

# THE MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE

Church of Scotland

IN

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND ADJOINING PROVINCES.

VOL. XXII.

JUNE, 1876.

No. VI.

IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING." Ps. 137. 4.5.

## MR. MOODY'S FARWELL COUNSELS.

Mr. Moody commenced his farewell discourse, speaking as follows: I want to speak to you from one word of four letters—able—and my prayer is that if you forget everything else that has been said during these services, the Lord by His Spirit may so impress that word upon your hearts that you may never forget it. In the fourteenth chapter of Romans, and fourth verse, you will find those words, "Yea, he shall be holden up, for God is able to make him stand." God is able to make him stand. I have no doubt that there are many sceptical, and even lukewarm Christians, that are saying in their hearts that those young converts will not stand long. They say, "Wait three months, or at the most six months, and see where all the converts are at the end of that time." "They won't stand; they won't stand"—I have heard that said all my life. Our fathers and our forefathers heard it. "Ah," they say, "they won't hold out," but look at the thousands and thousands of Christians that have held out notwithstanding all these prophecies. If you young converts, now in the morning of your Christian experience, will learn the lesson of this one word "able," it may save you many a painful experience. You cannot stand of yourselves, but it is God that is going to make you stand. He was able to make Joseph stand down there in Egypt, and to make Elijah stand before Ahab, and to make Daniel stand in Babylon, and John Bunyan to stand in Bedford. Probably he had as mean a nature as any one, and yet God was able to make him stand and to enable him to overcome that mean nature. The moment we lean on an arm of flesh, that moment we fall; then we are on dangerous ground; we walk on the edge of a volcano, on the brink of a precipice. I remember when I

was a young Christian I used to think that it would be easier after a time, and that when I had been a Christian fifteen or twenty years, I should have but few temptations and difficulties; but I find that the longer I live the more dangers I see surrounding me. Why, Samson judged Israel for twenty years and then fell into sin; and how many men there are who fall in their old age. I don't mean that they are finally lost, but they fall into sin. They make some mistake, or their old temper springs up, and they do some mean thing, and very often the Church has not as much sympathy with such persons as it ought to have. Too much is frequently expected of young Christians. There is a great difference between a man falling into sin and loving sin. If you fall into sin and all the time hate it, go and tell God all about it, for he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Guard against self-confidence, and the Lord will strengthen you and "make you stand." We find in the tenth of 1st Corinthians this caution; "Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Be watchful; be prayerful; keep your eyes fixed on Christ, not on any man, however good he may be. Christ is able to make you stand, able to deliver you out of every temptation; and He will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able. In Hebrews 2nd and 18th verse, we read, "For in that He Himself had suffered, being tempted, He is able to succor them that are tempted." It has often been wonderfully encouraging to me to think that my Master has travelled all through this wilderness, that He knows all about the trials and temptations to which we are subject, and that therefore He is able to succor those that are tempted. When the old nature and the old temper assail you look to Him for strength. People lay it down as a wise rule in temporal things, "Don't live up to