

of prosecuting the effort to secure a Fund, as there is no reason to expect ministers and deputations from that quarter as in times past. The Colonial Committee are still anxious to contribute their help, and as they have been hitherto supporting the Professors, so they give their countenance to the plan of securing premises for the College and the Academy; but it is in the understanding that we zealously prosecute the scheme of raising a Fund for the endowment of the College.

In the providence of God the infant institution has met with sore trials. These may have been permitted to befall us for our humbling, to repress vain boasting, to make us look more closely to the state of our own hearts, to try our steadfastness in adhering to what we profess to regard as the principles of God's word. Let us lay to heart the lessons which our trials are so well fitted to teach. There may be those who would wish the annihilation of the College Fund, and of the College itself. Let it be the part nevertheless of every friend of the Free Church to labour for its support. Let us aim at a closer walk with God, let us be conscientious in applying to his service a due portion of the means which he himself has bestowed upon us, and let us with all earnestness pray for the blessing of him whose blessing alone can make any institution prosper.

Owing to the general depression which has been experienced since the starting of the College Scheme, and in part also, perhaps, to the mistake as to the rate of contribution of which Mr. Stewart complains, as we have noticed in a preceding article, so little progress has been made in securing an adequate Fund, that no person now can entertain the idea that it is to be completed within the course of next year. Our object, however, must be to persevere in our efforts to raise a Fund; and as the rate of the contributions hitherto cannot have been very burdensome to those who have been making them, so there need be no great difficulty in continuing them for some time longer.

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From the Free Church Missionary Record.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The College and the Church of Nova Scotia have sustained a severe blow in the death of Mrs. Mackay of Rockfield. This lady took a warm and active interest in the religious state of Cape Breton, exerting her-

self in providing churches, schools, Bibles, and libraries for its inhabitants, and also, by her own contributions and those of her friends, raised an annual sum of £65 for bursaries to deserving students. The withdrawal of such generosity is a calamity which the Church and College of Nova Scotia are as yet ill prepared to bear; and it is earnestly to be desired that God would put it into the heart of some one to consider the present wants and the future prospects of that country, and to devise such liberal things as shall, at least, prevent the studies of any of the deserving youth from being interrupted or abandoned. Nothing is more important for the permanent prosperity of the Free Church in Nova Scotia than the efficient maintenance of its college; and whilst, at present, its congregations are striving to raise, before the next two years shall have expired, an endowment fund, there is very special reason why its friends in Scotland should not only respond to their appeal for aid to put them in possession of a suitable building, but should also willingly bestow the small sum that is required for the maintenance of a part of its students. This is a kind of transition period for it. By consideration and generous assistance now given, it will, we trust, be in a few years placed in such circumstances as to be beyond the need of so urgently soliciting from us either money or men.

NEW ZEALAND.

STATE AND PROSPECTS OF PRESBYTERIANISM.

The three principal islands of the New Zealand group are, together, somewhat larger in area than Great Britain, but considerably less than Great Britain and Ireland united.* The entire native population of these islands, according to a recent despatch of the governor-general, is estimated at 120,000. There are "nine principal European settlements, besides smaller dependencies of these. The largest of the settlements contains about 7000 European inhabitants, and their total European population may be stated at 20,000 souls. These settlements are scattered over a distance of 800 miles of latitude; they are separated from each other by wide intervals; and communication, even for persons on horseback, exists only between three of them. Their inhabitants are chiefly British subjects, but there are amongst them many Americans, French, and Germans." A very large number are Scotch. We have no means at hand of ascertaining the precise proportion. But year by year hundreds of our emigrating countrymen avail themselves of the inviting openings for industry which New Zealand

* The area of New Zealand is computed at 95,000 square miles, that of Great Britain at about 90,000, and that of Ireland at 32,000.