

THE
Home and Foreign Record
OF
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES

OCTOBER, 1870.

CENTENARY OF THE TRURO CONGREGATION.

The oldest Presbyterian congregation in the Lower Provinces is that of Truro, which completed its HUNDRED YEARS on Tuesday, the 13th September. The people of Truro celebrated the event in a manner worthy of themselves and of the occasion. The 13th September, 1870, will long be remembered there as the most delightful and interesting Holiday ever enjoyed in the place. All the proceedings were such as became a Christian people. The church bells pealed a joyful note at 7 A.M. We may be sure that thanksgiving ascended from every family altar, and from every Christian heart. At 10 o'clock a large congregation assembled in the church for worship. Much interest was added to the hour by the public admission of fifteen young persons to the full communion of the church. The devotional exercises, which were solemn and impressive, were conducted by Revs. Dr. McCulloch, and Dr. Smith, and Rev. A. Simpson. Mr. Simpson also briefly addressed the newly-admitted church members. After these services, the people, young and old, marched in orderly procession to the Drill-Shed,—a commodious building which was beautifully fitted up for the occasion. Here a sumptuous dinner was provided for the guests from a distance, and for probably two thousand people, some of whom had travelled from the neighbouring counties. At the close of the Dinner, and after singing and prayer, Rev. Dr. McCulloch read the address, which we subjoin—an address every way

suitable to the occasion, and which was listened to with deep feeling. Suitable addresses were made by Revs. E. Ross, R. Sedgewick, J. L. Murdoch, Dr. Roy, Dr. Bayne, and G. Patterson. The closing prayer was offered by Rev. H. B. McKay. We noted with pleasure that ministers from other denominations were present, entering cordially into the spirit of the celebration.

It was an event in which the whole church must feel interested. There, at Truro, in the year 1770, the tree was planted whose branches now extend with rich blessing to many lands. There was our solitary pioneer congregation, poor, weak, almost penniless, yet doing the work which God had given it to do, making provision for the future, and refusing to be discouraged though difficulties and dangers thickened around them. How their hearts would be cheered and their burdens lightened if they could but see the beautiful and impressive sight which we were privileged to behold at Truro in September, 1870! It is well to have our recollections revived concerning our Fathers, and the hardships and perils which they so bravely encountered and overcame. They sowed good seed, which, with God's blessing, has borne a glorious harvest. In a hundred years our congregations have multiplied an hundred-fold; and our privileges and advantages have increased in similar proportion.—What shall we render to the Lord for all His benefits! The Lord hath done great things for us. Let us seek grace to prove worthy of our brave and faithful forefathers, —to serve our generation as well as they did,