

years since the great Secession took place, and it is a striking fact that almost every one of the present leaders is a man that was trained in the Established Church.

The Free Church is a great power in Scotland, but she would act more consistently with her traditions and her professions, and more nobly too, by sympathizing with the Church of Scotland in her efforts to clear the way for re-union, than by endeavouring to force on an union with the old Seceders, for which her people are not prepared, and which she scouted in '48. What the end shall be, we cannot predict: but if a national Presbyterianism cannot be constituted in Scotland, it says little for the men, and is a reproach against the system.

A NEWSPAPER READER.

THE INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS.

It has been thought that some notes of this year's International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations, and of the journey of the Nova Scotian delegates to and from it, would be pleasing and profitable to the readers of the *Record*.

When it is considered that Indianapolis is some 1500 miles, or more, from Halifax, it will not be wondered at that none of the Lower Provinces except Nova Scotia sent delegates. Nova Scotia, however, was represented by four, three of whom, J. S. McLean, Esq., Mr. James Forrest, and the writer, were from Halifax, and one, Henry Blanchard, Esq., from Windsor.

Mr. Forrest was already in New York. Mr. McLean and I left Halifax on Saturday morning, 11th June. We picked Mr. Blanchard up at Windsor, and, after a ride through the beautiful Annapolis valley, and a pleasant sail from Annapolis to Digby, and then across the Bay of Fundy, we found ourselves in the evening in St. John. How pleasant it is to find friends waiting to welcome one at the end of a journey, and especially in a strange place! Mr. Caie and Mr. Cameron at once took charge of me, and Mr. Welch, President of the Young Men's Christian Association, St. John, was there to welcome Mr. McLean. During my stay in St. John, I was Mr. Caie's guest. On Sabbath morning I worshipped in St. Stephen's church. Remembering that it is only three years since Mr. Caie began his mission, the results which, by God's blessing, he has achieved, say very much for his diligence, perseverance, and ability. I preached for him in the afternoon, and for Mr. Cameron, in St. Andrew's church, in the evening. In St. Andrew's church, the singing is led by an organ and choir whose music is so delightful that a large part of the congregation seem more inclined to listen to it than to join in it. This same tendency to praise God by proxy, was, to me, painfully manifest in St. Stephen's church, where a cabinet organ and a choir led the singing, and certainly were worthy of being followed more heartily. It seemed to me that in neither church was the singing nearly so hearty and general, as, led by the excellent precentor, it commonly is in St. Matthew's, Halifax, though there is doubtless very great room for improvement even there. What excuse can any person give for neglecting to obey the injunction, so oft repeated, to *sing* God's praise? There are very few, if any, whose voices cannot harmoniously join with others in some part of the music—treble, alto, tenor or bass. Nor will ignorance excuse the neglect of this duty. The tenth part of the time and trouble which are willingly spent in acquiring so-called accomplishments would be sufficient to remove this difficulty, at least so far as to make a considerable number of tunes familiar, and even to gain such an acquaintance with the principles of music as to make it easy to learn any ordinary tune. Especially is this true in towns. Let congregational classes be formed and conscientiously attended. Let psalms