

## IONA.

Editor Dominion Presbyterian:—It was left to me, by the late General Assembly, to call the attention of the members of our church to the project of the restoration of the unique old church edifice which was associated with the latter period of the Celtic community planted in Iona, in the sixth century, who were instrumental in spreading a pure Gospel throughout Scotland and Northumberland, before the time of the Roman Catholic ascendancy in the British Isles. The lonely island came to be associated with the holiest aspirations of the devout people of Scotland for centuries, and the cathedral in its simplicity of architecture, was in strict keeping with the spirit of the teaching that emanated from this century of light for hundreds of years. A visit to Iona is a fine tonic to the heart of the simple lover of the Gospel, and I heartily commend to Scotchmen in Canada the undertaking to complete the restoration of this piece of ancient Scottish architecture. Dr. Somerville was authorized to receive contributions in aid of the movement, and the smallest sum will be gladly accepted by those in charge of the work in Scotland.

Robert Campbell.

There is no place in the British Islands round which circle associations at once so sacred and so ancient as round the Island of Iona. In the year 565 A.D., St. Columba left his native country of Ireland, and, landing on Iona, founded his famous Mission Station, destined to be a light to lighten far distant lands. For thirty-two years he taught and labored there, and he passed to his rest a few weeks after Augustine, the great Roman Missionary, landed on the shores of Kent. In St. Columba, therefore, we recognize and honour the first great Christian teacher of Scotland. Northern England also was indebted to the inspiring influence of the Celtic Saint, for it was Iona that sent forth Missionaries at the earnest appeal of Oswald, King of Northumbria, to convert his people. St. Aidan was the man chosen for this great work, and from his religious house at Lindisfarne he and his fellow-monks went forth on foot, teaching and preaching the Word. In the words of the late Bishop Lightfoot of Durham, "Not Augustine but Aidan was the true Apostle of England."

Iona was always regarded as a hallowed spot. A Cathedral was built, and pilgrims from all parts of the world assembled to worship there. For a thousand years it was the burial-place of many of the Kings of Scotland, and there also are to be found the graves of Norwegian and Irish Princes. In 1899 the late Duke of Argyll restored to the Church of Scotland the Ecclesiastical buildings and precincts. These are now in the hands of Trustees, to whom the Duke entrusted the restoration of the Ancient Sanctuary. The Choir and Transepts have been restored, and once more Congregations assemble within its hallowed walls. Services are held during several months of the year, and are attended by the inhabitants and by visitors resident in the Island.

A very important part of the work still remains to be carried out, and that is the restoration of the Nave. Besides the additional stability which would be given by the restoration of the Nave, the inner view of the Cathedral would be greatly improved by the completion of this part of the work, as the length is required to show the proper proportion, as well as to restore the original form. So much of the walls with their massive masonry remain standing, besides the Archway leading into the Transept, that it is estimated that a sum of only £3,000 would

complete the necessary restoration. St. Columba himself anticipated in the closing hours of his life that his rude Church of wood and wattle would one day be succeeded by a nobler place of Worship, and that extraordinary honour would one day be paid to his remote Island, after an intervening period of neglect and desolation. His words have been translated from the Celtic tongue in which he uttered them:—

"Isle of my heart, Isle of my love,  
Cattle shall low where holy psalms ascend,

But the glory of Iona shall return  
Ere this fleeting world shall end."

It remains for the present generation to help on the fulfilment of this prediction by generous aid and strenuous exertion. A Committee has been formed of ladies interested in the scheme to organize the collection of small sums throughout the Empire, and is hoped that the requisite funds will soon be collected and the restoration of the Nave completed. In this way we may show our gratitude for the benefits which our ancestors derived from the Island, which Dr. Johnson described as the "luminary of the Caledonian regions." After his visit to Iona he wrote in his Journal, "that man is little to be envied whose patriotism would not gain force upon the Plain of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona. It is for us to show that this piety is no mere sentiment or passing emotion, but a living and enduring impetus to action.

To quote the words of Professor Cowan, "May we not hope that a restored Church of Iona will yet furnish to Scotland and to the world a signal evidence that Scottish Christians can worship in one place, realising that there is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, and endeavoring, through mutual recognition and practical co-operation, to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

## PRESENTATION TO MRS. D. B. GARDNER.

The residence of Mrs. Church Kenny, Aylmer, was the scene of an important event when the members of the Ottawa County Women's Christian Temperance Union were invited to be present for the purpose of meeting Mrs. D. B. Gardner of Ottawa, who has held the office of vice-president of the union for the past twelve years, and who is about to sever her connection with the organization owing to her removal, with her husband and family, to Toronto in the near future.

A social hour was enjoyed with the guest of honor, and then the ladies were called to order by the president, Mrs. David Stewart, who then in a few words explained that it was with deep regret that the union was about to part with a valued officer, and in extending the good wishes of the members of the union to Mrs. Gardner for success in her new home, and field of usefulness, she presented this estimable lady with a handsome silk umbrella with silver mountings, from her co-workers, as a mark of esteem and appreciation of their many years of service in the good cause of temperance.

Mrs. Gardner, in accepting the gift, thanked her kind friends, and assured them that her heart would often be with them in their good work.

White light, perfect light, is made of the complete combination of all the colors of the spectrum. A single one left out mars the whole. All the colors in life are needed to make the pure, white light of the Christian life. The "crimson pain, the violet grief," are no less needed than "love's blue, joy's gold, or hope's shifting light of emerald green."

## LICENSE BOARD CENSURED.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Presbytery of Glengarry: "That this Presbytery place on record its high appreciation of the efforts of Mr. Angus McDonald to secure the observance of the law controlling the sale of intoxicating liquors. Mr. McDonald, in the discharge of his duties as Inspector of Licenses in the County of Glengarry, has shown a faithfulness, zeal, and impartiality that should commend him to moral support of all law-abiding citizens. But, whereas the law in this county is far from being observed, and this disregard for the law is largely due to the fact that there are in this county about twice the number of hotels required for the accommodation of the public, which the Inspector declares make it morally impossible to enforce the law, though it is a matter of surprise and regret that so many citizens have lent their influence and signatures to the securing of such licenses.

"And whereas the Board of License Commissioners has seen fit, contrary to the recommendation of the Inspector, to grant licenses where many facts go to show that such licenses are not needed, but are a menace and a damage to the public good.

"And whereas the Board of License Commissioners, in not complying with the spirit of the law, are not fulfilling the expectations of a large number of voters in Glengarry, regarding the Hon. J. P. Whitney's promises on behalf of his party for the better enforcement of the laws respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors.

"Therefore, be it resolved, that a committee, consisting of Revs. J. U. Tanner, A. Govan, J. D. McKenzie, and K. A. Gollan, be appointed to present the situation indicated above to the Premier, Hon. J. P. Whitney, and to the Dominion Alliance, and to request the Hon. J. P. Whitney to take measures to induce the Board of License Commissioners of the County of Glengarry to work for the better carrying out of the intention of the License Law."

A motion was also adopted encouraging the citizens of Roxborough to work for the adoption of Local Option.

A trusting man climbs a Jacob's ladder. The top is hidden in the clouds, but the bottom is firm, and so he knows the top must be firm also. Whoever sets out to voyage with God will land, like Noah, a great deal higher than his point of departure.

When the Church ceases to be aggressive it loses the sense of the indwelling of its gracious head. The promise is: Go, and I will go with you. When the Church halts in its march, the Captain of our salvation cannot be with it in the spirit of his promise.

Life's best school is living with people. It is there we learn our best lessons. Some one says: "It is better to live with others, even at the cost of considerable jarring and friction, than to live in undisturbed quiet alone."