

The Monthly Record.

JULY, 1878.


THE REPORT OF THE COL. COM. OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The report of the Colonial Committee is one of the most important submitted annually to the Assembly. No report submitted commands more attention from, or excites a deeper interest in the Assembly. 1st. Because the excellent Convener, the Rev. Mr. Muir, has always a well prepared statement of Colonial matters to present; and 2nd, the Assembly is always interested to hear how their fellow countrymen abroad are supplied with the means of grace. While the Church of Scotland, through her Col. Com., confined her attention and assistance to her own sons, the talk of preparing a report was an easy and pleasant one—but when strangers sought protection under her broad, strong wing, and aid from her bountiful, liberal hand, then the duties of the committee became more complicated and perplexing; and all the more so because these claim to be the real Church of Scotland, and are trying hard to “crowd out” those, who, until ‘75 enjoyed that right without dispute. ‘Tis hard for a committee, as well as for an individual, to serve two masters. We need not be surprised, then, that the Col. Com. was unable to present a report that would satisfy an Assembly divided in their sympathies between those on the one hand, who profess attachment to her under a new name, and those on the other who could not be prevailed upon to sever their connection with her.

The large grants given to the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and the gran

to Queen’s College, over \$12,000.00 in all, took many in the Assembly by surprise. A lively discussion ensued, and it was very apparent from the tone of the Assembly that the liberality of her Com. in that direction was not approved of, especially the grant to a college, where principles are said to be taught that are in harmony with the springs of action that have been lifting their head in the F. Church Assembly, and U. P. Synod, calling for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of Scotland.

With the promise given by several members of the P. C. in Canada, that no help would be required by them, it is not to be wondered at, that the Assembly was somewhat stunned on learning that about one fifth of the Church collections for Colonial uses was absorbed by the Presbyterian Church in Canada; and that the adoption of the report was delayed until further information would be obtained. The aid given to those who remained in connection with the Church of Scotland is the voluntary contribution of the Church of Scotland congregations at home for that purpose. The grants are not given to perpetuate denominational strifes, nor are they used by the kirk for that purpose, nor are we of opinion that these grants can, or will be withheld from the adherents of the Church of Scotland in this Province, until a change in the purpose of said collections be publicly intimated by authority of the Assembly. We can await the result with patience and confidence.

 The Pictou Presbytery will meet, (D. V.) in St. Andrew’s Church, Pictou, on Wed. 31st July, at 11 a. m.

GAIRLOCH.—The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was dispensed at Gairloch on the 30th ult., the day was fine, and the congregation large and attentive.