

without delay, be dealt with and abolished together."

To the Assembly of the Free Church it was reported that overtures in connection with the question of Disestablishment were brought up from twenty-one of the Courts of the Church, when three motions were submitted, one in opposition to the maintenance of the existing Establishment being carried by a large majority. And so the "WATCHMAN," and the "PRESBYTERIAN," the respective literary organs of the Union and Anti-Union parties, during their ten years' conflict, are both to be immediately discontinued! There is little doubt, however, that a new "mouthpiece" will take the place of these departed antagonists, and, as little that its Shibboleth will be "DISESTABLISHMENT!" Though at first sight it may seem strangely inconsistent, the opinion is becoming prevalent that the only union which will really do much good for Scotland will be a comprehensive union in which the Established Church shall be embraced. In that view of the case, *Disestablishment* may be regarded as condition indispensable to a better state of ecclesiastical relationships, just as the decay of the seed is necessary to the growth of the plant—the death of the body for its glorious resurrection.

The Sustentation Fund of the Free Church of Scotland shews a slight diminution compared with last year. Still it amounts to a goodly sum, £136,322 19s. 10d. The number of ministers on the platform drawing the full year's equal dividend is 783, and the total number of ministers on the Roll of Presbyteries, 969. Mr. McLaren, M.P., is responsible for the statement that the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, having five hundred ministers, collected £100,000 more for Church purposes than the Established Church with 1200 ministers.

Some idea of the "go-aheaditiveness" of our American cousins, in ecclesiastical as well as in civil and political matters, may be gathered from the stipends paid to some of their leading ministers and the sums lavished on the construction of their Churches. From the SCOT-TISH AMERICAN we learn that the corner stone of the new Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, of which the Rev. Dr. John Hall is pastor, was laid the other day with the customary services. The site is valued at \$350,000, and the entire cost of the building will be about \$900,000. It will be seated for about 2000 persons. It will have a lecture room for 700, a large Sabbath school room, Bible class rooms, a pastor's private room, a church parlour, and other conveniences. The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's Church, in Brooklyn, is probably quite as large though less expensive. His is a model stipend, and has quite a little history of its own. It began in 1847, at the modest sum of \$1500, to be increased the third year to \$2000. At the end of twelve years it had risen to \$7000. In 1865 it was \$12,500. And, at last accounts, it was \$20,000.

The pew rents of this Church are now about \$60,000, so that there remains a handsome margin. Out of this the organist and quartette receive annually \$7,600. The *Helper*—a cler-

gyman who attends to the pastoral work—and the sextons receive together \$7,700. Making the total amount \$35,000. The number of Sunday school pupils in 1872 was 1319, besides 800 connected with Mission schools. In addition to his ministerial duties Mr. Beecher is the editor of the CHRISTIAN UNION, a weekly journal, ably conducted, and which has an immense circulation—the cheapest and one of the best publications of the kind in America. For this, it is said, Mr. Beecher receives an annual salary equal to his clerical stipend. Verily, "to him that hath it shall be given."

On the first day of July, 1873, as we learn from the "PATRIOT," Mr. Sheriff Watson stepped forward on the balcony of the Colonial Building at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, accompanied by two ladies and half a dozen gentlemen, and taking from his pocket a parchment, proceeded to read its contents to the audience below, which consisted of three persons who happened at the time to be within earshot. Immediately thereafter the Dominion flag was run up on the flagstaff of the old Government House, a Royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired from St. George's battery, and Prince Edward Island was formally admitted as a Province of the Dominion. This being done, William C. F. Robinson, Esq., was sworn in as Governor of the Island, and the local Government duly constituted.

This is the way the Chicago "Times" speaks of STANLEY, *apropos* of his Livingstone Lectures. "After one has seen this Hennyery and heard him cackle his story, one cannot help entertaining a rather poor opinion of the venerable doctor for allowing such a person to discover him." Among the celebrated *literati* announced as likely to visit Canada and the United States shortly, we observe the names of Mr. EDWARD JENKINS, the author of "Gin Baby," Mr. Wilkie Collins, and Mr. J. M. Bel-
lew.

Literary Notice.

LEGEND OF THE GRAND GORDONS. By Mrs. Alexander Ross. A. A. Stevenson, Montreal, 1873; pp. 647.

This is a beautiful volume, exceedingly well printed on fine toned paper and embellished with numerous coloured engravings, an ornament to any drawing room table. To say that it is by the author of "VIOLET KEITH," is to give it the *entrée* to every Canadian home, *gentle* and *semple*. We are not sure that the thread of the story is so well sustained as in some of our gifted author's previous works, but, on careful perusal, and it is worthy of that, the reader will be amply rewarded by the graphic delineation of character, the tenderness of the writer's sympathies, and the touches of genuine pathos which meet the eye on almost every page. The writer is well versed in guid braed Scotch, treats with sacred things with becoming gravity, betrays a truly Scottish respect for the "Cloth," and holds in special reverence, the preaching of the Word.