

Rev. Dr. McGregor has been advised by his physician to go away for a months rest. Any one who knows anything of the many and varied duties, the work and the incessant care in connection with his office, his constant application to these duties with scarce any relief for several years past and the efficiency with which these duties have been discharged will realize how necessary must be the rest and will hope that health and strength may be greatly improved by the change.

It is written of Samson that "the dead which he slew in his death were more than those which he slew in his life. The same thing has been true since his day. Garfield's death by the assassin's hand was felt as a great loss, but there is no doubt that it was a national good. Antagonisms which would have yielded to nought else disappeared before it. The good of all parties rallied more loyally for the common cause of their country's welfare.

The sad death of Gordon, that good soldier, at once of his country and the cross, is no doubt an instance of a similar kind. He was to be rescued and the army was to retire. He was slain. The nation is aroused, as it has not been for years, and it is not difficult to foresee that the result will be the taking of Khartoum, the overthrow of the Mahdi, and instead of tyranny and lawlessness, there will be established a safe and just government over the vast territory of the Soudan. Better still the slave trade of which Khartoum has long been a centre, and which has dragged its ten thousands every year from their homes to be driven in chained gangs across the desert, three-fourths of them perishing by the way, the remainder to end their days in bondage, will be stopped. Instead of the slave hunter will go the missionary telling of deliverance from bondage to sin, his progress marked not by tears and blood but by the glad songs of those whom Christ hath made free.

We have received the annual report of the St. John Presbyterian Church, Yarmouth, a neat pamphlet giving a complete *resume* of all the work of the church in all its departments during the fifteen months ending Dec. 31st, 1884. The contributions are as follows:—

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|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday collections, &c., . . . . .    | \$2,852.47 |
| Schemes of the Church, &c. . . . .    | 295.78     |
| For Choir purposes, . . . . .         | 200.00     |
| Sunday School . . . . .               | 229.06     |
| Rent paid by Ladies' Aid Soc. . . . . | 100.00     |

\$3,677.31

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|----------------------------------|-------|
| Sales of Church Report . . . . . | 1.35  |
| Donations . . . . .              | 30.00 |

Total \$3,708.66

We give in this issue a number of H. M. Reports. They are, properly speaking, notes, appended to the tabular returns which every catechist is required to fill in with the statistics of his field and his work in it.

Mr. A. B. Dickie has positively declined to accept a call from the congregation of Stellarton. The congregation in no way discouraged is looking elsewhere and going on with a call.

Rev. J. S. Carruthers has accepted a call to St. James Church, Charlottetown. He and his present charge separate with mutual regret, but he goes to an important field where there is urgent need. Knox Church has flourished since his settlement. It is hoped that St. James Church will prosper even more abundantly.

#### PRESBYTERY OF ST. JOHN.

The regular meeting took place at St. John on Tuesday in St. Andrew's church. The call by the Carleton church by Rev. William Stewart was sustained. The following were elected delegates to the general assembly: Clerical—Drs. Smith, Johnston, J. McG. McKay, Macrae, Hogg and Bruce, Laymen—Messrs. Forbes, Johnston, Coburn, Cowan, Cruikshank and Weir.

A standing rule was ordered to the effect that all moderators of session *pro tem* be empowered to moderate in calls. Mr. Forbes brought forward a plan by which poor congregations would be assisted in church erection. Referred to a committee.