

dark, to combat with, it may be, invisible and unknown enemies—alone, unaided, and protected by their Master's name alone. They sat in a line before the altar, twenty-seven in number, and, in the presence of the multitude, renewed publicly the vows they had uttered in private on entering the establishment, of forsaking home, country, friends, and family, to spread His name far over the surface of the earth—to scorn the pangs of torture, cold and hunger—to suffer solitude, imprisonment, and stripes, rather than turn back from the task thus self-imposed by religious convictions alone. Amongst the number of this year's missionaries was a youth of twenty, the only son of one of our greatest painters, whose vocation for this life of danger has developed itself so strongly ever since his earliest childhood, that the father, amidst the bitterest regret, has listened to the reasonings of the higher ecclesiastical authorities commissioned by the son to solicit his consent, and has bravely resigned this fondly-loved child into the hands of the Church, perfectly convinced that the call will not be unanswered.

“Another of these aspirants to heavenly reward, is a young man, the son of a rich banker, whose suicide a short time ago filled all Paris with consternation. His vocation is submissive to the law of expiation, and he turned at once from the world in which his father had sacrificed everything,

and finally life and eternity itself, to offer himself a sacrifice in redemption of his father's error. The contrast between the two young men—The one vocation was spontaneous, the other that of judgement and reasoning—was evident to all. The first, all joy and triumph at having accomplished a long-sought end; the other, all resignation to the will of Providence. At the conclusion of the mass, one penny was given to each of the travellers, which is to be renewed at each station, one small loaf was placed within the wallet which contained the one change of linen; and they went on their way, singing joyously, as they disappeared through the door at the back of the altar, concerning the glories of Paradise and the bounties of the Lord. By this time most of them are embarked, either at Havre or Bordeaux, for the savage countries to which they are bound. The vessel which conveys them will leave them in the midst of the horrid loneliness to which they have condemned their young lives, and the next news which reaches us concerning them may be of their success in converting whole nations to Christianity, or of the lingering death to which they have been condemned by the inhospitable tribes among whom they have been sent.”—*Scotch Free Church Record* October, 1858.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH.

P. E. I. PRESBYTERY.

The Presbytery of P. E. Island, in connection with P. C. of Nova Scotia, met at Cavendish, on Wednesday, 24th November, *inter alia*, Mr. Robert Laird having returned from Scotland, where he had been for some time prosecuting his Theological studies, and being present at the meeting, Presbytery proceeded to take the exercises prescribed to him as trials for license as follows, viz:—A homily, on 1 Cor. xv. 22. “For

as in Adam all die”—A lecture in Heb. vi. 4—6. “For it is impossible &c.”—A Popular Sermon on John iii. 7, last clause, “Ye must be born again.”—Exercise and additions, on Acts iii. 19—21, “Repent, &c.” Mr. Laird was also examined on the 7th century of Church History; the book of Ruth in Hebrew, and in the Greek Testament *ad aperturam libri*. All the preceding exercises were sustained and highly approved. Having satisfactorily answered the usual formula of questions, Mr. Laird was