

OWING to the prevalence of cold and wet weather in Europe generally, the crops there will fall short of the usual average. Much distress prevails in agricultural as well as in manufacturing communities. We on this continent have great reason for gratitude to God for the abundant harvests which are being gathered in on all sides.

WE understand that the Rev. Geo. Murray M. A. of British Columbia, is expected to return soon to this his native country. Mr. Murray is a graduate of the university of Glasgow, Scotland. On receiving license he accepted an appointment from the Colonial Committee and proceeded to the Pacific Coast where he has since laboured.

ACCORDING to Parliamentary return made in 1874 and 1879 there has been an increase of fifty-five thousand communicants in five years in the Church of Scotland.

OUR readers will be pleased to learn that the Rev. D. McKay late of Garloch, has received a call from a congregation in the Province of Ontario.

By appointment of Presbytery the annual collection for the Home Mission Scheme will be made in the month of August.

THE next quarterly meeting of the Presbytery will be held at Pictou on the 27th inst.

THE Rev. D. McRae of St. Stephen's Church St. John N. B. has received a call to Frederickton.

IN THE TOWN OF NABLUS, of Shechem, where Jacob bought the parcel of ground on which his well is still to be seen, there are now living about one hundred and forty descendants of the original Samaritans. The temple which was built after the captivity on the top of a mountain near Nablus has disappeared, but the old observances laid down in the Pentateuch are still kept up. A correspondent of the *Methodist*, who was there at the last feast of the Passover, says he saw the ceremonies carried out just as they were arranged by Moses. A few moments before sunset the congregation with the chief priest and elders for the sacrifice. They repeated portions of Scripture, and then seven rams were led out and examined by the high priest to see that they were without blemishes, and exactly as the sun sank behind the sea their throats were cut. The blood of one was collected in a basin, and one of the elders, with a bunch of hyssop marked the doors of the tents.

THE "JEWISH HERALD," London, states that Sir Moses Montefiore, in pursuance of a design for re-establishing the Jews in their ancient city, "has recently given orders to prepare for cultivation all the land in the front of the Judah Torah houses, in Jerusalem. The rocks will be removed, terraces built along, as it used to be in the time of King Solomon, and divided into twenty-two partitions, so that every inmate of the Torah houses may cultivate the necessary vegetables, &c., for himself and family. Sir Moses has also caused a very large cistern to be constructed in the centre of the field, which will secure a full supply of water for all of them. There will be a beautiful veranda in front of the houses, so as to protect the inmates from the glare of a burning sun. The veranda was sent direct from London. He has also had a new entrance made in the centre of the boundary wall, built a lodge for a watchman, and had a large bell affixed to one of the houses, to give the alarm in case of emergency.—*N. Y. Independent.*