

from ill health; but he has so far recovered as to be able to preach at Richmond Bay. This congregation proposes addressing a call to him.

It will be seen from intelligence recorded under other headings that both Messrs Byers and McDonald are now off the Home Mission list.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

OUR TURKISH MISSION.—STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE.

A few statements regarding the past history and present condition of the mission to Turkey may be desirable, both from the want of acquaintance of many contributors to foreign missions with the state of that mission, and from their want of knowledge of the resolution of the united church, vigorously to prosecute the work, to which in the providence of God they are called in that land of darkness and spiritual death. In 1858, the attention of the Free Church of Nova Scotia was turned to Turkey, as most urgently demanding at that time the attention of the christian Church. Most providentially a Missionary was provided in the person of the Rev. Petros Constantinides, (known to many in this country), a Licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland, fitted at once for the work as being a Greek. He left our shores for Turkey in November of that year, as the first Missionary to the Greeks from any branch of the christian Church. That people had been sadly neglected, and overlooked, both by the christian churches of Britain and America; though the Romish Church with eagle eye sought to ensnare them.

Mr Constantinides had collected a small band of Protestants or evangelical christians in Constantinople, previous to his going to Scotland to finish his studies. His father and some American missionaries helped to keep them together, till he had returned to them. These Protestants worshipped in a place of which they have been deprived since the Missionary's return to them, and he was compelled to take any place that could be got and at as little expense to the mission as possible. The Free Synod of Nova Scotia were unable to raise such a sum as would build suitable premises in Constantinople, pay the Missionary and a colporteur, and, therefore, directed the attention of the Missionary to surrounding localities where were nuclei of small congregations of Greeks who had been collected through the instrumentality of the American Missionaries labouring among the Armenians.

Passing over from Constantinople to Asia Minor, Mr C. found a few christians who had been long and earnestly crying to Missionaries to visit them. By his presence and preaching they increased so rapidly in number, that he could find no house in Demirdesh (the name of the town) sufficient to hold the large concourse of people that flocked to hear the Gospel. He preached in open courts, and under the canopy of heaven to all who assembled. Meantime, the colporteur, along with his own work, preached to the small band in Constantinople. Schools for males and females were set a-going at Demirdesh, which came to be so numerous attended, that there was no accommodation for the scholars. These schools were upheld for a season by an Association of Ladies in Edinburgh, who knew Mr Constantinides, and appreciated his labours in behalf of his benighted countrymen. Demirdesh is inhabited by Greeks, without mixture of Turks or Jews &c.,