

of the thunderer downwards to the humblest of its auxiliaries, the press has, with some honorable exceptions, been pleading the cause of Sabbath desecration, and advocating the expediency of converting the day of national repose and piety into a season of unhallowed amusement and demoralizing indulgence. The same thing may be said of our periodical literature, and of the lighter and more popular literature of the day. Little Dorrit has been lending a helping hand. Charles Dickens has done his best to insure for the proposed resolutions a favorable reception from Parliament. We believe that ours is the cause of God and truth, and we feel assured that He will plead his own cause, and render it triumphant over all opposition. Liverpool has set a noble example of united and vigorous and holy exertion. In fulfilment of a previous arrangement no less than 141 sermons were lately delivered from the pulpits of that town on the same day, and on the same subject of Sabbath observance; and these were followed up by one of the greatest and most influential public meetings ever held in that place. I rejoice to know that a similar course has been resolved on by a large and most respectable body of ministers, in this city; and, in conclusion, I beg leave to recommend their resolution to the adoption of the Presbytery, and humbly move that all the ministers of the Church within our bounds, on the 17th of this month, shall be enjoined to call the attention of their respective congregations to the subject of Sabbath observance, and to the importance of maintaining, and the necessity of contending, for it in all its integrity.

Dr. GILLAN, as one who had the honour of being a member of committee, begger leave to second the resolution. At the meeting which Dr. Barr had referred to there were 45 ministers belonging to various denominations and he (Dr. G.) had never been present at any meeting where a better spirit prevailed. He should have liked that Dr. Barr had added to his motion that this Presbytery enjoin all congregations within the bounds to petition Parliament, and also that this Presbytery petition the Presbytery.

Dr. BARR adopted the suggestion; and, after some remarks from other members, the motion was unanimously adopted.

Edinburgh - Death of Professor Menzies.

We regret to announce the death of Professor Menzies, which took place on Wednesday morning. Since 1847, when Mr. Menzies was placed in the Chair of Conveyancing, in the University of this city, by the choice of his brethren of the body of Writers to the Signet, he has filled this important station with an ability and success beyond all praise. The premature loss of his services will be very felt at once by the profession to which he belonged, and by the numerous students, whose legal education he has instructed, and who regard him as a most valuable part. In regard to his general education also, Mr. Menzies, in the opinion of Clerk to the Trustees of Mr. Menzies' bequest, for a very long period of his life, fulfilled duties, the abiding worth of which can scarcely be over-estimated. This bequest, made to the schoolmasters of the three parishes of Aberdeen, Banff, and Moray; and the Report of the Trustees of the bequest, issued by Mr. Menzies in 1854, shows that his excellent and enthusiastic management of the parish schools in that district have reached a height of efficiency and usefulness

superior to that of any in Scotland. The death of Professor Menzies will be deplored as the loss of a man of extended Christian benevolence, and a supporter of many schemes for the religious and social welfare of the community.—*Courant.*

LADHOPE PARISH.—INDUCTION OF MR. SMITH.—On Thursday the Presbytery of Selkirk met in Ladhope Church for the purpose of inducting the Rev. James Smith into the newly constituted parish of Ladhope. The public services were conducted by the Rev. C.K. Greenhill of Robertson, who preached a most impressive discourse from Colossians i. 19, to a large and attentive congregation.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The following is an account of the nett income of the United Presbyterian Church for missionary and synodical purposes for the year 1855:—

Total received for Foreign Missions from 1st Jan. 1855, to 1st Jan. 1856,	£13,011	9	2
For Home Missions,	4,261	14	5
For better support of Gospel Ministry,	1,036	11	12
For Synods General Funds,	1,397	18	7

Amount of income for year, £19,737 13 34
The foregoing is over and above all separate efforts made by congregations in their various localities for educational and benevolent purposes, and altogether independent of building funds and maintenance of ordinances among themselves.

EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.—We understand that a bill upon this important subject has been prepared under the auspices of the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Kinnaird, and that it will shortly be introduced in the House of Lords.—*Courant.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

Notes from my Journal—The Crimea 1855.

[Concluded.]

October.—The camp is in a state of unusual excitement on account of the secret expedition which is about to start from Kamesch. The surmises are many, and the "best authorities" quoted numerous, but, in reality, no one knows with any certainty where we are going. Nicolaieff, the great Russian naval depot, and Odessa, seem the most plausible conjectures. Wherever it be, the very mystery creates interest, and the troops which are to form it start in high spirits. Kamesch was unusually bustling. Steamboats crowded with troops poured their living cargoes into the huge carcasses of the ships of the line, war steamers were taking gun and mortar-boats in tow, while the floating batteries of the French were propelling their ugly bulks along through the confusion. We sailed westward, and soon it was known for certain that the object for attack was the great fortress of Kilbouroun [Kinburn], which protects the approach to Nicolaieff, and soon numerous "shaxes" (false reports) were going the round about the warm reception prepared for us. The next day after leaving the Crimea, the whole fleet anchored abreast of Odessa, and took up a position exactly as if an attack on that town was meditated. The inhabitants were evidently labouring under the same belief, as the more exposed part appeared deserted,

and masses of troops could be seen collected on the heights. We remained two days steeped in an impenetrable "Black Sea fog," and when, on the third, long rolls of smoke were seen over and concealing the city, many sage reflections were made on "the traditional policy of the Russians," which caused them to fire the town and retire into the interior. However, such ideas were entirely dissipated, when, on the following morning, the city was discovered unscathed in all its fair proportions, its terraces and beautiful buildings looking as elegant and pure as ever in the morning sun. The city had only been veiled in the retiring curtain of mist. The fleet got under weigh at last, and sailed in a double column along the coast northward. The French ships forming one line, and ours the other. The coast was very beautiful. Being steppe land, it was all covered with large flocks. Telegraph stations crowned the eminences, and pretty villages and neat white cottages occurred in rapid succession. Cossacks were picketed all along the shore, and the inhabitants were seen quietly at their work as if no enemy were near. It is odd that all our great engagements, in this and former wars, should have been fought on Sundays. Alma, Inkermann, Balaklava, and the fall of Sebastopol, together with nearly every great sortie, have occurred on Sundays! This expedition was no exception. It sailed on a Sunday, and the fort was to have been attacked on the Sunday succeeding, if the preconcerted plan had been carried out. Alas! how changed, by a terrible necessity, were these days from the purpose for which they were instituted!

The whole fleet, war ships and transports, numbered nearly 100 vessels, and as the channel was so narrow as to necessitate their sailing in single file, they extended over miles. In the afternoon we anchored. A gleam of sunshine rested on the massive buildings of a large fort, which lay right ahead, and seemed to float on the water, so low was the land on which it stood; all the rest of the horizon was dark with heavy clouds. Next morning, on nearer approach, we found that the fort alluded to, that of Kilbouroun, occupied the point of a long spit of sand, which lay right across our position. On the far side of this sandy point was a wide expanse of sea, into which the great rivers Bug and Dnieper debouch. On the other side of the narrow strait, on the one side of which Kilbouroun stands, is a considerable town, Orchakoff and the fort of St. Nicholas. The troops were soon landed under protection of the gunboats, on the base of the sandy spit, and began immediately to throw up entrenchments across the point, which was here about a mile and a half broad. The French formed a line on the fort side, and our troops faced the country, to provide against a surprise from without. Tents were quickly landed, and depots of provisions formed, so that, before many hours were over, we had become quite domesticated, and began again our Crimean life on a small scale. We are thus encamped on a narrow spit some miles long, formed of rolling sand hills, with salt marshes so numerous interspersed, as not to hold out an agreeable prospect if the position be held during the winter. The few fishermen's cottages built on the shore were early gutted by the Zouaves, who were soon seen at work fishing with the captured nets. A village stood under the protection of the guns of the fort. Except some mortar firing, nothing was attempted against the fort for the first two days. It was not yet sufficiently surrounded by the net of ships and troops which was being laid to enclose it.