

furtherance of which we shall not injure any individual church. (Applause.) Mr. Oswald has said he belongs to another church, while gallantly coming forward to support yours. I hope I am not treading on delicate ground, but I think he might have gone a step further. I think we may support the National Church in the various divisions of the United Kingdom, without sacrificing the interests of any one of them. (Applause.) I was for a time a member of that University at which Mr. Oswald was educated; but I did not conceive that, when I signed the formula—when I became the adopted son of the Church of England—that I, for one moment, departed or separated myself from the church of my fathers in Scotland. (Applause.) I hold the Established Church is the great strength of this country, though each division of the country has adopted that form most consonant to the wishes and feelings of its people. (Hear, hear.) I hope the day is coming, when it will be no longer the case, that a large proportion of the upper classes of this country belong to a different church from their people. I think Mr. Oswald has done much to-day to heal this difference, and to unite us, if not in uniformity, at least in unity. (Hear, hear.) I think that this scheme has found a new merit to-day. It will recommend itself in a fresh manner, since it has joined us all together—men of different opinions—in the good work. Before sitting down, may I be allowed, though departing from the subject of the resolution, to make known a plan, by which, I think, the efforts of Dr. Robertson may be well assisted. Sir James then stated that a letter from a lady had been placed in his hands that morning. From this letter he read an extract to the following effect:—"I see there is to be an endowment meeting in Ayr, and suppose Sir James Fergusson will be at it. I am sure we will do something to support our people. I would undertake to collect, say £50. Do you think it would do for me to say that some ladies have pledged themselves to collect £50? and if nine others will do the same, I will add £50 myself." Sir James said that he had received the £50; and hoped nine ladies in the meeting would be found to undertake to collect £50 each. He also begged leave to say, that the lady had already given £50. (Applause.) Sir James said,—I think we should join with Dr. Robertson in this good work, which will raise his name high among Scottish worthies, and we shall share in his reward—that is, the gratitude of our fellowmen, for having done something to take away the reproach from among us, by disseminating sound religious truth among the darkest places of our land. (Great applause.)

#### LETTER FROM REV. J. SINCLAIR.

The following letter has been received from

the Rev. J. Sinclair, recently sent out to Nova Scotia as a Gaelic-speaking missionary:—

Pictou, 3d October, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR,—Having now once gone over the whole mission-field prescribed to me in this county, I can communicate to you a few facts regarding it. Being the only missionary here in connexion with the Church of Scotland, my beat is very extensive, embracing St. Mary's at the one extremity, and Earltown at the other, a distance of at least eighty miles, and containing eight vacant congregations. I have preached to them all both on Sabbath and week-days, and have been much gratified with the appearance of the country and the people. At some places hundreds, at other places thousands, assembled to hear the Word of God preached in their native tongue.

By the union of two adjoining congregations, in each case there might easily be formed four parochial districts, each capable, with the exception of one, I am convinced, of supporting a minister in competence and comfort. And as to their willingness, I may mention a fact that came under my observation the other day. On the Monday after the dispensation of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at Earltown, a congregational meeting was called, for the purpose of taking steps to secure the services of a young man lately licensed in Canada, and at that time on an incidental visit among his friends. In a short time a stipend of L. 180 per annum was subscribed and guaranteed; but unfortunately he had made up his mind to labour, in preference, in Canada. They implored him to change his resolution. They appealed to him on the principles of duty and relationship; but in vain. The disappointment of old and young was very sad: expressed, as it was, in tears. The young man had accepted of a call from Canada, and could not, it seems, withdraw.

The more elderly portion of the community can be reached only through the medium of the Gaelic language, which render it necessary to continue the administration of divine ordinances in that language for some years to come; but the rising generation, being for the most part well educated, can do very well without it.

Another Gaelic missionary would be of great use in this extensive field; but qualifications of a high order are necessary, especially a vigorous constitution—not so much to stand the climate as to stand the work—an ability to preach equally well in both languages, and, above all, a thorough and familiar acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures. It is reported, on the best authority, that a considerable number in Cape Breton is still attached to the Church of Scotland. An opportunity only is wanted to ensure the return of many to the Church of their fathers, which they only left from dire necessity. A