

ance to such a sentiment, and what is more, I believe it was incorrect, I believe that the greater part of the subscribers were ignorant that we had got any thing from Halifax, and that their liberality flowed in the sincere desire of seeing the Church at Moncton prosper. I used the expression at the moment without giving it much consideration, and, at most, meant to say, in a strong way, that I believed that the example of Halifax had not been without its effect on St. John as I trust the example of St. John will not be without its effect on other places. This was stating a perfectly christian and scriptural motive, but even this, I admit, I had no right to say, for I had no ground for doing so, save that it is well known that, in such cases, a good example has a good effect.

By publishing this explanatory letter in the next number of the Monthly Record you will oblige, Rev. and dear Sir,

Yours truly,

WILLIAM MURRAY.

Rev. John Martin.

Editor of the Halifax Monthly Record.

Presbytery of Halifax.

A meeting of the Presbytery of Halifax, in connection with the Church of Scotland, was held in St. Matthew's church, on Wednesday the 1st of October, and was constituted by prayer. Present—the Rev. John Scott, moderator, and the Rev. John Martin, ministers. Mr. John Watt presented his commission as representative Elder from St. Matthew's church session, which being sustained, his name was ordered to be added to the roll. Mr. James Thomson, being present as the late representative of St. Andrew's church session, was invited to sit as a member of the court, till a representative be chosen by that session for the current year.

The Moderator reported that, in obedience to the injunctions of Presbytery, he had preached in St. Andrew's church, on Sabbath the 20th July, and intimated the Church vacant in consequence of Mr. Martin's resignation of that charge on his appointment to the office of superintendent of Missions. Mr. Martin stated that, as directed by the Presbytery, he had supplied St. Andrew's pulpit regularly till the arrival of Missionaries from Scotland, who had since furnished a supply of sermon, till the present time.

The Rev. James Wilson, ordained Missionary, and the Rev. George Boyd, Preacher of the Gospel, were then introduced to the Presbytery by the Rev. Mr. Martin, and having presented extracts of their license and other documents, and of their appointments by the Colonial Committee as Missionaries within the bounds of the Synod

of Nova Scotia, which were read and considered highly satisfactory, they were admitted as preachers within the bounds, and assured that the Presbytery were desirous to render them all due support, assistance and encouragement in the Lord.

The superintendent of Missions then reported that he had visited and preached at a number of places in the vicinity of Halifax and on the railroad, and he recommended the following as suitable preaching stations which claimed particular attention from this court: Lawrencetown, Rutherford's School House, Truro Road, Little River, Musquodoboit, and Meagher's Grant. The Presbytery received this report with much satisfaction, approved of Mr. Martin's diligence in visiting these stations, and directed Messrs. Wilson and Boyd to supply St. Andrew's church pulpit and the forementioned stations alternately till the next ordinary meeting. The Presbytery appointed the Moderator to meet with and moderate in the session of St. Andrew's church till next meeting. There being no other business before the court the Presbytery then adjourned, to meet in this place on the first Wednesday of November, and the proceedings were closed with prayer.

Notice.

Induced by encouraging promises of increased support from various quarters in this and the adjoining Provinces, the Proprietors of this Periodical have decided upon continuing its publication for another year. They must, however, still urge upon their numerous Agents and friends, the necessity of endeavoring to increase the circulation of the Paper; and, with the Editor, they promise in return to do all in their power to render it a useful and permanent auxiliary in the advancement of the interests and welfare of our Church, as also a welcome visitant in every family.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

Reformatory Institutions for Juvenile Delinquents.

The objects of the National Reformatory Union are now no doubt, fully understood. For years persons concerned in the administration of justice have deplored their own inability to remedy a great evil. They have seen children of tender age brought before them charged with begging and pilfering in the streets. They have seen boys little more advanced in life placed in the dock to answer for such offences as theft, house-breaking, and even highway robbery and horse stealing. The whole apparatus of criminal justice was brought into action to punish an ignorant, depraved, and stunted child. Judges, counsel, attorneys, clerks, and witnesses were engaged an hour or more

while the charge of felony was made out against the miserable little creature, who had formerly pleaded "Not Guilty," and would be presently asked what he had to say why he should not receive judgment according to law. How deficient and inapplicable the sentence would be every one knew. The boy could hardly be called a fit object for punishment in the sense of retribution. What notion had he of morality or law? Born in a cellar, brought up by a burglar or footpad father and a mother drunken or worse, crime had been his only notion of an occupation. He had looked to stealing as his natural maintenance, and his highest conception of an exploit was a skilful evasion of the police. Yet till lately there was nothing but to sentence him according to act of Parliament. Great latitude is allowed to Judges, and it is unnecessary to say that the Court could not pass a severe sentence on a child; the prisoner had his one month's or three months' imprisonment, and there was an end of the matter. But all accustomed to the business knew what must be the result. The boy would go into prison bad, and come out worse, or at least in a worse position. The brand of felony would be on him. He would have graduated to crime, and become permanently a member of the out-cast class which lives by depredation. In a short time he would be in Court again. A former conviction would be put in, and the Judge, with some severe remarks, would sentence him to six or twelve months of confinement. Released, he would be at his old work again, till, in early manhood, his career was closed by the hulks, the penal colony, or the gallows. It was impossible to allow this to go on without some attempt at a cure. Three years since transportation was partially abolished, and prison discipline at home substituted as a punishment. To relieve the jails, rather than from any higher motive, it was determined to grant freedom to convicts long before the full term of their sentences had been accomplished. But, in order to avoid the evils which the presence of released felons causes in other countries, it was necessary to try some scheme of reformation for both young and adults. For the latter the period of imprisonment is alone available, but children might be legitimately placed under tutelage, even without the commission of an offence. Every parent has a right to send his son to a school or to bind him apprentice, and the State might fairly exercise this power when it was neglected by the natural guardians. So the Legislature at length determined to interfere. By the law, as it stands now, magistrates may send boys not exceeding sixteen years of age to reformatories for a period not longer than five years. The State grants weekly 5s for the support of each, and endeavours to recover the sum from the parents of the child. These may be summoned and compelled to pay, if able, and so far as the law has been carried into effect, it is found that a very large proportion of the parents are able, and will on compulsion pay the sum