

have formed, of the zeal and liberality of the Presbyterian population of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but my present opinion is that a *very large sum* might be raised for the purpose by *subscriptions and congregational collections*. Let each of the ministers in the Provinces, (after due notice) take up a collection in his congregation, and in addition to this, let the Synod appoint some *Reverend* members of their body, to solicit individual subscriptions from *all* our friends in every town and hamlet, in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island. I have little doubt but in this way, a sufficient sum might be realized, wherewith to lay an excellent foundation. A commencement thus once made, it is quite possible that the sums collected and subscribed, would soon be augmented by donations and legacies from the pious and liberal, and ere long a sum would be obtained, sufficient to provide the institution required, to qualify a race of native missionaries, to carry the Glad Tidings of Salvation, to the remotest settlements, in this and the adjacent Provinces. You may probably remember how large a sum was collected, by the active and indefatigable agents of the Baptist Educational Society, in Nova Scotia, the United States, and elsewhere, by *personal* application to individuals. And surely the Presbyterians are as liberal minded, and as willing to contribute of their substance, for the advancement of the interests of their Presbyterian brethren, as any sect in Nova Scotia. I mention this scheme with diffidence. If, however, it has not already been suggested and considered, perhaps you may find it worth at least a thought."

IMPORTANCE OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

The utility of Statistical Information is readily and generally admitted. It is impossible to form a correct estimate of the external condition of any political Society or Religious denomination, without a full and accurate account of its peculiar tenets, its numbers, its influence, its resources, its officers and Institutions, and its laws and observances. It is, we apprehend, of very great consequence for those Religious denominations, which are of recent formation, and which are still in an infant and a progressive state, and more especially for those Religious Societies which are still in a dependent condition, and wish to remain in indissoluble connection with the Church from which they have sprung, to collect and to publish all the Statistical Information they can procure, from the different stations within their bounds.

It is with a view to recommend and enforce the observance of this useful practice, that we have this day inserted an article "on the Statistics of the Secession Church," in Scotland, containing a long and most minute list of queries, regarding the existing condition of that Church, to which the Ministers and the other office-bearers are expected to return annually distinct and satisfactory answers. In requiring such information, the Secession Church is only imitating the example of other religious denominations in England, and in America, and desiring to know the actual condition of the different congregations belonging to her own body.

Now although it might not be necessary for us to obtain answers to all the questions, contained in this or in any other list which has been hitherto produced, although we readily concede the right of every Society to regulate its own internal affairs, and admit that the circumstances of every particular denomination vary in some respects from those of others, still we do think that the Synod of Nova-Scotia, as a regularly constituted Church Court in the Colony, as well as the other denominations, if they wish to do justice to themselves, and obtain respect from others, if they wish to obtain the support and encouragement to which they conceive themselves entitled, and are desirous to ascertain their actual condition and progressive increase, ought not only to know the number of separate charges, and officiating Clergymen, within their bounds, but ought also to possess an ac-

curate account, revised and corrected annually, of the number of their office-bearers, whether Elders, Trustees, or Deacons, of the number of their communicants, as distinct from the congregations at large, of the number of Sabbath Schools, Prayer Meetings, Baptisms, and Marriages in each congregation, and also an account of the resources which they possess, and the means provided for the maintenance and support of public worship.

It would be no very difficult matter to obtain all this information, if the different members of the Church Courts were provided, with correct and uniform lists of the questions which they were required to answer, and a Committee were appointed to collect and arrange the answers received, and insert them in their proper place in the Statistical Tables.

This is a subject deserving of much more attention and consideration, than it has yet received in this Province, and we are very much mistaken indeed, if the period is not nigh at hand, when the different denominations in the colonies will become more and more convinced, of the necessity of possessing full and accurate Statistical Information, on all matters relating to their peculiar ecclesiastical concerns.

OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH.

We are happy to find our contemporaries in the neighbouring Colonies, advocating the Sanctification of the Lord's day. The *Fredericton Gazette* contains an intimation, that the Rev. Mr. Birkmyre would preach a sermon, on that highly important subject, in St. Paul's Church, last Lord's day, and a correspondent of the *Charlotte-Town Gazette*, directs the attention of the public to the Colonial Statute, which prohibits "the practice of any sport, fowling, fishing, game, play, or pastime on the Lord's day, or any part thereof, within the Island."

We intended to have given to-day, the speeches, so far as they have reached us, of the different gentlemen who addressed the meeting in *St. Gabriel Street Church*, in favour of the proposed University in KINGSTON. But we find we must defer them to another number. To show, however, to our friends at a distance, the progress of the subscription here in aid of the College, we give the names now on the list promising, at the same time, that not half the Presbyterian population, and scarcely any of other communions, have yet been applied to in behalf of the proposed Institution:—

Peter McGill, £100 in money, and a lot of land in Church Street, Toronto, guaranteed to be of the value of £400.
John Fisher, £25; Robert Armour, £50; William Miller, £50; J. G. McKenzie £50; F. Farish, £50; Wm. Edmonstone, £50; John Fraser, £50; James R. Orr, £25; William Orr, £25; James Playfair, £25; James Court, £12 10s; William Laurie, £12 10s; John Smith, £50; W. S. Phillips, £25; Andrew H. Armour, £25; James Miller, £25; Dugald Stewart, £25; Hew Ramsay, 25; Alex. Ferguson, £20; Rev. Alex. Mathieson, £25; Elizabeth Fleming, £20; Jas. Scott, £75; Robertson Macintosh, £20; John Frothingham, one share City Bank Stock, £25; J. Leslie, £50; Walter M. Peddie, £25; Philip Ross, £25; A. H. Vass, £25; D. P. Ross, £25; Duncan Fisher, £25; William Kerr, £10; Robert Morris, £10; John Young, £10; James M. Blackwood, £10; Geo. D. Watson, £10; J. T. Barrett, £10; D. K. Mack, £10; Josh. Ross, £10; Charles Geddes, £5; Thomas Peck, £5; M. Struthers, £2 10s.; J. White, £2 10s.; A. M. Gowan, £2 10s.; Robert Esdaile, £5; Jno. Black, £5; James Carsuell, £5; Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Royal Regiment, £8 8s.; William Greig, £2 10s.; R. H. Perkins, £2 10s.; W. Fraser, M. D. £5; John Ross, £2; J. Jaffray, £5; Archd. M. Adam, £5; Thos. H. Murray, £5; A. & A. M'Farlane, £5; John Keiffer, £2 10s.; Hugh Brodie, £5; James Turner £2 10s.; John Mack, £2 10s.; John D. Benton, £5; Lawce. Kidd, £10; Jas. Dick, £10.—*Montreal Gazette*, Feb. 13.

Bible Printing.—We understand that Mr. Alex Gardiner, printer, of this town, has been this week duly authorised by the Lord Advocate, to print the Scriptures, the Confession of Faith, and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms. So far as we have heard, this is the first appointment, under the new regulation, for printing the Bible.—*Paisley Advertiser*.

BLAIRGOWRIE.—At a meeting of the subscribers to the funds of Brown Street Chapel, held there last week—Robert Geikie, Esq. of Rosemount, in the

chair—the Rev. Mr. Greig (late of Bermuda) was *unanimously* elected Minister of the Chapel. This choice has given satisfaction. Mr. Greig seems to be a very able and talented preacher of the Gospel, and we have no doubt that under his ministry, the attendance at the Chapel will rapidly increase.—*Perthshire Advertiser*.

Seanachaidh Gaelach.—It will be seen from our advertising columns that Messrs. J. & P. Campbell, booksellers, Arcade, propose starting a monthly Gaelic Magazine. Such a work, if properly conducted, cannot fail to confer a boon on the many thousands of our countrymen, to whom instruction can only be conveyed through the medium of the Gaelic language. We wish the publishers success in their benevolent undertaking.—*Scottish Guardian*.

SIMULTANEOUS TEMPERANCE MEETING.

The Halifax Temperance Society held a meeting in the Mason Hall. Although the weather was very unpleasant, the room was crowded with a respectable and attentive audience. The order of the Meeting was as follows;—

Beamish Murdoch, Esq. President, in the Chair.

FIRST HYMN.

Reading of the Pledge—and some remarks by the Chairman on the successful progress of the cause in other places.

Resolution 1st, by Winthrop Sargeant, Esq.—"That the only object of the Halifax Temperance Society is, to prevent Intemperance and to reclaim the Intemperate."

Resolution 2d, by W. M. Brown, the Secretary—"That the success of the Temperance Reformation is sufficiently encouraging, to excite sanguine anticipations of future good, and unfolds motives for redoubled efforts and vigilance in its promotion."

SECOND HYMN.

Resolution 3d—"That the Temperance enterprise originating in the self-denying, and benevolent principles of action inculcated in the Bible, can be sustained and consummated only, by the practical exemplification of those principles among its individual members."

Resolution 4th, by the Rev. James Hennigar, Wesleyan Missionary—"That we humbly and ardently pray for the blessing of Almighty God, to attend the efforts made in the behalf of this glorious cause, remembering that all success must come from Him, and that all honour is due to his name."

THIRD HYMN.

Resolution 5th—"That the influence of Woman is essential, to the triumph of every great and good cause—and should that influence which the Creator has graciously given her, be universally exerted in favour of the Temperance Reformation, its Triumphs would be certain and complete, and its blessings while richly enjoyed by herself and those whom she loves, would be extended to all people and perpetuated to all ages. Collection taken—amount, £5 0 3.

ANTHEM—Triumph of Temperance.

Resolution 6th, by W. H. Roach, Esq.—"That we offer our hearty acknowledgments to the Choir, for the appropriate and interesting Music with which they have favored us this evening."

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

28 Signatures were obtained, 10 of which are on the total principle.—*Recorder*.

FIREWARDENS, &c.

At a meeting of the Firewards held at the Engine House, the 29th day of February, 1840, the following arrangement was made, which was ordered to be published:—

South Suburbs—Alexander Keith, Wm. Story, junr. *St. Peter's Ward*—C. W. Hill, Andrew Richardson, *St. Matthew's Ward*—Joshua Lee, Stephen Binney, *St. Paul's Ward*—Henry Pryor, John J. Sawyer, *County Court House*—J. Howe, (chairman) T. Adams, *St. John's Ward*—Robert Romans, W. M. Allan, *North Barrack*—Geo. P. Lawson, A. G. Fraser, *North Suburbs*—G. Roast, S. Marshall, Hugh Bell, *Committee to manage at Fires and to superintend the Axe Men*—Wm. Story, junr. Wm. M. Allan, Andrew Richardson.

Committee of Pumps and Wells—John Howe (chairman), Alexander Keith, A. Richardson, R. Romansman, No. 1—George P. Lawson. 2—Joshua Lee. 3—John J. Sawyer. 4—Samuel Marshall. 5—Charles Twining.

CHARLES TWINING,

Secretary and Treasurer.

SIR JOHN HARVEY has submitted to the assembly of New Brunswick, accompanied by a strong recommendation, a plan of a Building proposed to be erected by Mr. John Walker, in St. John, for a Custom House, Treasury, and Bonded Warehouse, in that city.—*Jour.*

For the Remainder of Halifax Head See page 295.