

phasi, and looking to the Students' gallery, that it was the tyroes and striplings of the Church that were wanted for this field. These words I have never lost sight of, and, however I have thought that older soldiers might have taken the field with more advantage, your present meeting affords another proof, in addition to the many I have already had, that even the inexperienced will be welcomed, and the humblest efforts acknowledged.

Ministers in Scotland, who have visited you, assured me of the hearty welcome they received at your hands, but I confess I was not prepared to expect a deputation of your number to meet myself on landing. I had heard, again and again, of the attachment of the Colonists to religious ordinances, but I scarcely counted upon the large attendances which I have witnessed since coming to Halifax. And it is an unexpected honour to receive at the hands of so respectable and influential an Association, and one to which the Church of Scotland is so much indebted for her position in the Colonies, to receive at your hands the highly complimentary address, which has just been made to me. I must attribute these expressions of personal regard and esteem, to your devoted attachment to the Church of our Fathers; sensible as I am of the many imperfections which attach to my humble services. But yet I trust these may not be altogether without their fruits, knowing that it is not by might nor by power, but the spirit of the Lord, that the word is made productive, and that that spirit can work by few as by many, by weak as by strong instruments. May His presence accompany all our endeavours to promote His work, and the result will assuredly be to His glory.

Accept of my thanks for your kind tender of counsel and aid, of which, along with that of your esteemed Pastors, it will be my pleasure as well as my duty to avail myself. It is a disadvantage of my position that my sphere of labour is so extended, and that I shall have scarcely got acquainted with you before I must proceed on my mission. But yet I think I shall best promote your interests, as well as those of Presbyterians in other parts of the Colony, by fulfilling to the best of my power, the Mission entrusted to my care, representing to the Church at home, how inadequately it is possible for me to fulfil it, pressing upon them the necessity of appointing additional labourers, and using any influence I may have with friends and companions at home, to induce them to come over and help us.

In conclusion, let me only assure you, that, however much you may think your interests have been overlooked, you have friends at home, known to myself, who cease not to watch over your position, and to follow in their thoughts the footsteps of your Missionaries, and whose fervent prayers ascend to the Lord of the harvest, petitioning Him to send forth additional labourers into this portion of the field. Let us unite our prayers with theirs, and in due time they shall indeed be answered.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WOODSTOCK.—We learn with much pleasure from the *Carleton Sentinel*, that the Presbyterians of Woodstock, in New Brunswick, are making most energetic and highly commendable exertions to provide themselves with the ordinances of Religion. A temporary place of worship, in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, was opened at the Upper Village, on the 19th ult., for divine service, and will be occupied for that laudable purpose every Lord's day, until the new is finished. A public meeting of all the Presbyterians who are desirous and willing to aid in finishing the Church, was appointed to be held on the 3rd instant, and the friends of religion and the public generally are invited to come forward and lend their aid in the good cause. We sincerely trust that their zealous efforts for the advancement of Religion in this growing town, and amidst a rapidly increasing population, will be crowned with expected and abundant success.—*Halifax Guardian*.

SYNOD OF AUSTRALIA.—The Synod of Australia met at St. Andrew's Church, Sydney, on the 10th of January. The meeting appears to have been well attended both by the clergy and eldership of the province, and the business was conducted in a truly Christian spirit. After the election of a Moderator, and a diet spent in devotional exercises, there were read to the Court, at a subsequent sederunt, communications from the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and afterwards addresses from the General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, United States, and of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland; the former, in particular, breathing a truly fraternal spirit. Two students were approved of in the particular stages of their progress; two other young men were recommended by the Presbytery of Sydney to be received with a view of their being trained as candidates for the office of the ministry; and after the remaining topics, to which the attention of members was directed, had been discussed, the Synod adjourned, to hold their next annual meeting, in the same place, on the last Wednesday of January, 1850.—*H. and F. Missionary Record*.

THE CHURCH IN SCOTLAND.

HOME MISSION.

ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

We observe with heartfelt pleasure that the Church of Scotland is calling forth all her energies to meet the requirements of her situation and to obey as far as in her lies, the command, "go ye forth into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," for, while she has despatched her Missionaries to the remotest corners of the earth, to preach "the glad tidings of great joy," she is not unmindful of those within her own borders.

In the August number of the *Home and Foreign Missionary Record*, we find a stirring appeal from the Endowment Committee, urging upon the attention of the members of the Church, their duties towards those who, in their own land, are excluded from the services of the Sanctuary. This Scheme, we may remark, grew out of the design of creating a fund for the support of the ordinances of religion in the Glasgow Building Societies Churches, but has now been matured into a plan designed to embrace the whole of Scotland.

The Committee, after setting forth the urgency of the duty as regards parties so situated within their own borders, represent the immense advantage which would accrue to the cause of religion generally, by the carrying out of this Scheme, in the following terms.

How many inviting fields of missionary labour all white unto harvest, might she be meanwhile occupying, were those more immediately committed to her care, instead of proving a drain upon her resources, all cordially co-operating with her, as but for her negligence would have been the case, in sending the glad tidings of salvation to heathen lands! How urgently, then, is she called upon to make haste to remove the cause of her unavailing regrets,—to place herself in circumstances to improve the golden opportunities now presented to her—and if she cannot redeem past time, at least to be prepared for the assiduous cultivation of the emerging future! A consideration yet more weighty, urging her to

be up and doing, has still to be mentioned. The British Empire, and the British Churches along with it, stand at this moment, the Committee feel imperatively called upon to observe, almost the only remaining bulwarks to throw back from Europe the fearfully swollen tide of anarchy, irreligion, and chaotic confusion. If these, shall be submerged in the whirlpool of aimless revolution, how long and how dreary may be the period, they would ask, of ravage and desolation, which must, in all probability, elapse—and through what scenes of carnage and blood may a hapless posterity have to wade—ere the British Isles become again the seat of well-regulated and firmly-established liberty, and ere a Church be found again in Scotland, in circumstances to prosecute successfully, in the remotest lands of heathendom, the peaceful triumphs of the everlasting Gospel? If this danger is to be averted,—and it is but the superficial observer that can deny its existence,—it is to be averted only by vigorous and well-sustained Christian efforts—only by the Church's putting her house in order,—by her occupying with diligence the whole sphere of duty which has been assigned to her,—by her allowing herself no rest, till, with the blessing of God, she have made the benign influences of the Gospel operative, alike on the darkest city alley, and the remotest Highland hamlet. Her Foreign and Colonial Missions, deeply interesting as those missions unquestionably are, are still but secondary to her great Home Mission: those are to be prosecuted with her surplus strength, but this she requires to prosecute that she may find strength; and to be really strong—to be a light to the nations—to maintain the conditions essential to a wide circle of Foreign Missionary enterprise,—her Home Mission must ever be exhaustive.

After illustrating and explaining the plan of visitation, which, in conjunction with pastoral services, it was intended to establish, the report proceeds to explain, in the following beautiful imagery, the reasons of their confidence in the success of the Scheme.

In as far, then, as facts can be appealed to, they would appear to warrant the inference, that the plan of the Church is one full of promise, and that it has to be but faithfully executed to be productive of blessings to society of inestimable value. Besides, were such a plan generally adopted, the ratio in which it would operate successfully, might reasonably be expected to exceed any ratio of success which has hitherto obtained the sanction of experience. On the known principles of the human constitution, an efficacious power of sympathy would be called into exercise in the case supposed, for which, as yet, no place has been found. The ministry of deep, disinterested, and unwearied Christian love, difficult to be altogether resisted under even the most unfavourable circumstances, would acquire, of necessity, with the multiplication of its instruments and appliances, not only the enlarged sphere of activity implied in this multiplication, but a proportionally enhanced intensity of force.

And if the Committee derive confidence in the efficacy of the scheme entrusted to them, from looking to the records of experience, and other cognate grounds of hope, that confidence rises into certainty, when they look to the records of the divine word. The exceeding great and precious promises of the Gospel would seem to have been intended to obviate every objection, that can possibly be taken to the enterprize in which the Church has now engaged. Let the case of an outcast population be regarded as ever so hopeless, it yet cannot exceed in hopelessness that of the very dry bones presented to the Prophet in the Valley of Vision, or that of the parched and burnt-up wilderness when scorched by the strength of an eastern sun. The peculiarly expressive character of the latter figure, of so frequent application in Scripture, can with diffi-