

of any single Minister who has been given by the great Head of the Church to that Church. In the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and in other branches of the Church on both sides of the Atlantic, not a few men of prominence have been called away, among whom we might mention Dr. Spring, of New York, and Dr. Wilbertforce, Bishop of Winchester. In our own Church, not a few Ministers have been removed, some of them old and honoured standard-bearers, and others whose sun has gone down at an earlier period. Robert McArthur, of Wick and Greenbank; Andrew McLean, of West Puslinch; Peter Glassford, of Vaughan and Albion; the venerable James Harris, one of the early fathers of the Presbyterian Church; James Barron, formerly of Gananoque, whose brilliant light was soon extinguished; and D. G. McKay, the newly ordained Pastor of Port Elgin and Dunblane,—these are the names on the death-roll of our Church, for the year 1873. We thank God for His goodness to His servants while they lived, and for all that He enabled them to do for Him. We sympathize with the mourning widows and relatives, and pray that we may be enabled so to live and labour, and look to Jesus, that when our works here are ended, we may have an abundant entrance into the heavenly kingdom.

The year 1873 will be long remembered as the year of the first meeting in the *New World* of the General Conference of the Evangelical Alliance. In a recent number of the RECORD, there were some remarks on the subject of this meeting, and we shall not enlarge now, farther than to say that the reports given by delegates from different countries, and different sections of the Church, on their return from the New York Conference, have combined in bearing testimony to the great success of the meetings; the unbounded kindness and hospitality of the citizens of the United States, and the great good likely to result from the gathering. Only one drawback to the general satisfaction and pleasure in connection with the New York meeting of 1873 will be the grief felt at the sad death of two beloved brethren, who were attending the Alliance meetings, and who contributed, in no small degree, to its success. We allude to Rev. Messrs. Carrasco, of Spain, and Proniet, of Paris, who were passengers on board the *Ville de Havre*, and with many others lost their lives when that vessel went down in the fatal collision on the Atlantic. Other brethren were on board, viz., Messrs. Cook, Loriaux and Weiss, but they, we are thankful to believe, were saved. Apart from this, the Conference at New York, will be remembered with feelings of sincere pleasure and of deep gratitude to God for His goodness in permitting so many of His servants from different lands to meet together. It has, we believe with truth, been affirmed that the recent meeting has been the most impressive demonstration of united Protestantism since the period of the Reformation, and that its influence is likely to be far more permanent than that of the late Council of the Vatican.

In looking at the general position of religious affairs throughout the world, we have gratefully to acknowledge that, in many respects, *it has been a year of progress*. Some movements, especially the union of Presbyterian churches in Scotland, have been apparently arrested. But it may be that the temporary arrest on the union movement may only result, before long in a more harmonious and extended union. Elsewhere progress has characterized the work of God in almost every land. To quote a few sentences from an eloquent sermon recently preached on Thanksgiving Day, in one of the pulpits of Philadelphia:—"If we pass on to the *evangelistic movements of the Church*, we are amazed to find how much has been done, and what *swiftness* of progress has been made in evangelizing the nations.

"Spain, the land of the inquisition and the *Auto de fe*, has Bibles for sale in the open market, chapels where Christ is preached in her chief