

mouth, where might be a Micmac school for the Indians, and also for any young men desirous of learning the language for the purpose of labouring among them as Missionaries; and he expresses no doubt that the funds will be forthcoming, if not here, in England, or some other part of the world.

This last observation of Mr. Rand, Dr. C. remarked, seemed almost prophetic, for a lively interest had already been excited in England in favour of the Micmac Mission, and a sum of upwards of £15 contributed towards it through the kind endeavours of the Rev. Dr. Twining when recently in that country. He regretted that Dr. T. was not present, as it was hoped he would be; but he should call on the Secretary, the Rev. Mr. McGregor, to give a more particular account of the proceedings in England.

The Rev. Mr. McGregor then gave this information, by which it appears that, in addition to the contributions above named, a Committee of gentlemen of high distinction was formed for the purpose of further action.

The following are the names of that Committee, and the public will, doubtless, be happy to see among them those of gentlemen well known in Nova Scotia.

COMMITTEE.

General Sir Peregrine Maitland, G. C. B.
Sir Nicholas Chinnery, Bart.,
Capt. Sir Edward Parry, R. N.,
Capt. the Hon. Francis Maude,
Rev. Henry Venn, (Sec. of the Ch. Miss. So.)
Major Forrester, 52nd Regt.
Thomas D. Archibald, Esq.
John G. Malcolm, Esq.
H. S. Waddington, Esq.

A letter from Dr. Twining was also read, regretting his unavoidable absence from the meeting, after which Mr. Gordon, a student in the Free Church College in this City, gave some interesting and acceptable statements respecting his visits among the Indians, and several instances in which a deep concern on the subject of Religion was shown by them.

Prayer was then offered by the Rev. Mr. Evans of the Wesleyan Church, and by the Rev. Mr. Nicol of the Church of Scotland, and, the benediction being sung, the meeting separated with the appearance of high satisfaction at the success which had so far attended this long neglected effort to evangelize the aboriginal natives of this Province.—

Christian Messenger.

PICTOU AUXILIARY OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—Within the brief space of one short year the President (the late George Smith, Esq.) a Vice-President (the late Rev. John McKinlay), and a leading member of the Committee (Mr. T. G. Taylor), have been called into another world; and it is only to Him, who holds in His hands the issue of life and death, that we can now look to raise up other friends to lengthen the cords, to strengthen the stakes of this society, and to make it the praise of God throughout the earth.

Our local proceedings may be very soon stated. The books on hand at the last Anniversary was 793 Bibles and 769 Testaments. There have been imported during the year 1015 Testaments, while the issue from our Depository has been 105 Bibles and 312 Testaments, thus having on hand on the 20th of January, 1851, 688 Bibles and 1472 Testaments.

Eighteen Bibles and 12 Testaments have been given gratuitously. Sales have been effected to the amount of £12

1s. 3d., besides what may have been sold by our Branch Societies. During the year £54 stg. has been remitted by the Treasurer to the Parent Society, and the further sum of £50 stg. as a donation from W. Matheson, Esq., who has long been a most liberal contributor towards the circulation of the Gospel.

The Account Current will be laid before the Meeting by the Treasurer. It will be a matter of great joy to know that the services of Mr. Isaac Smith as Travelling Agent are still continued; that his visits are looked for with delight by the people in the various settlements, and that we have undoubted proof that God has prospered the labour of his hands.

Knowing that the time is short, let us all strive while we have time and opportunity, to feel in our own hearts the power and consolations of the Gospel, for then and not till then shall we be truly desirous to proclaim and impart to others the truths which have been the stay and solace of our own souls.—*Extracts from the Report for the year 1850.*

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

THE LATE REV. DR. BLACK OF THE BARONY.

In our last we announced the death of this good man and faithful Minister of the Gospel, who has been cut off comparatively young in years and in the very midst of his usefulness. The tidings have been received in Glasgow with a thrill of regret, not only by the members of his own congregation and communion, but by the public generally, for he was extensively known and universally beloved. Public sympathy will now be transferred to the amiable partner of the deceased, who has been left a widow in a strange land. In a touching letter from that lady to a near relative in this city, with a perusal of which we have been favoured, it is stated—"Nothing could be more peaceful than his death. He had no suffering, and was in perfect possession of all his faculties till the last moment of his life. There were only present at this sad moment Dr. Trotman, our man-servant, and myself. Upon seeing the Doctor looking anxiously at him, the dear sufferer asked him if he thought death was near; and, when he replied that he thought him very weak, he said 'Yes,' and, stretching forth his hand to me, said—"Farewell, farewell." He immediately fell asleep like an infant on its mother's breast, so peaceful that you could not have said when death had come. Two days before his death he expressed a wish that Dr. ——— and Mr. ——— should preach his funeral sermon. His body is to be carried home by the first vessel from Leghorn; and he wished a spot chosen in the Necropolis, overlooking the Barony Church and the Cathedral, in which to be buried. He enjoined a small funeral; for you are aware how much he disliked large ones. I trust nothing will be wanting on your part to show the respect due to the memory of one so justly dear, and whose slightest wish, it is my desire, should be fulfilled. I write to you in the room where he died, beside his dear body, alone, a widow in a strange land; but I desire to bow with submission to God's hand. Nothing distressed my dear husband so much as my excessive grief. No murmur as to himself escaped his lips. He constantly spoke of the kindness and gentleness of his Father's hand in all His dealings with him. He exhibited the most perfect childlike submission either to die or live, as God saw best."

In addition to this very affecting letter we give

the following from the Rev. Mr. Stewart, late of Erskine, addressed to the same relative in this city:—

"Scotch Church, Leghorn,
16th January, 1851.

"My Dear Sir,—It is often the painful duty of Ministers to break bad tidings of heavy loss sustained to surviving relatives, and that is now, I am sorry to say, my case with regard to you. I write at Mrs. Black's request to inform you that your dear friend, Dr. Black, fell asleep in Jesus last night at 9 o'clock. He has sunk very rapidly indeed during the last fortnight, and during the last week he has been fully aware that his case was hopeless. I saw him on Wednesday week, having gone up to Florence on purpose, and was much shocked by the change which three weeks had produced on him. I told him then that the medical men thought very badly of his case; but before that he had been speaking with Mrs. Black about the probability of his dying abroad. I promised to go up and see him again yesterday, and I found him much worse, though he had rallied considerably from what he was on Monday. He told me he felt much worse since I had seen him the previous week. He was weak but perfectly sensible; only a little difficulty in speaking from want of breath. After a little talk together he asked me to pray, and then I said to him, 'My dear friend, I trust you are now yourself realising those comforts and promises wherewith you have often comforted the souls of others in dying.' He beckoned Mrs. Black and Miss Cunningham of Prestonfield out of the room, and then said 'Yes, I fully believe all the promises of God, and I feel that I am a poor sinner, and need to hold by them.' Then he said, "When I try to think of God or of Christ in the abstract, my mind won't take it in; but, when I think of Them in Their relation to me as a sinner, I rejoice in that, and realize it." He then said "But sometimes Satan comes on me with temptations and would try to persuade me that the promises of God are all a delusion, and that is very painful." I told him "That was Satan's policy; but you know, greater is He that is with you than all they that can be against you, and none can pluck you out of His hand." He smiled very sweetly and said, "Oh yes, I know that." He spoke more to Mr. Hanna, who resides in Florence constantly, and I was comforted and refreshed by hearing him. And I am glad of it now for your sake, as this was about twelve o'clock yesterday, and he died at nine o'clock.

"Neither the Doctor nor I expected that his death would have been so soon, so I came down with the afternoon train to make arrangements for to go up to-day to remain with him and Mrs. Black till all was over; but God had otherwise arranged it. His kind friend, Mr. Robert Henderson, went up with the afternoon train, and I am most thankful, for Mrs. Black's sake, he was there. I am just starting off for Florence to be with her. She has done a kind wife's duty most faithfully to him, and I feel painfully for her, now left alone in a strange land. Yet not alone. I trust God is with her; and she has many friends amongst us here who are deeply interested about her. I will endeavour as much as possible to soothe her sorrows. The body is to be taken home to Glasgow, and Mr. Henderson has ordered a leaden coffin. The Doctor's only sorrow was for his poor wife, and he earnestly prayed that God would give her grace not to fret. I am sure his people will feel this a severe blow. I deeply sympathise both with you and them. His loss will be generally felt in Glasgow. For himself the loss is unspeakable gain, for now he is forever with the Lord.

"My Dear Sir,
"Very sincerely, and with much sympathy,
"Yours ever,
"ROBERT W. STEWART."

Dr. Black was born at Auchinairn, parish of Cadder, in 1800; was educated chiefly at the Parish school of Cadder and New Monkland; entered the University of Glasgow in 1812; commenced teaching a school at Dykehead, Slam-