

duced," and "That in all time coming, it shall be held and acted upon as a standing law of the Church by all the Presbyteries of this Church, with respect to all Students of Divinity entering upon the said study, from and after this date, that previously to the enrolment of any Student as a Student of Divinity, he shall be examined by the Presbytery within the bounds of which he resides, upon Literature, Science and Philosophy, particularly upon Greek and Latin; that when Students shall not give regular attendance at the Divinity Hall, excepting for one year of their course, they shall during the currency of the fourth year of that course, be examined by their respective Presbyteries upon their attainments in Divinity, Church History, Greek and Hebrew, and that in both cases they shall present to the Professors of Divinity under whom their studies are conducted, the certificates of examination, granted by Presbyteries."—Acts of Assembly, Act 8, 1813; and Act 7, 1827.

As an encouragement to the study of Theology, we would beg leave further to state, that the Synod of Nova-Scotia has already entered upon the consideration of this subject, and we have good reason to believe that arrangements will be made to carry on the Theological studies of young men for the Sacred Ministry in this colony, so soon as they shall have finished their course of Literature and Philosophy.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

We have received the last, which is the thirty-fifth report of the British and Foreign Bible Society, but have not as yet found sufficient leisure to peruse it as we could wish. It is like the preceding reports, a very long and interesting publication, and contains an account of the circulation of the Sacred Scriptures in almost every part of the habitable globe, and in almost every language spoken by man. It would be difficult to form a correct and satisfactory abridgment of its contents, for the information of our readers, but we intend to transfer, on some future occasion, a few of the most remarkable passages into our pages.

UNION OF PRESBYTERIANS.

Our readers, we are sure, will peruse with peculiar satisfaction the report, contained in another column, of the proceedings which took place on Wednesday last in the Presbytery of Glasgow. The union that day consummated between two highly esteemed ministers, together with their kirk-sessions and congregations, and the Church of Scotland, was in all respects one of the most interesting and delightful events witnessed in this city for many years. It is not one of those ill-sorted unions of which we have so many examples in this Latitudinarian age—unions of parties at the expense of principles—unions in which truth and honour are sacrificed at the shrine of selfishness. On both sides there has been, on the contrary, in the case of this union, an uncompromising adherence to their principles; and for the sake of principle alone has the union been formed. After the watchful observation of years, the Associate Synod have found the Church what the venerable fathers of the Original Secession prayed she might become; while the Church, on the other hand after an observation equally narrow and searching, has found the Associate Synod, in the soundness of its doctrine, in the purity of its discipline, in its firm adherence to the standards and constitution of the National Religious Establishment, in the piety, talents and fidelity of its ministers, a body every way worthy to be incorporated with herself. We confidently hope that this auspicious event will, ere long, be followed by others of a similar kind. There are other bodies of Seceders who have long been looking with the eye of affection and veneration to the Church of their fathers, inheriting as they have done, the desire, deep seated in the hearts of the first Seceders that the time for returning into her bosom might speedily come; and, we have reason to believe, that in the Church's present and growing zeal for the cause of her great Head, in her labours of love at home, and missionary enterprises to the heathen abroad, in her rigid exercise of discipline, in her evangelical preaching, in her manifest anxiety to purge out every abuse, the impression is now rapidly extending among them, that the set time to favour our National Zion is come, and that the day is at hand when, with a good conscience, they may and ought to return within her time-honoured walls. These Seceders who are now cherishing sentiments like these have, in the event of Wednesday last, and in the

similar events which are now taking place in every town where the ministers of the Associate Synod are situated, a most satisfactory evidence of the cordiality with which both the clergy and laity of the Establishment are prepared to hold out to them the hand of welcome. And while thus adverting to these gratifying circumstances, we are forcibly reminded by their occurrence of the high value of that boon which was conferred on the Church and people of Scotland by the passing, some years ago, of the Act familiarly known by the name of Mr. Colquhoun's Bill. Without that Act, no such union as that we have just witnessed could possibly have taken place.—Previous to the passing of that Act, the patron of every parish in Scotland had been found entitled to claim the right of patronage of every Church that might be erected within that parish. And no sooner, accordingly, would a church of the Associate, or any other Seceding Synod have been brought within the pale of the Establishment, than the power of nominating its minister would have been lost by the congregation. While such a state of the law existed it is plain that no Secession Church could ever have been expected to join the Church of Scotland. Mr. Colquhoun's Bill removed entirely this formidable barrier to the extension of the Church by taking away from the patrons the obnoxious power described. So that every new church now built, and every Seceding church now united to the Establishment, is completely freed from all interference by the patron: the settlement of its minister is as unfettered within the Church as it could have been beyond its pale. The active share which the member for Kilmarnock had in obtaining from the Legislature an enactment so invaluable, is one of the many services which entitle him to the deep gratitude of the Church of Scotland. —*Scottish Guardian.*

GLASGOW COLONIAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening last an interesting meeting was held in Hope Street Church, in connection with the Glasgow Colonial Society, for the purpose of designating the Rev. W. Reid, who goes out as missionary in connection with the Presbytery of Kingston, Upper Canada; the Rev. J. H. Brooke, to a congregation in New Richmond, Lower Canada; and the Rev. Mr. Love, for Australia. The Rev. James Smith of Wellpark preached, and the Rev. John Macnaughtan of Paisley gave the address, and the Rev. Dr. Burns of Paisley engaged in prayer. The whole service was deeply interesting and impressive. —*Scottish Guardian.*

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.

The Venerable the Presbytery of Van Dieman's Land, met in the session-house of the Scottish Church in Launceston, on Thursday the 14th February—the Rev. J. Lillie, moderator, and proceeded, according to appointment, to the ordination of the Rev. R. Russell to the pastoral charge of the congregation of Morven. The Rev. John Lillie being appointed to preach and preside on the occasion, chose for his text Eph. iv. 11 and 12, and took occasion to point out the scriptural form of Church government; tracing it from the earliest ages of Christianity, and applying it closely to the occasion. A piece of more impassioned eloquence it has rarely been our lot to hear. The audience, which was large and highly respectable seemed rivetted to the spot; one universal feeling pervading the whole. The address, also, to the Rev. R. Russell and his congregation, was alike appropriate, energetic, and impressive. Indeed, the whole service was worthy of the Venerable the Church of Scotland. The newly ordained minister received the right hand of fellowship from the members of the Presbytery.—*Hobart Town True Colonist.*

PRESENT STATE OF "SOCIALISM."—There are now upwards of sixty Branch Societies, in the principal towns in the kingdom, in which there are places of meeting for lectures on Infidelity and Socialism. The Sabbath is occupied in the delivery of seditious and blasphemous addresses, tea-parties, profane singing, music, &c. &c. In some places, Sunday and Infant-schools have been established, for the inculcating of infidel principles. A Tract Society has been formed, and six tracts issued; these are frequently distributed under the Wesleyan and Church Tract covers. A most blasphemous weekly periodical is circulated, at the rate of 40,000 per week. There is a regularly organised central board, with President, Vice-President and Secretary, and a great number of salaried emissaries, whose whole time is devoted to the advancement of Socialism. Additional impetus has been given to their proceedings by the disgraceful presentation of their founder, Robert Owen, to the Queen, by the first minister of the crown.—*Sheffield Mercury.*

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. We shall endeavour to find room for the Half-yearly Report of the Halifax Agricultural Society next week.

NOVA-SCOTIA PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the Nova-Scotia Philanthropic Society, held on Monday evening the 6th inst. the following gentlemen were chosen Office-bearers for the ensuing year:—

- THOMAS FORRESTER, Esq. *President.*
- Mr. WILLIAM A. McAGY, *Vice President.*
- " ROBERT A. BIGBY, } *Asst. Vice Presidents.*
- " CHARLES D. HUNTER, }
- " WILLIAM CALDWELL, *Treasurer.*
- " ROBERT M. BARRATT, *Secretary.*
- " SAMUEL CALDWELL, *Asst. Secretary.*
- " WILLIAM B. STEVENSON, *Steward.*
- BEAMISH MURDOCH, Esq. }
- Mr. ROBERT RICHARDSON, }
- " JOSEPH BENNETT, } *Committee of Charity.*
- " JOSHUA LEE, }
- " MATTHEW LOWNDS, }

WILD FLOWERS OF NOVA-SCOTIA, BY MARIA MORRIS—It is the intention of the above talented young lady to publish the first set of a series of drawings of the Wild Flowers of Nova Scotia. Every Nova-Scotian able to afford a copy of this work, which whether absent or present will bring to his memory the scenes of his native country, should patronize the talent of the fair artist. The drawings are very beautiful, and are to be lithographed and coloured in London. The first set will contain two Nos. in each of which will be three plates. For further particulars see advertisement.—*Times.*

FIRE AT NEW YORK. There was a dreadful fire at New York on the night of the 5th, and morning of the 6th inst. The entire square bounded by Water, Fulton, and Front Streets, and Burling Slip, is a heap of ruins except five or six stores on Fulton Street—only one in that street being wholly destroyed—and one in Front Street, next to the corner of Fulton. Some of these remaining buildings were much damaged.—The entire square was devoted to extensive commercial pursuits. This has been the greatest fire since the conflagration of 1835. The papers state the loss at one million dollars.—*Times.*

H. M. ship *Andromache* will sail on Wednesday morning for New York. The *Winchester* on Saturday for Bermuda.—*Jour.*

We are truly happy to learn, that on Thursday next, at twelve o'clock, the corner stone of M-Gill college will be laid by His Excellency Sir John Colborne.—*Montreal Gazette.*

A number of inhabitants of this town, are forming themselves into a Company for the purpose of pursuing the Fishing business; the capital in the first instance is limited to £1,500, divided into 120 shares, at £10 each. We have no doubt but that the whole stock will be subscribed for, and we heartily wish the spirited individuals engaged in the undertaking the best success.—*St. Andrew's Herald.*

It is rumoured in town that His Excellency the Governor General has received dispatches from the Colonial Office, directing the reinstatement of Messrs. Panet, Vallier, and Bedard, to their seats on the bench on the ground that their decision was founded in error, and not from any disloyal motive. It is also said that his Excellency refuses to reinstate them, and leaves the matter to his successor in the government.—*Montreal Herald.*

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The session of the Halifax Mechanics' Institute will open on the first Wednesday in November.

The following is a List of Lecturers, as arranged by the Committee.

- Nov. 6. Joseph Howe, Esq. Introductory Address;
- 13. Dr. Grigor. Phrenology; 20. Ditto, ditto; 27. Dr. Teulon. Saline Substances; Dec. 3. Ditto. General Knowledge; 10. P. Lynch, junr, Esq. Antient Art; 17. James Forman, junr. Esq. Magnetism; 24. Ditto ditto; 31. Dr. Creed. Light; Jan. 7. Ditto; ditto; 14. G. R. Young, Esq. Steam Navigation; 21. Mr. George Smithers, Drawing; 28. Mr. A. M'Kenzie. Hydraulics.

The Mail for England, by H. M. Packet Star, will be closed on Thursday next at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

PASSENGERS.

In the Planet from Gibraltar, Mr. T. A. Ritchie, and Mrs. Dickson and family. In the Venus, from Labrador, Mr. T. Allen. In the Roseway for Bermuda, Mr. T. Robinson. In the Brenda, Mrs. and Miss Stewart, H. Huntingdon, Esq. Messrs. R. F. Hare and Rennie. In the Acadian from Boston—Mr. McLand and Lady, Mr. & Miss Dechezeau, Miss Crow, Mrs. Barnes and child, Mrs. Joyce and child, Mr. Seiveright, and 3 in the steerage.

For remainder of Halifax Head, see page 135.