## THE MONTHLY RECORD

## Church of Scotland,

## Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Adjoining Provinces.

Vol. XXXIII.

NOVEMBER, 1887.

No. 11.

\*\* If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning." — PSALM CXXXVII. 5.

## "BY THEIR FRUITS YE SHALL KNOW THEM."



E are all disgusted with the unfair and bullying spirit of some Ameri-cans towards Canada, as to the Fisheries on our coasts. They try to ignore our rights, clude us, circumvent us, annex us, or overreach

us in some way. This is very bad, even when done by worldly politicians. But it is far more disgusting to meet with the same kind of chicanery from those who claim to be Christian Ministers, professing and preaching the Golden Rule.

Our readers will find in the "MONTHLY RECORD" of June last, page 81, a statement of the very arbitrary conduct of the Union Church Committees to the present Editor, in regard to the Funds for Aged Ministers, and for Widows, They have not been able to deny that statement, or any part of it. If they do, we are prepared with evidence to refute them publicly. Let our readers examine and study that statement very carefully.

It was not fair, after they had urged me to join their Aged Ministers' Fund on equal terms, and after they had received my premiums without objection for no less than three! years after I became Pastor of St. Columba Kirk not in the Union, -it was not fair then, suddenly, to make a new rule requiring me to pay more than threefold the annual premium naid by the Union Ministers; and to cut me off (when I objected to this) by repaying me a

they did not pay me the congregational offerings which I contributed to it from my own income while in the struggling Scotch Colony in New Brunswick.

But this was their least offence. A far worse remained. Seeing that the hopes of equal terms were falsified,—that I was cut off by a new rule from the Aged Ministers' Fund,—and liable to be cut off from the Widows' Fund in like manner,-I made a most modest request that the Committee of the latter should repay me only the last sum I had paid into that Fund while I was Pastor of St. Columba Kirk, not in Union, and allow me to retire peaceably from that Fund also, leaving them to keep all that I had previously paid into it, with the surrender of all our claims on it.

This very modest request they utterly refused, and, ignoring the laws of equity and the Golden Rule, those clergymen try to intrench themselves behind legal tricks and technicalities, threatening us with monthly fines, in order to keep us at their mercy, and either urge us into Union, or legally rob us of all we

simply entrusted to them!

Such conduct murders Union. They that act thus with a few hundred dollars, would do so also with a Temporalities Fund, or with all our Kirk property, if they once get hold of it by Union. I am sorry for them. I really wished to give them a fair opportunity to show some latent generosity and humanity, if not godliness, so as to deserve our trust, if not our self-surrender in Union. But alas! that touchstone has brought out only the stains of their base metal. By their actions they say, very part of what I paid to that Fund, viz., the plainly, "Why did you trust us? for we do personal tax of one-half per cent, yearly; for our worst when we get the power." We will