

very much obliged to you, Sir, if you will offer up a short prayer. I know there is some little difference between our church and yours, but I don't mind that." After prayer, I gave him something suitable to read. This is a truly hopeful case. One of my men in another ward showed very great interest in the spiritual welfare of his neighbours, which makes me hope he may be himself one of the Lord's hidden ones. He took me to see another man of the Church of England, ill of fever, whom I spoke to and prayed with. Another of my people I found very ill. He told me he was dying, and must prepare to leave this world; but that he was not fit to die, for he had been a great sinner. I tried to set before him the fullness and freeness of the Gospel offer. He was much moved, and showed his acquaintance with the Scriptures by saying, "Yes! Christ is the way: for, in the 14th chapter of John, He says, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me.'" When I left him he gave me his hand with great satisfaction. These are only a few of the day's blessings in the course of my labours.

March 28th.—Visited the whole of General Hospital. — died yesterday. He had lain since Almon. The orderly, a Romanist, thinks he must have gone at once to heaven, he suffered so much here! One man, who expected to embark for home this week, has been taken very ill; but, generally, there is much improvement among the men in point of health. 140 new patients received to-day from the Crimea,—only six of them dangerously ill.

March 29th.—Visited the whole of my field of labour,—the General, the Harem, and the Palace Hospitals. Of the 140 fresh arrivals, only six are Presbyterians. One, who expected daily to sail for England, died last night,—another of the many fearful instances of the uncertainty of life.

March 30th.—Did some little things for D., then went to the Palace with a dozen Bibles, expected to have too many, but found I had too few. It was a very great pleasure indeed to distribute the Word of Life to such grateful recipients. Spent two hours in the wards of the Barrack Hospital in the evening with the medical officers, and witnessed the death of a poor fellow just come in from the Crimea.

March 31st.—Went to the wharf with a fatigue party, carrying two boxes of Bibles and a parcel of tracts, and saw them shipped for the Crimea. Afterwards visited the whole of the General Hospital. One of my people died about noon in great peace, apparently the peace of God. The rest of my men seem all getting better. There are many hardened cases, but some I doubt not, will remember their vows. One, who has been brought up from the gate of death, wept when I reminded him of the Lord's goodness and, "I should not soon forget it." Another, after I had prayed at his request, said, "May the Lord bless you, Sir, with everything that can sweeten life; and when you leave the world, may you be received into those mansions where there is fullness of joy, and pleasures for evermore."

We rejoice to say that Mr. Fergusson's health is re-established that he returns speedily to his old labours.

The Late Rev. James Thomson, D.D.

The Rev. Dr. Thomson, minister of the parish of Eccles, whose death, at the vener-

able age of eight; seven, we announced on Saturday last, was the author of several works of merit. Besides the articles "Scripture," "Superstition," and others, which he contributed to the earlier editions of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, he published, within the last few years, three volumes of Lectures on St. Luke, and, quite recently, a volume of Lectures on the Acts of the Apostles. These works were noticed, with commendation, as they appeared, in this journal. Like all Dr. Thomson's writings, they are distinguished by their good sense, simple language, their useful and practical tendency. Dr. Thomson was universally respected and beloved by all who knew him. He was an ardent student, particularly of the Scriptures, with which he had attained to a great acquaintance, and which he regarded with a profound veneration. In the same degree, he felt a repugnance to all human dogmas when set up as authorities in religion. Few men, probably, have studied the Sacred Volume with more earnestness or with greater candour or singleness of aim. Dr. Thomson had great powers of conversation, and was a delightful companion even to the last. He retained much of that politeness which distinguished a bygone generation. He took great delight in witnessing the advancement of knowledge, particularly of Biblical knowledge, and he often expressed regret that he should not live to see the vast improvement which it would produce upon the minds and lives of men. But his most striking characteristics, perhaps, were the generous tolerance of his temper and the liberality of his sentiments. Nothing appeared to him more repugnant to Christianity than that bigotry and narrow-minded dogmatism which have been so often claimed as genuine exhibitions of its spirit. On the whole, there will be no difference of opinion among those who knew him—that Dr. Thomson was an able, and honest, and a good man. Such clergymen are the best ornaments and the strongest pillars of the churches to which they belong.—*Scotsman*.

University and King's College, Aberdeen.

On Tuesday last, the session of study at this ancient seminary was opened in an unwonted, but most commendable and imposing, manner. The newly-appointed Principal, followed by the whole staff of Professors, in their robes, proceeded to the Public School, in which was assembled an unusually large number of students, together with several clergymen and others, to witness the ceremony. After prayer, Principal Campbell proceeded to deliver his inaugural address—which, for vigor of thought, chasteness and force of style, and appropriateness of counsel was both most apposite to the occasion, and well justified his elevation to so distinguished a place in that University. Heartly and repeated bursts of applause interrupted the delivery of the address, at the close of which and after the benediction, the students separated into their respective class-rooms to begin the business of the session. It was a gratifying sight to see the staff of Professors again complete, about to enter on their respective duties with a vigor and talent nowhere surpassed, having at their head a Principal possessed of such powers of mind,

enriched by such stores of liberal learning; and, as their junior, the newly-appointed Professor of Greek, a young alumnus of their own, and of such surpassing promise—of whom any University might well be proud.

Ordination.

On Thursday last, 22d inst., the Rev. Andrew Leiper was ordained minister of Greenhead Church, by the Established Presbytery of Glasgow. The Rev. Dr. Runciman, of St. Andrew's Church, presided, who, in an eloquent and impressive manner explained to the minister and people the duties of the new relation formed between them. A service was held in the church in the evening, which was very numerous attended; at which C. H. Murray, Esq., Chairman, in the name of the congregation, presented Rev. Mr. Leiper with a large and valuable collection of books, chiefly theological. Mr. Leiper made a very appropriate reply, and the meeting was afterwards addressed by several of the city ministers. We understand that this is likely to be a most harmonious settlement. Mr. Leiper has officiated as missionary in the church to which he has been ordained for almost a year and in that time the number of seats let has increased more than threefold, while the communicants and Sabbath-school teachers have augmented in a similar proportion.—*Glasgow Herald Novr. 26, 1855.*

Colonial Churches.

The Committee have recently appointed the Rev. John Ogilvy, assistant at Gamrie in Banffshire, and the Rev. Peter Macvicar, assistant at Bonhill in Dumbartonshire, as missionaries within the bounds of the Presbytery of Montreal, and the Rev. Alexander Buchan, minister of St. Ninians, as a missionary within the bounds of the Presbytery of Kingston. They have also appointed the Rev. William Murray as a missionary within the bounds of the Presbytery of Miramichi, with the view of his being ordained as minister at Moncton in that Presbytery. All of these gentlemen have sailed for their respective destinations, and the Committee fondly trust that the labours of these missionaries will be blessed for the spiritual good of the many thousands in those localities.

The Committee are deeply pained to think that there is a great want of Gaelic ministers and missionaries in Canada and other provinces, and that at present they are unable to comply with the repeated requests that have been made to send out any. They do hope that ere long, they will be in a condition to satisfy the wants of the many thousands of their Gaelic countrymen who have so urgently appealed to them.—*Home and Foreign Missionary Record.*

Tain.

Sept. 18, 1855.—We observe with pleasure the following paragraph in the *Glasgow Citizen* of Saturday last:—"The Rev. David Ross, who has been assistant in the Parish of Roseneath for the last 18 months, has now been appointed assistant to the Rev. Mr. Watson of St. Matthew's Church, Glasgow, by the unanimous wish of the congregation. Mr. Ross