

that occasion the court gave a new and explicit statement of their sentiments. Men who understood the case better dissented from that decision for the following satisfactory reasons.

"1. Because the relevancy of the doctrine charged is *not* asserted in the decision, and therefore it seems still left uncertain whether or not it is in the estimation of this Synod an error to maintain that the Lord Jesus Christ has 'made atonement or satisfaction for the sins of men.'

"2. Because the character of the Church *cannot stand fair* in the eyes of the religious community, so long as it is uncertain whether or not she adheres unequivocally to, and testifies as becomes her, in behalf of the vital doctrine that on all those for whom Christ died he certainly bestows salvation.

"3. Because the doctrine of our Lord's atonement is the doctrine on which every Christian rests his hopes and his eternal welfare, and therefore for its own sake every decision affecting it ought to be clear and unequivocal.

"4. Because the latter part of the decision seems to imply that unless Christ has in some sense made atonement for all men, there can be no foundation laid in his death for a full, sincere, and consistent offer of the gospel to all mankind—a doctrine which the dissentients emphatically deny, holding as they do, that the salvation offered freely and fully to all men in the gospel is none other than the *perfect salvation* which the Saviour has wrought out in the room of his peculiar people."

Was it because the brethren of the Presbyterian Synod themselves felt that the character of the United Secession after such a mode of dealing with such a libel, could not stand fair in the eyes of the religious community that, when that body along with the Relief was formed into the United Presbyterian Church, they resolved as Mr. Trotter intimates, "that ministers coming from that Church should undergo an examination on certain points, before being admitted among us?"—a proposal which he regarded as so very presumptuous when made by the Free Synod. Their having resolved upon such a proceeding shows that even the Presbyterian Synod had had their confidence shaken in the soundness of the body. How far security could be thus obtained for the soundness of the individuals admitted will be best understood when the Synod will publish the sifting examinations which have been submitted to, and the satisfactory answers which have been received in the case of all the ministers that have come to them from Scotland within the last four years.

#### FREE PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

This Court held their ordinary meeting here on the fifth current.

The Rev. James Adam from Bermuda being present made an interesting statement with regard to the present condition and prospects of the congregation there. Having learned that Mr. McLaren, who was expected from Scotland for that charge had resigned his appointment, he urged the claims of Bermuda for a continued supply to the full extent of the means of the Presbytery. With a view to ascertain what means are available, the Presbytery appointed Messrs King, Duff, and Adam, a committee to deal with Mr. Romans on the subject. They tendered their thanks through the Moderator to Mr. Adam for his valuable services at Bermuda and appointed the Moderator to write to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church in behalf of that congregation.

The following supplies were appointed.

- May 9th. Dartmouth—Mr. King.
- " " St. John's—Mr. Lyall.
- " 16th. Dartmouth—Mr. Lyall.
- " " St. John's—Mr. King.
- " 23d. Dartmouth—Mr. Lyall.
- " " St. John's—Mr. Lyall.
- " " Lawrencetown—Mr. King.
- " " Suckville—Mr. Sutherland.
- " 30th. Dartmouth—Mr. King.
- " " St. John's—Mr. King.
- June 6th. Dartmouth—Mr. King.
- " " St. John's—Mr. King.
- " " Goodwood—Mr. Murray.
- " 13th. Dartmouth—Mr. King.
- " " St. John's—Mr. King.
- " 20th. Dartmouth—Mr. King.
- " " St. John's—Mr. Lyall.

The Committee appointed to examine Messrs. George Sutherland and John Alexander Ross having given in a favourable report, the Presbytery resolved to apply to the Synod for leave to take these students on public trials for license.

The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held on Tuesday the 22d day of June at eleven o'clock forenoon.

#### SUSTENTATION OF THE MINISTRY.

The Convener of the Synod's Committee on this subject begs to call the attention of the Church to its importance, and to remind Presbyteries that the object for which the Committee was appointed will be defeated for the present year, if they are not careful to see that answers are timeously returned to the Queries that have been transmitted.

#### LETTER FROM SECRETARY OF THE COLLEGE BOARD.

(To the Editor of the Record.)

Halifax, 22nd May, 1852.

DEAR SIR,

I troubled you in a former number with a few remarks respecting the College Fund, but am sorry to say that it seems to have