

and that he be allowed to assist Mr. Stewart at his communion on that day instead.

The clerk stated that he wrote to Mr. Brodie regarding financial documents, according to instructions, but as yet received no answer.

The clerk was instructed to write Mr. Brodie again to remind him of the injunctions of Presbytery.

Closed with the benediction.

W. McMILLAN, *Presby. Clerk.*

NOTES OF THE MONTH.

The Reform Bill has finally passed the British Parliament and will soon be the law of the land. So far as the franchise is concerned England will soon have become a democracy. Leading politicians acknowledge the necessity thus laid upon the nation of introducing an educational system second to none in Europe. But how? Instruction without religion is not education. Remove one constituent element from a substance and it becomes not food but poison. "What is the chaff to the wheat?" The new constitution imposes a new responsibility upon the Church,—the only power that can save our ancient country from anarchy. Dr. Pirie based his argument for a change in the law of patronage upon the new civil powers granted to the people. His motion was lost by a majority of two, and so the days of lay-patronage in the Scottish Church are numbered. Of course, patronage will live down to the end of time. When the old kind is exploded, people will have a trial of a new kind, and possibly when they have tried the new for a while, they will entertain a better opinion of the old. John Bright has been congratulating his hearers upon the fact that Britain is really now more democratic than America—a circumstance, if correct, that could gratify very few but himself.

Paris has been a scene of extraordinary splendor during the present summer—the resort of all the imperial, the royal, the noble, the philosophical, the mercantile, the mechanical, the wealthy, the splendid and the gay. The newspaper accounts of banquets, receptions, fetes and musical performances bewilder us even at this distance. Surely the luxury and magnificence of our age are appalling. Though we are not absolutely wed-

ded to an iron age, or an age of fig-leaf garments, homespun integuments, pewter dishes and wooden spoons, surely we have an excess of the opposite kind. We do not ask, who would Cato or Lycurgus say? but, who would Paul or James say? If this excess of luxury and gaiety be not wrong in itself, it is wrong by circumstances, it is morally dangerous and unfavorable to right moral sentiments and moral duties. In the past history of the world it has invariably been followed by divine chastisement. If nations will not cultivate simple manners by choice, they will be made to do it by necessity. The judgments of Heaven, war, or the plague, will easily strip their finery, melt their gold, and break their crockery. One would think that Paris was handed over helplessly to the cooks, the jewelers, the perfumers and the playactors. The love of display has invaded our own shores and flaunts alas in our streets and churches. The modern Rachael cries: "Give me fine die."

We are sorry to have to announce that our church, which was in course of erection at Plaister Cove, has been completely burned during the past month. The cause of the fire is as yet unknown. It will be remembered that this is one of the churches for which Mr. Brodie was raising collections. This is a great discouragement to Mr. Fraser and our friends at the Strait, whose efforts have been so zealous and spirited. Certain it is they have the sympathy of all our friends, who will all shew it in some tangible shape if called upon.

Principal Snodgrass has had an opportunity of addressing a number of our congregations on the subject of young men studying for the ministry, and much interest in the minds of many has been awakened. The subject is one of vital importance. The supply of candidates for holy orders will keep pace with the needs of the church.

The New Brunswick Synod meets on the 14th current, when the union with that branch of our church will be finally arranged. A.

SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

1867.	FOREIGN MISSION.	
June.	Cash St. Peters' Road, P. E. Island.	£1 19
	Brackley Point Road, do.	16
		2 16
July 5.	Cash paid Jas. Bremner, Esq., Treasurer.	2 16

W. GORDON.