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Miscellaneous Articles.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HISTORY.

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All along the United Presbyterian Church might be considered a Home Mission. Much was done by each of its constituent parts, in their separate state, to extend the knowledge of Evangelical truth throughout Scotland and the other parts of the United Kingdom. Wherever an opening appeared, especially where Ministers of the Established Church seemed to be neglecting their duties, it was embraced as a suitable field of operation, and many Congregations were thus formed in Scotland, as well as in much of England and Ireland. Occasional appointments were made of Ministers to visit the Highlands and other destitute regions to proclaim the Gospel, and this gave opportunity to multitudes to hear it, who had seldom or never in all their life been favoured with such a privilege. It was not, however, till more recent times that systematic and constant efforts were made to supply the spiritual wants of the people, not only in rural parts of the country, but in large towns and cities. It became common to employ town and city Missionaries, and to embrace remoter and less populous districts by means of catechists and other itinerant messengers of the glad tidings of Salvation. These efforts were much blessed, and have been at length organized into a regular system of Home Missionary effort.

In the year 1848 an overture was transmitted to the Synod by the Presbytery of Galloway, suggesting the propriety of employing a select band of ordained Evangelists to be exclusively employed in the