Crimea. All seemed most thankful for books and tracts.

28th.—Visited nearly the whole of my men in the General Hospital. 4 apparently dying—2 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 4 Presbyterians whom I had not before seen. Visited also the Sable Hospital; all there doing well.

DEATH OF THE REV. DR. BREWSTER.—It is our painful duty to announce the death of the Rev. George Brewster, D.D., minister of the parish of Seconie. The deceased, though failing in health these twelve months past, had been able to perform the duties of his charge till within a few days of his death. He officiated at his parochial communion on Sabbath se'night, and on the 13th instant he attended a meeting of the Presbytery of Kirkcaldy. Last Friday afternoon he was taken unwell, and continued indisposed till Wednesday, the 20th instant, without any very alarming symptoms, when, at 3 p. m., the rev. gentleman got worse and very suddenly was called to his last account. This dire stroke has, we need hardly say, thrown his family into deep affliction and distress, and not merely his family but also his numerous and affectionate parishioners, and a large circle of clerical and lay friends both in and out of the county. By one and all the deceased was dearly beloved as a faithful pastor and an attached friend. To his family and people, and to his brethren in the Presbytery, the loss of the deceased is a most severe bereavement.—*Fife-shire Journal.*

PRESENTATIONS.—The Queen has presented the Rev. James Mitchell to the parish of Peterhead in the Presbytery of Deer; and the Rev. John McCrae Sandilands to the Parish of Urr, Presbytery of Dumfries.

THE REV. JAMES PENNELL, assistant to the Rev. Wm. Robertson, New Greyfriars, Edinburgh, has been presented to the church and parish of St. Andrews, Dunfermline, vacant by the translation of the Rev. David Nichol to the parish of Dalgety.

INDUCTION.—On Thursday last the Presbytery of Dumfries met at Kirkbean for the purpose of inducting the Rev. John Inches Dickson, of the High Parish, Paisley, to the church and parish of Kirkbean. The Rev. Mr. Stephen, of Terregles, presided and conducted the services. The attendance was large, and the new minister received a hearty welcome.

THE NEW CHURCH AT SANDYFORD.—We are enabled to state definitely and with authority that the Rev. Mr. Macduff, of St. Madoes, has agreed to accept the pastoral charge of this new church. The necessary means are being adopted for obtaining a constitution, and Mr. Macduff's translation will take place towards autumn. We may congratulate the subscribers to the new church, and the Church of Scotland at large, on the prospect of so able, zealous and popular a minister being speedily settled in this locality.—*Constitutional.*

This Church was opened for public worship on Sabbath, the Rev. Norman McLeod preaching in the forenoon from Numbers xiv. 21; the Rev. John Caird in the afternoon from John iii. 7 and 8; and Rev. Dr. McCulloch in the evening from Isaiah lxiv. 11, first clause—"Our holy and beautiful home." The collections, forenoon and afternoon, amounted to upwards of £120.

[The conductors of "*The Presbyterian*" do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed in the communications that may from time to time appear under this head.]

FROM A WESTERN CORRESPONDENT.

[To the Editor of the *Presbyterian*.]

DEAR SIR,—Will you permit me to submit a few enquiries or peradventure suggestions through your periodical for the consideration of those who are engaged in promoting the welfare of our Zion? With the blessing of the energizing Spirit of God they may tend to good.

At the recent meeting of our Synod there seemed to be an intimation *hinted* that in your part of the Province a well organized plan was about to be developed, which would operate in systematically drawing out the benevolent and Christian aid of our people in the support and extension of the ordinances of the Gospel among us. From a fund raised by the liberality of the willing-hearted the lack of endowment to any of the present or future ministerial labourers in our Provincial Church, it appeared to be expected, could be supplied. While the disposition and habit of our members and adherents would be greatly improved in the department of communicating, such a "scheme," we may be confident, will be welcomed by every "wise-hearted" disciple of Jesus belonging to us.

The Synod was much affected on having its attention invited to the solemn bereavements with which it had pleased Him, who is "Head over all things," to visit it since last ordinary meeting. Within about 6 months not less than 5 ministerial brethren had been removed from the Church on earth. Alas! during the recent Session a sixth was added to the number, "was taken sick and within a week passed away from earth, and its trials and duties." We cannot, as a Church, be too much humbled under the rod of chastisement. It behoves every one of us to "repent in dust and ashes," to cherish contrition of spirit, and more than ever to "work while it is day," seeing "the night cometh, when no man can work."

Most anxiously it is hoped that something special will be done with a view to supply the places of these departed servants of Christ, and to meet the urgent necessities of the many vacant congregations that look to us for the ministry of the Gospel. Could not a vigorous effort be made among the preachers and divinity-students of the Mother Church to obtain a goodly and seasonable re-inforcement of suitable labourers for the abundant harvest that must yet be reaped? If a delegate were sent to plead with Christian and deep-felt earnestness the wants and claims of our Church in the divinity-halls and among the licentiates and min-

isters of the Church in Scotland, surely the appeal would not be in vain. Would it not be responded to by some of those Christian men who have consecrated themselves to the Lord for the work of winning souls and edifying the body of Christ? Would there not be found those who, actuated by the missionary spirit in the service of their loved Master, would say, "Here are we, send us?" Certainly it were unwarranted and faithless to conclude that an effort, such as that now proposed, would issue only in disappointment and bitterness. If our delegate were to visit the various "Halls," say in January next; address and press the students with an especial reference to Canada; confer with their Missionary Associations; enquire after promising preachers or ministers willing to devote themselves to the Colonial field, putting himself into correspondence with them; and plead our cause in the next General Assembly, assuredly we might expect good fruits of such labour. Let all this be accompanied by faithful prayer by all "the seed of Jacob" pertaining to us, and verily it will succeed. In any case we would have the comfort of feeling that we had done what we could. Will nothing of this kind be attempted? Let me solicit you, Mr. Editor, to use your best exertions to bring it before the notice of those who can act in this business.

Turning now to the subject of Sabbath Schools, it is refreshing to perceive advancement there in the right direction. I understand that we have Sabbath-teachers and scholars in Montreal and Kingston who intend to support some of the interesting young inmates of the Orphanages at Cochin and Calcutta in connection with our Church. Others may have engaged or may soon engage in the same good work. The openings present a most inviting call. If five pounds currency be sufficient to maintain an orphan at one of these Institutions, many a Sabbath School within our borders could in the course of a year raise this sum. What an endearing relation would the orphan, thus upheld, sustain to her youthful patrons! How improving and elevating the intercommunications to which it would lead! *Undoubtedly the obligation of giving to the cause of our Lord should be taught our children and youth in the Sabbath School.* This is a part of their Christian education and training which it is wrong to omit. Opportunities should be afforded them periodically of contributing for the highest good of their less favoured fellow-sinners. What hinders the constituting of every Sabbath School a Juvenile Missionary Association?

So soon as such a proposal as this is being carried out, the necessity is felt of intelligence bearing upon the state and progress of Christianity in the World at this time. What a field here opens up for the enlightened instructor of the young of our Sabbath Class! Here may be introduced