

cure their social and spiritual welfare. In these arrangements the co-operation of this Church is essential and important, and a small committee should be appointed to confer and report.

"From the vast extent of the colonial field, of which but a very faint idea can be realised, the solemn responsibility resting on this parent Church to look promptly after the welfare of those who go forth as her children to other lands and the many openings which are now presented to the Colonial mission I am strongly of opinion that this department of our mission work should be permitted to receive the undivided contributions of the Assembly.

"In conclusion, I have most gratefully to acknowledge the hospitable attentions which, as your deputy, I received everywhere throughout New Brunswick and Canada, and I have to thank the directors of our Mission Board for the confidence with which they have honoured me in connection with this interesting and important mission. My earnest prayer is, that God may water the seed which I have been permitted to sow, and still more abundantly bless the Churches which I have been privileged to visit.

"By the good providence of God I reached home on the 30th June, after an absence of five months and seventeen days

"Belfast, 5th July, 1864.

WM. JOHNSTON."

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.—The Rev. James Bayne, in a letter to the Convener of the Foreign Mission Committee, says with reference to their late meeting of Synod: "On the whole, it has been the best session since the union. Party distinctions are now nearly obliterated. Indeed it would be difficult to trace the faint lines of distinction between parties in both sections, now one. We had present well on to 80 ministers and over 30 elders, the numbers on the roll would have given us in all 120, but as many of our congregations are careless about sending elders, their attendance is quite disproportionate.

We have our mission in high promise; four labourers from Nova Scotia, besides female "helps meet", and our funds are quite adequate to the calls made upon them. The ship funds are still in excess of expenditure, although we expect to have something like £200 stg. to meet in Sydney, unless the friends there give her the additional house upon deck which will cost that amount. Union prospects in our church are growing, not with the Kirk, but with the Free Church in New Brunswick, who are quite prepared to throw in her lot with us. Were the railway communication completed to St. John, N. B., this union would not be long delayed. The gathering of the Presbyterian hosts is every where to be remarked. What a noble church will soon be in Scotland when the Free Church and the United Presbyterian follow the example of their offspring in America".

ITEMS OF RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOP CROWTHER.—Bishop Crowther, the first negro Bishop of the Church of England, has been consecrated as Bishop of the Niger.

"SUNDAY MAGAZINE," BY DR. GUTHRIE.—A new magazine for Sabbath reading, under the editorship of Dr. Guthrie, is to be commenced. We doubt not it will soon have a very large circulation.

ARRIVAL OF DR. DUFF AND DR. LIVINGSTONE.—Two eminent members of the missionary corps have arrived in Great Britain, viz: Rev. Dr. Duff, the veteran missionary of India; and Dr. Livingstone, the African explorer. Dr. Duff is to act as Convener of the Foreign Mission Committee of the Free Church. Dr. Livingstone intends in the course of a few months to return to Africa. The plans which he is forming have special reference to the discouragement and suppression of the slave trade.