

## Canada.

**DR. LAWSON, LATE OF QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.**—Dr. Lawson, who for several years filled the chair of Natural History and Chemistry in Queen's University, has resigned that position, and left Canada for another sphere of labour in our sister Province, Nova Scotia. His contributions to our knowledge of Canadian Natural History, which have appeared in the transactions of some of our local societies, but more especially in the *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*, and the *Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh*, are numerous and well known; and his efforts to promote the study of Botany in this Province by the establishment of a Botanical Society have been very successful. Ere leaving the University an address, signed by nearly one hundred and fifty of the graduates and undergraduates, was presented to him. We understand that in addition to the Professorship of Natural History in Dalhousie College, Halifax, there is every prospect that he will be intrusted with the Geological Survey of Nova Scotia—an important work which has hitherto been delayed, only by the large outlay required in employing scientific men who would devote their whole attention to it.—*Canada Presbyterian*.

**DR. LAWSON'S SUCCESSOR.**—The local board of Trustees of the University have appointed Robert Bell, Esq., of the Geological Survey of Canada, and lately Lecturer on Geology in Morrin College, Lecturer in Professor Dr. Lawson's place. Mr. Bell is a son of the late R.-v. Andrew Bell of L'Orignal, and brother of the Rev. W. Bell, of Pittsburgh. Mr. Bell has been gradually making himself known in the scientific world. He has been for several years a contributor to the *Annual Reports* of Sir William Logan, and the author of various memoirs which have appeared in the *Canadian Naturalist and Geologist*, as well as other valuable papers. He is the first instance of a Canadian-born gentleman being selected to fill an Art's chair in Queen's University. And on this and other grounds we congratulate him on his appointment. We believe that his appointment cannot be made emanent before the next general meeting of the Trustees. Mr. Bell studied at McGill College, where he received the degree of Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor, and her honors in Natural History.—*Id.*

**THE "PRESBYTERIAN."**—It is with pleasure we notice the success of the organ of our church in Canada. The seventeenth volume commences with the present month; and it proposed to add four additional pages to the amount of reading matter already printed, making 32 in all. Terms—\$1.00 per annum. The editor records his satisfaction at the fact the periodical not only paying its own way, but that the amount of subscriptions paid

enables the committee of management to devote one hundred dollars to the Bursary Scheme of the Church. This magazine has been much more edifying and useful for some time past than formerly, when sharp controversy on a most distracting question in its pages made it the instrument of agitation, unfit for Sabbath reading. It can be cordially recommended to the families of our Church, as an interesting and temperate periodical.

THE copy of hymns prepared for the use of our Church in Canada, is the best we have ever seen. The hymns are excellent and the metres common, and in the whole it is such as was to be expected from the fine taste and discrimination of our old friend Dr. Nicol, the Convener of the Committee.

## Scotland.

THE Free Church Presbytery of Strathglogie has decided upon memorializing their Assembly against the periodical, *Good Words*, some of the speakers denouncing its latitudinarian and miscellaneous contents in what the *Scottish American* calls the "Mause Headrigg" style. The large circulation of this interesting magazine is probably more annoying to these northern lights than its matter. The fanatical portion of the Scottish public has done all it could quietly, to discourage the circulation of *Good Words*, as it does not breathe their spirit. The charge of latitudinarianism amounts in reality to a discouragement of free enquiry. As to its miscellaneousness, it seems that, while it certainly does not resemble the solemn league and covenant or the Confession of Faith very closely in its plan or style, it has a considerable resemblance to the Word of God, which consists of history, biography, moral precepts, poetry, prayers, allegories, parables, dissertations, natural scenes and doctrines; at that immeasurable distance, of course, which must ever interpose between an infallible book and the imperfect works of man. *Good Words* has done much for *literary morality*, in publishing its articles with the names of their respective authors, for the most part, attached to them.

IN the Church of Scotland there has occurred a case of equal folly—only, in this instance, on the part of the people. Lord Seafield has presented to Duthill (a parish upon the borders of Invernesshire), a Mr. Robertson, who was for many years assistant to the late incumbent. As the people had, during the period of his assistantship, petitioned that he should be appointed successor, the Earl of Seafield very reasonably supposed that he could not make a more acceptable appointment. No sooner, however, does the matter assume the aspect of a presentation, than the