

dress which had been adopted by the Synod of the Canadian Branch of the Scottish Church at its annual meeting at Kingston, Canada West, in the month of June last. The address was expressive of gratitude to the Very Rev. Principal for his long-continued labours, while Convener of the General Assembly's Colonial Committee, to promote the welfare of the Scottish Church of Canada.

We extract from the Minutes of Synod the Address, which is as follows.

To the Very Rev. Duncan Macfarlan, D. D., Minister of the High Church of Glasgow, Principal of Glasgow College, Convener of the General Assembly's Committee on Colonial Churches, &c., &c., &c.

VERY REV. SIR,—

It is with no ordinary gratification that we, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, address you in our ecclesiastical capacity. It is well known to all the Christian World that every branch of the Scottish Church is under a debt of deep gratitude to you. At an early period you manifested the liveliest interest in the spiritual welfare of our countrymen in all parts of the Colonial Empire. And to you, possibly more than to any other man, have the many ecclesiastical institutions, which have been established to furnish the means of spiritual instruction to your expatriated countrymen, been indebted for the sound principles on which they are based, and the efficient action that has characterized them. The zeal which was manifested by you at a comparatively early period of your life has, we are happy to think, suffered no decay by the increase of your years, while the prudence and energy which marked your first efforts have signally marked the whole course of your procedure. Multitudes who never saw your face have uttered your name with gratitude, in connection with the enterprises of the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly. And multitudes, we doubt not, in coming generations will have cause to bless your name for your persevering and disinterested efforts in procuring for them the stated dispensation of religious ordinances.

All this, and more, might be stated in reference to the Province of Canada. At the very commencement of our Church you took a deep interest in its welfare, and, when we formed but a little band in the wilderness, you watched over our interests with the greatest care; and to your labours, wise counsel and tender sympathies we feel that we owe not a little of the stability and efficiency of our ecclesiastical organization. And, now that after many trying difficulties we have become somewhat a powerful body, it would ill become us to forget the men in Scotland, and especially to forget you, to whom, under God, we owe so much. We know well that you looked not to man nor to any body of men for mere human compliment. We believe that, as you have acted from high motives, you have in the approbation of your conscience, and above all in the approbation of your God, the only reward which you seek. Yet, Very Rev. Sir, permit us to say that, did we not give expression to our gratitude and esteem, we would do less injustice to you than to our own feelings. To you we are under deep obligations, and we take this way of giving a sincere though feeble declaration of our own sentiments, and what we believe to be the feelings and sentiments of our whole Church in Canada.

We bless Almighty God that He has been graciously pleased to alleviate the infirmities, naturally incident to your great age, with undiminished mental energy, and a heart as open as ever to the welfare of your countrymen, and the progress of the Redeemer's Kingdom. And, although your advanced years preclude the hope of our enjoying the benefit of your wise counsels

and kind aid much longer, yet we earnestly pray that it may please the Sovereign Disposer of all things to spare your valuable life yet a little, and enable you, through His grace, in the high position you occupy to be an eminent blessing, not only to the Church of Christ in Scotland, but also to the Church scattered throughout the Colonies; and that He may crown your labours with the peaceful satisfaction which flows from a long life devoted to His service, and finally by the highest rewards of Heaven.

In Name and by Appointment of the Synod at Kingston, on this Fourth Day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six.

It was a happy but unforeseen coincidence, that this Address should have been adopted and forwarded to this tried friend of the Colonial Church simultaneously with his announcement to the General Assembly of his retirement from active duty and with the adoption of a similar Address by that Body.

The Address having been read, the Venerable Principal replied in the following appropriate terms:

Gentlemen and Brethren—I dare hardly attempt to offer an extemporaneous acknowledgment of the Address which you have now put into my hands. It is no affectation to say that the terms in which that very reverend body have been pleased to speak of my services in the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland are much higher than any to which I feel myself entitled. The only claims I have on their gratitude are a deep interest in the spiritual welfare of our expatriated countrymen, and a sincere desire to promote and perpetuate their connection with the Church of their fathers. That the children of Scotland should carry with them and preserve in every part of the World their early attachment to the pure and Scriptural faith, the simple and spiritual worship, the orderly and effective discipline of that Church, has been, in my estimation, an end worthy to be promoted by every effort which Scotland can make on their behalf. It affords me the warmest gratification to know that such efforts have been made, and that they have not been made in vain. In every part of the British Empire provision has been made, more or less effectually, for the religious instruction and administration of Gospel ordinances among the natives of Scotland and their descendants. In Canada, above all other colonies, the operations of the Committee have been attended with signal success. From a commencement every way inconsiderable, and in the face of difficulties the most formidable, that branch of our Church which you represent on this occasion has steadily advanced to that state of admirable order, government and social importance which it is now admitted to hold. I am aware that the pecuniary resources to which, as forming part of Protestant Church established in Great Britain, I hold it to be fully and constitutionally entitled, have not been made available in all their extent; but it is some consolation to know that they have not been entirely withdrawn, and that considerable benefit is still derived from them, with reasonable hope of its continuance. The high position which the Synod of Canada now has attained may be fairly ascribed, under the blessing of Heaven, to the fidelity and energy of its pastors, and the invincible devotion of its people to the sound evangelical principles of their parent Church. In whatever degree the measures of the Colonial Committee have contributed to such a result, their success will afford to all its members, and to none more than myself, unmixed satisfaction and fervent gratitude to the Giver of all good. It is no slight solace, under the infirmities of that advanced age to which Providence has extended my life, to know that my good wishes and honest endeavours have been so high-

ly appreciated, and that my countrymen at a distance regard me with those feelings of esteem and good-will which the address of the Synod expresses so strongly. I beseech you to convey to that very reverend body the assurance of my heartfelt gratitude, and of my constant prayers for their prosperity, both as individual members of, and as constituting a valuable governing body in, the Church of Christ. Let me only further offer you, gentlemen, my sincere thanks for the attentive manner in which you have executed the commission entrusted to you, and to express the pleasure which this interview has given me.

THE CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.

PUBLIC MEETING HELD IN PICTOU.

(Concluded.)

Rev. Professor George, D. D., corresponding member from the Synod of Canada, said; I appear before you as a delegate from the Synod of Canada. I undertook this mission with a considerable degree of anxiety. The journey I knew would be long, and I would be under the necessity of being a considerable time from home. I felt that the duties I would be called on to perform would perhaps be poorly performed by me. Other duties were pressing on me. Still I entered on the discharge of my duties with much pleasure and high anticipations. These feelings were in the small measure produced by the visit we had from the delegate sent by the Nova Scotia branch of our Church. We have long stood as separate Synods in British North America; but there has been a sentiment felt for a long time in our Synod that we should have fraternal intercourse at last. This has been commenced and I trust will be continued. Even this intercourse of brotherly greetings, interchange of sentiment and Christian feeling cannot but have a beneficial effect upon the Churches. It is well that we should see each other in the face. Are we not brethren in Christ? And, if so, the desire to hold personal intercourse is but the desire felt by apostolic men and expressed by them. It is the living man with the heart warm, uttering the sentiments which he has long carried in his bosom, and uttering them to brethren that sympathize with him, that tells you most of what you want to know. When men sit down to write, they are apt to miss many things that are deeply interesting, and it is not until you have heard from the lips of a brother how things are that you know the state of that Church. And even then after all it is not fully known. I confess that, whether it may arise from an inability to see the minute and the interesting at a distance, I did not see much in the statements that I have heard about this Church that has deeply interested me until I have seen these things with my own eyes. I cannot help thinking, therefore, that even this kind of intercourse must tend to cherish confidence in one another, sympathy with one another when we are in affliction, esteem for one another and above all love for each other.

The interchange of these greetings and the carrying out of these arrangements have been already of great good. Not a few persons, after leaving the meeting which we held in Kingston, after having listened to the statements made by the delegates, expressed their delight and astonishment at what they had heard. Yes! and we were taught a lesson which we need to learn. We were taught that we had not been doing at all what we ought, and, if I am spared to go back, I shall endeavour to deepen that lesson. It often leads us to greater diligence when we see others with less means doing more work. An individual or a Church may sink into a state of dead formality. No appeals may rouse, no lessons may teach; but, if there be conscience in a man and in a Church, that can hardly fail to be moved