

Then shall every church be a Bethel, and every believer strengthened by the word of faith will resemble the saints of old, "who subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, out of weakness were made strong, and turned to flight the armies of the aliens."—*J. F. M. Record.*

## THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

### Presbytery of Halifax.

HALIFAX, October 3rd, 1855.

Which day the Presbytery of Halifax met and was constituted with prayer. The minutes of last meeting were read and ordered to be engrossed. The Presbytery then proceeded to make up the roll for the ensuing year, when commissions having been read from St. Andrew's session in favour of Mr. Jas. Thomson, and from St. Matthew's session in favour of David Allison, Esq. appointing them to be their respective representatives in the Presbytery and Synod, they were invited to take their seats as members of the Court, and the Clerk was ordered to add their names to the roll.

It was then resolved that the Rev. Mr. Martin be the Moderator for the ensuing year, and Mr. Martin took the chair accordingly. The clerk agreeably to the rules of the church, then read the minutes of the last meeting of Synod, that the Presbytery might be informed of the innovations laid upon it. These things having been noted, the Presbytery proceeded to take up such of them as their time permitted. Inter alia a correct return of the Presbytery was agreed on to be transmitted to the clerk of Synod for publication in the Edinburgh Almanac. Sessions were enjoined to lay their books and registers on the table of the Presbytery, at its meeting in January next. The convener of the Home Mission Committee was instructed to draw up an appeal to the congregations and friends of the church on behalf of this scheme, to be published in the January number of the Monthly Record. And the Moderator was appointed to proceed to the Presbytery of Pictou, and supply the place of one of their members for two sabbaths, in the event of their sending a deputation to Cape Breton in accordance with the injunctions of the Synod.

The Rev. G. W. Sprott, B.A., Clerk of Presbytery, then intimated that his engagement with the Colonial Committee expired in the month of November, and that it was his intention at that time to return to Scotland. Mr. Sprott took occasion to thank the members of Presbytery for the great kindness and forbearance which he had always experienced at their hands; and after alluding to the perfect harmony and goodwill which had existed throughout between him and the clergymen whom he had visited—and to the satisfaction with which he looked back upon his intercourse with them—asked for a Presbyterial certificate. After some conversation it was resolved

that the Moderator and Mr. Scott be appointed a committee to draw up a testimonial in his favour to be submitted to a *pro re nata* meeting of Presbytery to be held on the first Wednesday of November.

The Moderator was further instructed to draw up and submit to next meeting a letter to be sent to the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, asking them to send one or more Missionaries to the Presbytery of Halifax as soon as possible.

The Presbytery then adjourned, to meet at Halifax on the 1st Wednesday of November.

### Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met at Maclellan's Mountain church, and after devotional exercises was duly constituted with prayer. Sederunt—Rev. A. W. Herdman, Moderator, Messrs. Macgillivray, and Pollok, ministers, and Mr. Robert Cullen, elder. The minutes of last meeting were read and sustained. Mr. Wm. Macdonald presented his commission from the Session of Maclellan's Mountain, and took his seat as a member of Court. A commission from the session of St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, to William Gordon, Esq. was presented by the Rev. A. W. Herdman, and his name was added to the Roll of members. Mr. Macgillivray reported that he had visited the West Branch congregation according to appointment of Presbytery, and that parties were still unreconciled. The Clerk reported that he had written the Managers of St. James' Congregation, Charlottetown, in the terms enjoined by the Presbytery. The Clerk reported that he had visited Wallace: preached in Wallace on Sunday morning, Pugwash on Sunday evening, Victoria settlement on Monday, Gulf Shore on Tuesday, and Stake Road on the same evening: that the people were in general grievously disappointed at the failure of their effort to obtain Mr. Harper for their pastor, and more urgent than ever for a regular clergyman in their midst; and that one of them Mr. Purves, who had been personally before the Colonial Committee in Edinburgh, suggested that the only plan that would avail for their supply was the Mission to the Mother Church of one of the members of Presbytery Messrs. Herdman and Harper sent in reports to the Presbytery which will be found in another part of this number. Mr. MacKay, of Belfast, having offered to go to Earlton and fulfill Mr. Macgillivray's appointment to that place, the proposal was acceded to and Mr. Macgillivray relieved. The accounts of monies due for services rendered to Lochaber and Barney's River were enjoined to be drawn out and sent to these congregations respectively. A letter from Mr. Macmillan was also read, in which he stated that his health had improved and that he was able to prosecute his studies, which gave the Presbytery much satisfaction, as they had been much concerned at the state of Mr. Macmillan's

health. A letter from the Rev. John Martin was read in which he offered his services to supply the place of a Gaelic Minister who should go to Cape Breton. The Moderator and Mr. Macgillivray were appointed to confer with Mr. Maclean at the earliest opportunity and admonish him if it lies within his power to fulfil this injunction of Synod. The Minutes of Synod were then read over, and arrangements made for fulfilling Synodical injunctions contained in them. The Presbytery as was its practise enjoined that a day of thanks-giving for the bountiful harvest be observed throughout their bounds, in the different churches, but left the particular days to be arranged by the Sessions, so that if possible different churches might be similarly engaged on the same day. Appointments were made for Mr. Harper up to the 12th of January.

The Court adjourned to meet at Gareloch on the first Thursday of January.

[To the Editor of the Monthly Record.]

SIR,—I send you by order of the Presbytery of Pictou, the subjoined Reports of Messrs. Herdman and Harper, of Missionary services performed by them, which may interest your readers.

ALLAN POLLOK.  
Presbytery Clerk.

Report of the Rev. A. W. Herdman.

By reference to fulfilling appointments to Barney's River, I have to say that during the past year, indeed since I commenced February 1854, I have gone to the upper and lower churches there at an average of once in two months, sacramental months excepted, and given therefore eight Sabbaths within that time, one of them being sacramental, namely; on the second of March 1854, of May; third of October and first of December; second sabbath of February 1855; last sabbath of April and first of May, and the sacramental one on 15th July; to suit convenience some of these days being so fixed, at no ordinary sacrifice sometimes, my own church remaining for the most part vacant. I have received no monies from any source as recompense. All I imposed upon the people of Barney's River being to transport me to and from, which they did throughout that time. Farther I have had great pleasure in the work as Missionary, having been the means under God of building up the Church there not a little. On some sabbaths it was reported that the attendance even at the upper church was as large as on the Sacramental occasions; and that on the lower had seldom been exceeded on any former occasion. All classes, Baptist, Methodist, Free Church, United Presbyterian and Kirk met within the same roof and joined in the same worship. Besides I even visited, yea, searched out the sick and ministered to them: baptized children and conversed upon the things of God for the