

tion to the liberal and punctual support given by the Rev. Donald McDonald and his people to this publication."

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## *The Monthly Record.*

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AUGUST, 1880.

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By the Report of the Colonial Committee we learn that their grant to this Presbytery this year is only one half the amount granted last year. In British Columbia also one half the amount has been withdrawn. This probably means that one half the Ministers must leave that colony. In our own Presbytery we trust the effect will not be so disastrous. The Ministers of our Supplemented charges have all we believe got farms and homes of their own, so that if the worst must happen they can survive. Our benevolent people may accomplish, and, already are in the habit of accomplishing much by assisting in cultivating the Minister's farm, and helping him in many other ways. Our Home Mission or Lay Association is capable of large development, our richer congregations can assist the weaker ones, and the problem of rendering our church self-sustaining may thus be solved.

Various causes have compelled the Colonial Committee to lessen these grants. There can be no doubt that those of our church in this Dominion who entered the Union have many of them disapproved of our receiving any aid from home; and it would not be uncharitable we trust to say that however much they loved us they have used some influence at least against us. Again some Ministers in Scotland and members of the Committee also, some of them our own dear fellow-countrymen are not willing to aid us and choose for us rather the chastening discipline of deprivation. In addition to this we may state that owing to hard times the Committee's income has fallen somewhat behind, and their expenditure in European cities has largely increased. During a few years

gone by the Committee have undertaken to send Ministers to certain towns in Europe where wealthy Scotchmen travel for health and recreation. We are told that living in these places is expensive, travelling expenses are very high, and then "when in Rome you must do as Rome does" so that although these travellers are generally speaking rich, and luxurious in their expenditure, why cannot afford everything—a line must be drawn somewhere—and so the church of Scotland has to spend large amounts annually in sending first-class Scotch preachers to look after them.

These reasons are quite sufficient to account for the partial withdrawal of the grant in aid. Doubtless the loss will fall heavily upon some of our Ministers, especially upon those whose people are already doing their utmost toward the support of ordinances. With the revival of trade and the long expected return of commercial prosperity the burden will grow lighter, but meanwhile in some of our congregations the matter will occasion much anxiety, and the loss will be severely felt.

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The sacrament of the Lord's supper was administered in St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, on the 18th ult. The minister of the charge was ably assisted by the Revds. Messrs. Carruthers, McCunn, and Fitzpatrick. The Gaelic services were conducted in the basement by the Rev. D. McKenzie, Earltown, in his usual efficient manner.

Every congregation in this county within our bounds, has now a pastor duly inducted to the charge thereof, with the exception of St. Columba congregation, West Branch, East River. It is reported that this excellent congregation is now diligently hearing candidates.

Rev. Peter Melville, M. A., B. D., of New Brunswick, and a native of Cape John, preached there lately with much acceptance. We understand that one or two Ontario gentlemen are likely to be in the field as candidates.