

THE MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE

Church of Scotland

IN

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, & ADJOINING PROVINCES.

VOL. XIX.

FEBRUARY, 1873.

No. 2.

"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—PS. 137: 5.

Articles Contributed.

Examples of the Spirit of Union.

It is said, sometimes, that there is not that spirit of union between the Old Kirk in the Dominion and those churches that specially represent Scotch Dissent, that ought to exist previous to an outward Union. It may be so; very probably is so; because, so long as the churches are separate, the spirit of loyalty and honor keeps a man true to his own; and if he be of a keen and earnest disposition, that spirit appears to others sectarian and aggressive. If we were united, that same spirit would be commended as right and proper by those who now condemn it most vigorously.

Wherever the outward provocatives to jealousy and bitterness that a state of disunion keeps up are removed, even for a little, the real, the deep underlying love and unity between the various Presbyterian Churches comes out. Two instances of that were seen in far distant Provinces of the Dominion, last autumn, by the writer; one in the little Province of Manitoba, and the other in British Columbia.

Before the recent organization of Manitoba as a Province, it was part of the Hudson Bay Company's Territory, and known as Assiniboia. Though

originally settled by Lord Selkirk with Scotch Presbyterians, no minister having been sent out to them, they were obliged to accept the services of Episcopalian Missionaries. Thus, when the census was taken in 1849, the whole population was returned as consisting of 539 Episcopalian and 513 Roman Catholic families. At last, in reply to numerous and repeated entreaties, the Canada Presbyterian Church sent a minister, the Rev. Mr. Black, to Red River, and in 1856, the census, according to denominations, stood thus:—

R. Cath.	...534 families,	with three churches.
Episcopal.	...488	" " four churches.
Presbyterian	60	" " two churches.

Since that year, the Canada Presbyterian Church has taken a lively interest in the North-West. It established a Mission among the Cree Indians at Prince Albert, on the Saskatchewan River; and as, since the formation of Manitoba as a Province, the Presbyterian population was increased more than any other section of the population, it has sent several missionaries who are labouring among the new settlers, each missionary having three, four, five, or six stations, as in the early days of Nova Scotia evangelization. A year or two ago, our church in Ontario and Quebec felt that it, too, should enter on this field. Opening negotiations with the