

Labrador. However, no grateful well-remembered smell of herring came to my expectant nostrils. It finds a difficulty I suppose, in coming up round the earth's spherical corner. And now having coasted past Moidart, and the terrible jaws of Loch Honru, and sunny Glenelg, we had better land on the opposite shore of Skye and spend a few days seeing the lions of—what my friend Brown persists in facetiously styling the celestial regions; of course never failing to laugh at his wit, that however being only a modest tribute which bad punsters seldom fail to bestow on their own detestable bantings.

The climate of Skye is wonderfully mild, and marvellously moist. Of all misty, sappy atmospheres, surely that of Skye ranks as "facile princeps." I have known scores of tourists who visited it in July, August, and September to see the Coolin hills, and who never saw anything but fogging clouds of mist. "Skia nebulosa" it was hailed as—by Dr. Johnson; and "Skia nebulosa" it still remains. But all this had been enquired into beforehand by the experienced and sagacious tourist who records these notes; and he had been informed by a Skyeman that May was the month; and hugely did he therefore congratulate himself when on drawing near to the island he saw the snow-covered ridges and fantastic peaks of Coolin clear-cut against a dull blue sky. But there are more features of Skye which strike a stranger than its rocks and mountains. Several of its social and economic aspects are sufficiently novel. Thus at whatever hour you enter the town of Portree, you are sure to see a number sturdy fellows lounging about the pier, who would rather be idle, than do a hand's turn for you except at their own price. Then go into the country, and perhaps the first object that meets your eyes is, two women harnessed to a harrow or to a mass of brush, and harrowing away most scientifically. Or perhaps it is a "charred and wrinkled piece of woman-wood," bent almost double under a load of peats, that a degenerate Southron could not lift; or toiling up from the shore with a great basketful of drift sea-weed for manure. True, the rough Highland pony is often used to do the harrowing; and once or twice, I suppose in the case of cotters who are troubled with a superfluity of wealth. I have seen two ponies used, the sole harness connecting the two being a rope knotted round the tail of the leader, and extending back round the neck of the other. But in general, the Islesman seems to think that his wife and daughters will find work in the field a congenial task; and said womankind seem to have no objection,—rather to like it on the contrary. Hence the sort of savage humor in the remark of the Lewisman who was sorrowing over his wife whom he had just lost. "I will marry again," blubbered the bereaved husband, "or else buy a horse." The old geographer, Peter Heylyn, tells us that it was

the fashion of Russian women in his day "to love that husband best which beateth them most, and to think themselves neither loved, nor regarded, unless they be two or three times a day well favorably swaddled." The description might apply to some of the Hebrideans, if "worketh" were put for "beateth," and "harnessed" for "swaddled." But how would the "Equal rights for women Society" of modern days like either custom? And yet in spite of all, I by no means accuse the Islesmen sweepingly as loafers or lazy. When put to a piece of work, they go at it with a will. They make capital fishermen, hardy sailors, and right gallant soldiers. Every spring and autumn, great numbers migrate southwards to get work and bring home money and little luxuries. But the impulsive Celtic nature dislikes the monotonous labor of the patient agriculturist. He frets and fies at it; and all his heat will not plough a single additional rig; so he gives over the whole concern to the women, the children and the old men.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN CANADA.

TRICENTENARY OF THE SCOTTISH REFORMATION.

The Report of the Committee on the celebration of the Tricentenary of the Scottish Reformation having been called for was read by the Clerk. The Committee recommended the Synod to set apart the evening of Monday next to the hearing of addresses on the following subjects;—On the principal characters that figured in the Scottish Reformation by the Rev. James Bain, of Scarborough: (2) on the leading results of the Scottish Reformation, by Professor George: and (3), on the responsibility and duty of our Church in Canada, in connection with the Reformation by the Rev. George Bell, of Clifton. The Committee also recommended the Synod to instruct all the ministers of this Church to direct the attention of their people to the character and results of the Scottish Reformation by appropriate discourses to be delivered on the sixteenth day of December next—the Sabbath next preceding the day on which the first General Assembly was held at Edinburgh. The Synod adopt the report, and instruct the Clerk to communicate the latter recommendation to the Moderator of the other Presbyterian Synods in this Province, and express the desire of this Court that these Synods would include a like arrangement in the mode of celebration, and further instruct the Clerk to send a printed extract of the said recommendation to each minister of the Church in sufficient time before the 16th of December next.

FORMATION OF A GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Synod called for the report of the Com-