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The Presbyterian.

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD
OF THE



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

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No. 9, September, 1857.

VOLUME X.

Price 2s. 6d. per annum, in advance.

The Presbyterian.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are reluctantly compelled to postpone the insertion of a *Lay Reader's* communication, it being received too late. As a rule, correspondence should be in our hands not later than the 17th of each month. We cannot insure the appearance of articles, received later, in the first number.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We have to request subscribers, who may not receive their copies of the *Presbyterian* with due regularity, to notify us, as the Numbers are properly issued from the Office; and every care will be taken to remedy any errors in transmission or direction.

TO PRESBYTERY CLERKS.

We have again urgently to request Clerks of Presbyteries to furnish us with accounts of inductions and other notices of matters interesting to the Church. Since the Synod several inductions and translations have taken place, which should have been noticed, had we been put in possession of information in regard to them.

PRINTED MINUTES.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Synod have been printed in the usual pamphlet form. Copies have been addressed and despatched to each Minister, with a view to their being distributed, as far as they will go, among the members of Kirk-sessions and others interested in the proceedings. It is possible that omissions may have occurred. The Synod Clerk will supply them on their being intimated to him. Copies of the Minutes of 1856 can also be furnished to any Ministers who may not have been supplied.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MISSIONARIES.

We are glad to be able to announce that the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland are now directing their attention to Canada, and are acting with the same vigour and promptitude which characterized their dealings with Nova Scotia. The Montreal Presbytery, some time ago, transmitted a statement of their vacancies, and, as is elsewhere announced in reply, the Rev. Mr. Herald was appointed as a Missionary within its bounds. This is an appropriate name, for we trust he will prove but the advance-guard of a strong detachment of true Heralds of the good tidings.

We have further great pleasure in announcing that the Rev. John Moffatt and the Rev. John Rennie have since been designated as ordained Missionaries to the same Presbytery, and are expected to sail for Canada about the middle of September.

This is truly encouraging, and we would again strongly urge the various Presbyteries to transmit the list of vacancies and openings for Missionary labour within their bounds to any member of the Committee appointed by the Synod at its recent meeting for the purpose of transmitting a statement to the Colonial Committee. Let not laxness on our part defeat the favourable intentions of the Colonial Committee.

BAPTISMS IN INDIA.—THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

We are in receipt of the *Home Record* for August. At Bombay a young Hindoo of the Banian caste had been baptised by Mr. Sheriff, who hoped in his next letter to announce the reception of several more. During the year eight converts had been brought in at Bombay.

The *Record* contains an announcement of much importance to British America, and testifies the lively interest felt in our

welfare by the Colonial Committee. It will be noticed that the Committee are not only desirous of sending out Missionaries, and maintaining them till settled, but also of aiding in the erection of churches and assisting weak congregations to support their ministers.

It will be noticed that the allowance by the Committee to the missionary of £150 per annum closes on his taking a charge. This should act as an incentive to vacant congregations to offer a respectable income to their ministers, at least equal to the stipend secured by the Committee. There is now every prospect of our receiving a good supply of labourers; let our people show their gratitude for this seasonable help by liberality. The memoranda are as follow:

COLONIAL CHURCHES.

The attention of intending candidates for Colonial appointments is directed to the following statement:—

MEMORANDA.

1. The Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland allow their missionaries in British America £150 sterling per annum.
2. The allowance for Outfit, in addition to Passage-money, is £25.
3. The missionaries appointed are directed to labour under and within the bounds of some Presbytery, and are requested to send to the Committee certificates from the Presbytery, within whose bounds they are employed, previously to drawing their half-year's salary.
4. In the event of missionaries receiving a call to any fixed charge in the colonies, the arrangement made with the Committee terminates.
5. The appointments made to other parts of the world are in all cases to fixed charges. These appointments, when vacant, are advertised. The Outfit allowance* to the West Indies is £30; to Australia and Ceylon, £35.
6. Licentiates and Ministers, desirous of devoting themselves to missionary work, must send in their applications, with Presbyterial certificate and other testimonials, to the Secretary, General Assembly's Colonial Committee, 22 Queen Street Edinburgh.

GRANTS IN AID OF SALARY.

The Committee are prepared to consider applications from any Colonial Congregation *unable from its own resources to provide a sufficient stipend for its minister*, provided these applications be approved of and strongly recommended by the Presbytery of the bounds.

BUILDING GRANTS.

The Colonial Committee are prepared to consider applications for aid in erecting suitable places of worship in the Colonies. But these grants are in no instance made—1. Until the Presbytery of the bounds certify the necessity of the case. 2. Till such a sum *be contributed* by the people themselves as, with the donation granted by the Committee, will leave the edifice entirely free of debt. 3. Until a certified copy of the title-deeds, inalienably attaching the building to the Church of Scotland, be transmitted to the Committee.

J. C. FOWLER, L.L.D.,
Convener.

THE FRENCH MISSION.

In the present number we insert the Report of the Committee on the French

* The Outfit allowance is in all cases understood to cover expenses incurred in travelling to the port from which the vessel sails.

Mission as submitted to the last meeting of the Synod, together with the Synod's deliverance upon it. We do so in the hope that the statements contained therein may meet with the attention they deserve. The Mission is a most important and interesting one; the Church is pledged, solemnly and repeatedly pledged, to its prosecution. At present it may be said to be in a state of incipient resuscitation, having had to struggle in its past history with difficulties and reverses that had well nigh threatened its utter extinction from among the Christian enterprises of our Church. The Committee have formed new plans and are making new experiments, in the carrying out of which they study anxiously and prayerfully so to act as to command the fullest approbation of their Christian brethren; they are prepared—past experience has taught them to prepare—to work and to wait patiently, being fully aware of the strong opposition which from the very nature of the Mission must be encountered, yet confident that the Lord will own by ultimately blessing the labours of such as are faithfully engaged in promoting it. Their chief anxiety arises, it is mortifying to confess, from the backwardness which exists throughout the Church to supply them with the necessary funds; they have come under an obligation of £60 to Mr. Leger for his services as Catechist during the summer months; yet this small expenditure they will be unable to meet unless a more general support be given them. By act of Synod an annual collection is appointed to be made for this Mission on the first Sabbath of June. That day is long past for the present year, and all that has been received, as will be seen by the Treasurer's acknowledgments in this number, is £21. 1s. 3d. The Church has approved of the plans of the Committee; yet the Church is leaving the Committee to incur pecuniary obligations with the paltriest promise of aid. Present efforts will be fruitless unless they can be continued without interruption; the interruption most to be lamented is at present an empty treasury. Mr. Leger returns to College at the commencement of the ensuing session. Is the Mission to come to a stand-still then? The Committee are seeking the assistance of a new labourer; they have received good testimony in favour of one whose services are immediately available; but what promise can they give of anything like support? Congregations that have made no collection or contribution, are most earnestly implored to do so; and there should be no delay in forwarding any sums that may be raised. Do not say it is a good cause and leave the Committee without the means of prosecuting it; let not Ministers in Synod give their approval of the Committee's operations and views, and out of Synod give no opportunity to their congregations of doing something to further them.

LETTER FROM INDIA.—THE CALCUTTA ORPHANAGE.—PLEADING FOR PRAYER.—APPEAL TO OPEN A SCHOOL.

While all eyes are looking eagerly towards India, the ensuing letter from Calcutta, with which we have been favoured, will be read with deep interest, and we trust that many will respond earnestly to the appeal with which the letter closes, "Pray for us." The struggle seems to be indeed between light and darkness. Old customs are falling, idolatry is shaken to its base, and is putting forth a desperate effort to regain supremacy. We doubt not it will be frustrated, for we know that in His own good time "the idols He shall utterly abolish."

We direct particular attention to the appeal for aid to open a "Canadian School," so pointedly urged by Miss Hebron.

One of our wealthier congregations could easily spare £30 per annum for that purpose, or several could unite, and thus easily overtake it. We will gladly receive contributions for this object, no matter however small in amount, or parties feeling interested may correspond with Mr. Paton, Kingston, who would have pleasure in arranging the manner of supporting it. Meanwhile, now that so many of our children have their hearts knit to the cause of Indian Missions, there is the more urgent call upon us to pray for the missionaries in India and to be instant in supplication to the Father of Mercies that He would bring light out of darkness, and restore peace to that benighted land.

SCOTTISH ORPHANAGE,

10 LOWER CIRCULAR ROAD

CALCUTTA, 17th June, 1857.

MY DEAR SIR,—It gave me great pleasure to receive your letter of the 4th of April, and, as thereby an opening has been made of direct communication between the Orphanage and Canada, I beg to offer my thanks and kind Christian regards to yourself, and the several Churches, for the warm interest they have taken in this Institution. It will indeed give me great pleasure to correspond with you from time to time. On looking over your list, I find we have only 6 names out of the 18, two are no more—but I write to Mr. Wright by the last mail that I had got another child in the stead of Mary Hamilton (deceased), called by the same name, for the Hamilton School children, and, as Mr. Wright said you wished for a promising child, as you wished her to be brought up as a teacher, I have appropriated this one to Canada as she is quick and lively. Most of the Indian children are slow and apathetic, but there are exceptions, and these I endeavour to bring up as teachers. We have a Normal class, and, when they are a little advanced in their studies we place them there. As soon as I have another unappropriated child, I shall put her in the place of Catherine Mathieson, as we are trying to fill up the old list before making over a fresh names.

We have lost 9 children since November, 1856. Some died of Small Pox, and others from the effects of the disease. I am thankful to say they are all in good health at present, 48 in number. You ask in your letter whether there is an opening for a teacher or catechist; we shall indeed be thankful if you will support a teacher. Besides the Orphanage I have three

day-schools for heathen girls who are provided for with Christian teachers, a fourth one Mr. Yule closed before I took charge, but the people have several times come to me to have it reopened, and, not having the means, we have not hitherto done it, and, since receiving your letter, I have consulted the Rev. Mr. Herdman, our Secretary, and he thinks, with myself, that, if you will support this school, then we may reopen it and call it the Canadian School. The cost annually will be £25 for a teacher, the people at the place are willing to defray extra expenses, such as paying a woman to bring the children, and giving them a little parched rice for their lunch, and sometimes a piece of cloth, for you must know that they are very poor, and most of them come for what they can get, but that must not deter us, for we are told to "sow beside all waters," and the last day will reveal what has been accomplished by these little Schools.

We shall do nothing at present towards opening this School till we hear from you again, for the whole of India is in a state of panic and excitement from the revolt of our *Native Troops*, the Mohammedans being inclined to join them. The City of Delhi is in their hands, and many of our brethren have been savagely murdered by them.

We here in this City stand in a manner with our lives in our hands. Two days ago (Sunday) was a day of fearful excitement; many of the churches were closed, as it was rumoured that they would be attacked.

It is remarkable that they are chiefly incensed against Missions and Missionaries. They say that the Governor General wishes to force them to become Christians; so that I firmly believe that it is the devil struggling for his dying power, that after this fearful trial India will more fully embrace the Gospel, and Missions be more blessed. We may some more of us fall, but God will not let His people's blood be spilt in vain.

The 23rd of this month we are looking forward to with a degree of anxiety; but I trust our gracious God will overrule the designs of the wicked for their own overthrow. It will be the centenary of the Battle of Plassey, when India became the possession of the British Crown.

The fort is guarded with English troops, the river is full of war-steamers, and the streets are doubly guarded by the police; all faith is lost in our *Native Troops*. My heart aches most for our brethren up country. For myself I fear not; for, if I have found (as I trust I have) refuge beneath the shelter of the Cross, sudden death will be sudden glory; it is only for my charge that I feel anxious.

Please God, if we are spared, I hope to write soon again, and send you the half-yearly reports of the children. In the meantime, dear Sir, pray for us; this is indeed a time for fervent prayer.

Believe me, with Christian regard,
Yours, very faithfully,
FRANCES HEBRON.

JOHN PATON, Esq.,
Kingston, C. W.

THE CHURCH IN CANADA.

SUBSCRIPTION IN AID OF THE BURSARY FUND OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

From the Missionary Association of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, by the Rev. W. Bain,..... £5 0 0

JOHN PATON,
Secretary.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE,
Kingston, 17th Aug., 1857.

THE FRENCH MISSION FUND.

The following contributions have been received :-

Markham, per Mr. Jas. J. Bark...	4	2	0	0
Perth, " Rev. Wm. Bam...	2	10	0	0
West Flamboro, per Rev. K. McLennan,.....	1	11	3	
Montreal, per Ladies of St. Paul's Church,.....	15	0	0	
	22	1	3	

ARCH. FERGUSON,
Treasurer.

Montreal, 22th August, 1857

DEATH OF THE REV. WILLIAM BELL.

We cut from a Perth paper the ensuing notice of the death of one of the veterans of the Presbyterian Church.

Foreseeing his speedy removal, Mr. Bell, in concert with his congregation, had taken steps for uniting his charge with the other charge in Perth, and the Synod having approved of it, the union had been effected ere his decease.

Mr. Bell had two sons, ministers of our Church, the late Rev. Andrew Bell, Synod Clerk, and the Rev. George Bell, of Clifton. One by one the veterans of the Church, who bore the heat and burden of the day, are being gathered to their fathers. There will soon be few left.

DIED.

At Perth, on Sabbath morning, the 16th August, the Rev. William Bell, A.M., the Minister of the First Presbyterian Church, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and the forty first of his ministry. He was born at Airdrie, Scotland, on the 20th May, 1780, educated for the Gospel Ministry, at the University of Glasgow, and ordained at Edinburgh, March 4th, 1817.

He had looked to Canada for some years as the scene of his future labors, and arriving at Perth as the Minister of the First Presbyterian Settlers, in June 1817, he entered at once on his public Ministry. Though he had many labors to go through and hardships to endure in a new country, he never repented the choice he had made.

He had the honor of being the first to preach the Gospel in Lanark, Ramsey, Beckwith, Smith's Falls, and other places, besides Perth: at all of which there are now flourishing congregations. It was his desire that his friends at a distance should be informed that he died in the firm faith of that glorious Gospel which he had with so much pleasure preached to others, and in the unclouded hope and prospect of a glorious immortality beyond death and the grave. His last illness was merely the decline of nature; his increasing infirmities had compelled him to cease his public labours about three months ago; but he was confined to his room only two weeks, during which he suffered very little pain, and was uniformly calm and happy. His latter end was peace.—*Perth Standard*.

INDUCTION AT MELBOURNE, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS, C. E.

On Thursday, the 30th July, the Presbytery of Quebec met there for the ordination of the Rev. James Sievewright, as minister of this district in connection with the Church of Scotland. The Rev. Dr.

Cook, of Quebec, conducted the services, preaching a most eloquent and appropriate discourse from 1 Cor. i. 17. "For Christ sent me not to baptize but to preach the Gospel." After Mr. Sievewright had answered the questions prescribed by the Church, and had been solemnly set apart by prayer and the laying on of hands for the work of the Holy Ministry, the Rev. Dr. delivered an affectionate charge to both pastor and people as to their relative duties to one another, inculcating on the one prayerful, earnest and unwearied zeal in the discharge of his office, enforcing in an especial manner the duty of a personal application of the truths brought before the people from the pulpit, not searching the Scriptures merely for the sake of his flock and overlooking his own necessities, but remembering that, if he would seek earnestly to labour to win souls to Christ, he must first himself have obtained a saving faith in our Great High Priest; on the other a cordial co-operation with their minister in every labor, so lightening his burdens, bearing with him in his weakness, remembering that he was of like passions with themselves, and not only encouraging him by their regularly assembling themselves in public, but also assisting him by private prayer.

The young pastor was cordially welcomed by his new flock, among whom he has been labouring with great acceptance for a short time as missionary.

In connection with the charge at Melbourne, Mr. Sievewright regularly officiates on alternate Sabbaths at Windsor and Brompton Gore, with occasional weekday services at other places. In the three stations Bible Classes and Sabbath Schools have been established, which already are well attended and promise to be of great service to the young. Altogether the prospects held out by this settlement appear to be of the most cheering kind.

MEETING OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE TRUSTEES.

The adjourned Meeting of the Trustees of Queen's College was held on Wednesday, the 5th August, and was attended by nearly all of the members.

We understand that the first business before the meeting was a proposal to erect houses for the Principal and Professors on the College grounds, thus very much adding to the convenience and comfort of those gentlemen, who have at present much difficulty in finding residences near the College, and in some cases are obliged to live at a considerable distance. It was stated that, as the Professors were willing to pay a moderate rent for such houses, this could only have the effect of withdrawing funds from Bank Stock and of investing them in another way at little loss to the College. It was also shown that such a plan would very much enhance

the value of the other College property in Kingston. Further consideration of the scheme, however, was postponed until the next annual meeting, it being deemed advisable to wait until the debt on the present College Building was paid off.

The next and most important business before the Trustees was the election of a Professor of Hebrew, Biblical Criticism, and Church History. As has been already stated, there were seven candidates for this office, five of them being from Scotland. The testimonials of all the applicants having been printed and placed in the hands of the Trustees soon after last meeting, an ample opportunity has thus been afforded of careful investigation into the merits of each. The choice of the Trustees, we are pleased to learn, fell upon the Rev. J. B. Mowat, of Niagara, a gentleman whose scholarship and attainments secured for him high testimonials, while his many amiable qualities have endeared him to a very large circle of friends. We heartily congratulate Mr. Mowat on his appointment, and trust that he may be as successful in the responsible office of training up young men for the Ministry as he has been in the discharge of his ministerial duties in Kingston and at Niagara.

The elevation of a graduate of Queen's College to fill one of her Chairs marks an era in the history of the Institution. May it stimulate our young men, who study for the Ministry, to see such high offices within their reach.

Some arrangements with the Medical Faculty and other business having been handed over to the Executive Committee, the Trustees adjourned *sine die*.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

A regular meeting of the Presbytery of Montreal was held at St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, on the 5th ult. Sederunt Rev. Thos. Haig, Moderator; Dr. Mathieson, Rev. Jas. Anderson, Rev. Wm. Simpson, Rev. Alex. Wallace, Rev. James T. Paul, Rev. John McDonald, Rev. Fred. P. Sym, and Rev. Wm. Snodgrass.

Commissions in favor of the following Elders, elected to represent the kirk-sessions and congregations to which they respectively belong, were read and sustained, viz.: Alexander Morris, M. A., St. Andrew's, Montreal; George Elliot, Orms-town; Thomas Allan, Lachine; Hugh Burr, Huntingdon; Donald A. Livingston, M. D., Russeltown; John Greenshields, St. Paul's, Montreal; and Frederick Steele Verity, M. D., Hemmingford. Dr. Verity, being present, took his seat as a member of Court. The Presbytery instituted proceedings with reference to those sessions from which no returns were received, with a view to their being brought to attend to this matter.

The Rev. John McDonald, Minister at Beechridge, was elected Moderator for the ensuing year.

The Convener of the Committee on St. Gabriel Street Church and property reported that the case was proceeding favorably.

The Convener of the Committee on Church property reported that since last meeting returns had been received from Beauharnois, Chatham, Huntingdon and Russeltown. The Committee was continued.

The Clerk reported that he fulfilled all the instructions laid upon him at last meeting.

The fulfilment of all the appointments of Supplies and Presbyterial Visitations was reported to the satisfaction of the Court. It was agreed to reserve the reports of the Visitations till the whole are completed. The following Visitations were appointed:—Chatham, 25th August; Dundee, 15th September; Huntingdon, 16th September; Beechridge, 22d September; Russeltown, 6th October; Lachine, 2nd November; St. Paul's, Montreal, 3rd November. Supplies were appointed for Dundee, Laprairie and Hemmingford, and arrangements were made for dispensing the Communion to the congregations of these vacant charges.

Monsieur Prospere L. Leger, student in Divinity, appeared before the Presbytery, and was examined with a view to his entering the Theological Hall, Queen's College, for the second year. The Presbytery were highly satisfied with his examination, and ordered the Clerk to give Mr. Leger the necessary certificate.

There was read a letter from the Secretary to the Colonial Committee, of date 12th June, 1857, enclosing an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Colonial Committee, and intimating, in answer to the appeals of the Presbytery for Missionaries, that the Committee had resolved to take the earliest opportunity of sending Missionaries to this Presbytery. There was also read a letter from the same Secretary, of date 14th July, 1857, stating that the Rev. James Herald had been appointed to act as a Missionary under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Montreal. This intelligence was received by the Court with the highest gratification.

There was read a letter from the Secretary to the Board of Clergy Reserve Commissioners, soliciting information regarding the expenditure of the Manse and Glebe Fund within the bounds of the Presbytery. Ministers were enjoined to forward the required information to the Clerk without delay.

The Clerk, as Treasurer, submitted a detailed statement of the Presbytery Fund, which was examined and passed.

The Presbytery then adjourned till the following day, when the minutes of the last meeting of Synod were submitted, and all matters requiring the notice of the Court were attended to.

A Committee, consisting of Dr. Mathieson, Messrs. Simpson and Snodgrass, was

appointed to report to next meeting on the Overtures on Statistics, which were referred by the Synod to this Presbytery.

The Presbytery then appointed their next meeting to be held at St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, on the first Wednesday of November next.

UNTO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY:—

We, Your Majesty's loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, now in Synod assembled, desire to approach the Throne with this expression of our sincere and unabated attachment to Your Majesty's Person and Government.

We heartily congratulate Your Majesty on the birth of another Princess, on whom we pray that the Divine favour may be abundantly bestowed in common with the rest of the Royal Children, and that Your Majesty and Your Royal Consort may have the high satisfaction of beholding all the members of Your Family growing up in the fear of the Lord, and successfully emulating all the virtues of the most illustrious of their ancestors.

The recent affliction with which it has pleased God to visit Your Majesty in the removal by death, of Your Majesty's Aunt—the last of the immediate offspring of Your Royal Grandfather—calls for our sympathy and condolence, which we dutifully tender.

We sincerely trust that the announcement, which Your Majesty has been pleased to make to the nation, of the betrothment of the Princess Royal, may be followed by a long and happy union between her and the object of her affections; and that the personal alliance, thus about to be formed with the Princely Scion of a leading European Monarchy, may prove to be eminently conducive to the welfare of one whose happiness cannot fail to engage Your Majesty's solicitude. We desire to tender our thanks to Almighty God, who hath appointed civil rule as His own ordinance for good to mankind, that in this important Province of Your Majesty's Dominions your faithful people enjoy, under the mild rule of Your Majesty's sceptre, the numerous blessings secured to them by the time-honored Constitution of Great Britain—under which so many advantages flow to them as an integral portion of the Great Empire over which Your Majesty so worthily presides.

Whilst the spiritual oversight of the numerous adherents of our own Church in this land, and the maintenance of a healthy piety among them, must ever be our first care, we shall hail with satisfaction every wise and suitable enactment to which the Royal assent may be given for checking public vice, and for granting facilities for spreading the influence of True Religion among the general community: and we humbly beg to assure Your Majesty that in our own sphere, it shall ever be our endeavour to cherish amongst all, over whom our influence extends, that loyalty to their Sovereign and that respect to Religion, the combined influence of which is so conducive to individual and social prosperity.

That it may please "Him, by whom Kings reign and Princes decree justice," to establish in righteousness the throne which Your Majesty occupies; that He may enrich Your Majesty with the treasures of His grace, and abundantly bless You and all the members of Your Illustrious House, and that after a long and prosperous reign over an attached people He may finally receive You into His Eternal Kingdom. is our fervent prayer.

Signed in name, and by appointment, of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church

of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, this third day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven years, by

GEORGE MACDONNELL,
Moderator.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, BARONET, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, now assembled in Synod at Hamilton, embrace the opportunity of again assuring Your Excellency of our loyalty to our Most Gracious Queen, our attachment to the British Constitution, and our earnest desire to advance the best interests of this great country, in which Divine Providence has cast our lot.

We believe that nowhere is more true freedom enjoyed than in the dominions of Her Majesty, and that no form of Government is better fitted to promote the happiness of its subjects than that which is established in Great Britain and her Colonies. And we therefore hope that Canada may long remain under the protection of the British flag, and in the enjoyment of those laws and institutions which have raised the Mother Country to its present high rank among the nations.

But we know from the Word of God and from observation that the happiness of a people is dependent, not so much on their outward privileges and advantages as on their moral and religious character. And we therefore deeply feel the responsibility which devolves on us, as office-bearers in the Christian Church, to use unwearied diligence in leavening the minds of our population with the principles of true Christianity. The influence of our Church, however, is at present very much curtailed by the want of a sufficient number of Ministers to undertake the charge of those who desire and need their services. And accordingly, besides applying for additional Clergymen from Scotland, we are endeavouring to increase the efficiency of Queen's College, Kingston, where our own students are trained for the sacred office. That Institution still flourishes. It is annually sending out young men highly qualified for the varied learned professions, and is well deserving of Your Excellency's assistance and patronage.

Our efforts for the welfare of our adherents would be vastly aided by the better observance throughout the Province of that Holy Day which the Almighty has specially set apart for religious instruction and worship. And we rejoice to learn that the Legislative Council has recently requested Your Excellency to take steps to prevent the desecration of the Sabbath by public servants, and in those public works which are under Government control; and that the Legislative Assembly has passed the third reading of a Bill having the same object in view. We are persuaded that, by carrying out such a measure, Your Excellency's administration will do honor to itself, impart high satisfaction to the religious portion of the community, and confer a great boon on the people of this land.

Our Church has always taken a profound interest in the education of the young. And, while the present system of our Common Schools in Western Canada has not our

entire approval, we have been pleased to know that the Bible is read in most of them, and that their advantages are enjoyed by children of all denominations. We, therefore, utterly condemn the changes which some of our Roman Catholic brethren are striving to effect in their constitution, and in the mode by which they are sustained. We deprecate the success of every attempt to exclude from them that Holy Volume which God has graciously given for our instruction in youth as well as for our guidance and consolation in riper years. And we trust that no enactment will ever be framed by our Legislature, or sanctioned by Your Excellency, for transferring any part of the taxes, levied on Protestants for Common Schools, to the support of schools designed only for Roman Catholics; for such an appropriation would be, in our view, alike unjust to the former, and eventually injurious to the latter.

That the blessing of the Almighty may rest upon Your Excellency's person, family and administration, and that after an honorable, useful and happy life on Earth Your Excellency may be exalted to the inheritance of Heaven, is our sincere prayer.

Signed at Hamilton this second day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven years; In name, in presence, and by appointment, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland.

GEORGE MACDONNELL,
Moderator.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE FRENCH MISSION.

The Presbytery of Montreal, being the Committee of the Synod on the French Mission of the Church, beg leave respectfully to report:—

That they entered upon the discharge of the duties, devolving upon them, with a due sense of their importance and with an anxious desire to discharge those duties so as to promote the best interests of the Mission.

They accordingly held several meetings, and by the appointment of a Sub-Committee, correspondence and otherwise procured information relative to the matter intrusted to them, and, as the result of their inquiries and deliberations, unanimously report and recommend in the terms following.

And, first, they conceive it fitting to state that the following properties belong to the French Mission, viz: a valuable property in Montreal, on which there is a wooden building, leased at present for £20 per annum, purchased with the view of being made the site of a French Church; and a lot in Sorel with a brick Church upon it, purchased with the funds of the Mission. In addition to these properties, there is a sum of £200 cy. in the hands of the Treasurer, Hugh Allan, Esq. The property in Sorel is held in the individual name of Mr. Allan, and that gentleman wishes to be relieved from the responsibility.

Having thus noticed the material features of the Mission, the Committee come now to the consideration of the present condition of the Mission. Since the loss of the Milton Station last year, the facts connected with which are within the cognizance of the Synod, the Mission has been practically in abeyance. It is true that a sum of £10

was voted in aid of a former Missionary, who is now stationed near the Province Line, and is partially engaged in Mission work, but, with that exception, nothing has been done in the way of carrying on the Mission during the past year. Is it not time that we were up and doing? The Church, believing that a way was opened up to them in Providence, deliberately entered upon the work of this Mission. The Church recognized the manifest calls of duty in this matter. Dare we, having thus put our hand to the plough, turn back? The Committee think not. They believe that a path of usefulness is open to the Synod among our French Canadian fellow-citizens, and they think that they see the way to putting the Mission on a better footing than it has ever hitherto been. They recognize the responsibility which the Synod has deliberately incurred, and consequently suggest that a Committee should be appointed or continued, charged with the duty of reviving and carrying on the Mission. They rejoice to believe that this can be effectively done, and they have pleasure in stating that Queen's College is likely to furnish the means of doing so to some extent. They have had before them an application from Mr. P. L. Leger, a native of France, and a Divinity Student of Queen's College, requesting employment during the summer months as a catechist. Mr. Leger has still two sessions to attend the College before he will be entitled to receive license, and is wholly dependent on his own exertions for a livelihood. He relinquished an appointment in the High School, Quebec, to become a Student, and supported himself during the last session by teaching.

He states that he cannot do justice to his studies while thus engaged, and craves employment during the summer months, to enable him to pursue his studies more satisfactorily in the winter. The Committee have received very favorable accounts of his character and acquirements, and think that he has claims upon the Church for encouragement and aid. They have therefore employed Mr. Leger during the summer months as a catechist under the supervision of this Presbytery, and stationed him at Sorel among the French and Scotch population there and in that vicinity. They have promised him a salary of £60 for his services during the summer, but think it should be raised to £70. A double object will thus be obtained, and should the opening be found a favourable one, Sorel may be formed into a congregation, the few Scotch families being cared for, and the French Mission being also effectively prosecuted from that point as a centre of operations in that District.

In order to enable this desirable object to be effected, the Synodical Collection might be taken up in June, and the Committee hereby memorialize the Synod to enjoin attention to it.

The Committee are persuaded that the members of our Church would cheerfully respond to this appeal, especially when a way thus appears to be opening up in securing speedily the services of a competent Licentiate of our Church to prosecute this important Mission. Already they are aware of tokens of renewing interest, and they feel satisfied that funds shall be forthcoming to meet all the requirements of the Mission.

The Committee further recommend that during the ensuing year a correspondence should be entered into with Dr. Grandpierre

of Paris and the Church to which he belongs, with a view of directing their attention to this important field, and ascertaining whether, if circumstances justify the extension of the Mission, a Minister of character, ability and piety could be obtained from that quarter. The Committee think that material aid might be thence obtained, and besides an interest might be awakened towards the great Mission-field in Canada.

The Committee have now placed before you their views. They have endeavoured to discharge their duty. They trust that the Synod will concur in their proposals, and they hope that the Mission, hitherto struggling with so many difficulties, will yet be placed in a satisfactory position and be productive of no little good. The field that stretches out to the view is a wide one. There is much darkness—much need of the enlightening influence of the Gospel of light. May the feeble instrumentality of the effort be owned by the Great Head of the Church, and be honoured to lead many to the knowledge of the Great Salvation!

W. SNODGRASS,
Convener, Sub-Committee.

ALEX. MORRIS,
Secretary, Sub-Committee.

Montreal, May 6, 1857.

DELIVERANCE OF THE SYNOD ON THE FOREGOING REPORT

It was moved by Dr. Urquhart, seconded by Mr. Tawse, and unanimously agreed:—That the following deliverance be given:—Approve of the action of the Montreal Presbytery in the French Mission, rejoice in the prospect of permanency now opening up to it, recognise the call of duty to persevere in the mission work, and remit the same to the Presbytery of Montreal, calling the attention of Presbyteries to the injunction of Synod as to an annual collection for this scheme, tender the thanks of the Synod to Hugh Allan, Esq., for his long continued and faithful discharge of duty as Treasurer, and appoint Archd. Ferguson, Esq., Montreal, to be Treasurer.

PROFESSOR GEORGES REPORT OF HIS MISSION TO THE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA IN THE SUMMER OF 1856.

Soon after the close of our Session of Synod of last year I proceeded to the Lower Provinces to discharge the mission to which you had appointed me.

After meeting in private with various Brethren of the Synod of Nova Scotia, I went to Pictou, at which place the Synod met on the 3rd of July. I need scarcely say that, as your Deputy, I was received with great kindness, and was invited to sit and take part in the deliberations of the Court. I shall ever look back to the meeting of this Ecclesiastical Court with no ordinary satisfaction. It is well known that our Brethren in this portion of the Church have had extraordinary difficulties to encounter ever since the unhappy Secession in 1811. It is true that, when they met in Pictou in July last, the state of things had very much improved. Still, from the small number of ministers in the field, those engaged in the work were not only oppressed with excessive labour but were sorely perplexed in looking at their future prospects; yet it was to me exceedingly cheering, and not a little instructive, to see the energy and zeal with which

they entered on the business of the Church. Indeed one could not help thinking that men, who could labour as these men were doing, and, as it were, hoping against hope, could not fail in the end to build up the cause of Christ. I am free to say that I have never seen in any Church Court a finer manifestation of earnest-heartedness, wise charity, and oneness of spirit. Every man indeed seemed to feel that he was there to do business, and that the business to be done was the advancement of the Saviour's glory in the salvation of souls. Hence I could not but notice with interest that, while the Synod was to some extent occupied in making new laws for the regulation of its affairs, the great anxiety, nevertheless, was to see how far the laws already made had been carried into effect in the schemes of the Church and in the management of the various congregations. It was indeed highly gratifying to observe that our brethren did not appear satisfied that they had passed good resolutions, unless they found that these had been reduced to practice. It is needless to say that a body of Church rulers acting in this way will have schemes fruitful of good, because thoroughly wrought, and rigorously supervised, as well as wisely planned. I found all this to be so in the Synod of Nova Scotia. I cannot go into details; nor is this needful; but I am sure you will be pleased to learn that their scheme for aiding young men studying for the ministry has been carried on for a number of years with great zeal, and has been sustained with very commendable liberality. There appears indeed to be a deep conviction, among the people as well as the clergymen of the Synod, that the sorest and most indispensable of all wants is the want of a Gospel ministry.

I remained about a month within the bounds of the Synod; and during that time I not only visited several congregations in Nova Scotia, but also congregations in Prince Edward Island. It was cheering to witness in the Island, as well as on the Mainland, the multitudes that came together to attend on Divine worship. Yet the large church, crowded with people, is by no means the most interesting part of the spectacle you witness. It has never been my privilege to address more devout and earnest worshippers than I addressed on these solemn occasions. As a stranger can only see the surface of things, he can judge but imperfectly; yet justice as well as charity will surely warrant the inference that there is within the bounds of the Synod of Nova Scotia a large portion of earnest piety. Not only appearances, which are very pleasing, but substantial fruits give very decisive evidence of this. Although I have travelled a great deal on this Continent, yet I have been in no part of America in which I have found the best points of Scottish character so entire as in the Lower Provinces. You see there the same love of Gospel ordinances, the same becoming respect for the clerical office, and simplicity of mind which have been long prominent characteristics of Scotchmen at Home. Apart from the ability, untiring labour and devoted zeal of their ministers, I stop not to enquire into the cause of this state of things among the people; but I am sure you will join with me when I say,—May God in mercy grant that it may ever continue! For assuredly in the healthy piety of a church we must ever look for the real strength, peace and efficiency of that church.

It is known, I presume, to the members of this Court that our Brethren of Nova Scotia have since last year received a great accession to their numbers. The pleasure which this intelligence has afforded will be greatly enhanced by learning that the preachers sent out from Home are men every way admirably fitted for being efficient labourers in the Colonial field. For, although I had not the pleasure of seeing any of these missionaries, yet I can, on the most reliable authority, speak of their high worth. Now, while we heartily rejoice with our Brethren in their increase of clerical labourers, yet it might be well for ourselves to keep in mind how wisely and zealously they have employed all means for the obtaining of this; but especially that most powerful of all means—earnest and believing prayer. For I cannot but think that, while Church Courts were pleading with the Colonial Committee, and their able Commissioner was pleading energetically with the students and preaching in Scotland, there were many obscure but pious souls, who had long mourned over the desolations of their Zion, who were wrestling in secret with God that He would send men after His own heart to break among them the bread of life.

I have to state, with extreme regret, that I was not able to remain so long in the Lower Provinces as to attend the meeting of the Synod of New Brunswick. With the excellent brother who represented that Synod at Pictou I had much pleasant and profitable conversation. And I have the best reasons for thinking that fraternal intercourse with us is as much desired by the Church of New Brunswick as by the Synod of Nova Scotia. Indeed the part they have taken in this matter hitherto, not to speak of what you heard from the lips of their worthy Deputy last year, places this beyond question.

If the time be not just come for an organic union into one General Assembly of all the branches of the Church of Scotland in British North America, yet the consummation of this grand event is what our Brethren in the Lower Provinces look forward to with as ardent desires as this Synod has ever done. Whatever, therefore, of good, and that may not be little, which our present fraternal fellowship may yield, still it should only be regarded as preparatory to that more complete union—a one General Assembly. Nor can I entertain a doubt that, if we are faithful to our Lord, the day will come when the different sections of the Church of Scotland shall not only hold fellowship for mutual counsel and brotherly love, but meet as one body, by their representatives, for the management of the affairs of a Church which shall extend through all parts of British North America; and which thus united may be mightily instrumental in extending that simple form of Gospel ordinances and that Scriptural faith with which our dear native land has been for ages so signally blessed.

THE LATE REV. JOHN LINDSAY, OF LITCHFIELD.

Our last number conveyed to our readers the mournful intelligence of the death of this young and excellent minister of our Church, and also of the high esteem in which he was held by his people.

His early and unexpected death has indeed caused grief and dejection in many a heart upon earth. We, who see thro' a glass, darkly, and know but in part, may feel at a loss to determine why God released from his labors in His earthly career so early one who applied himself so diligently, and with qualifications which held out the promise of great future success. But we believe that the event, which has caused so much grief upon earth, has diffused joy throughout Heaven.

Mr. Lindsay's period of labor as a public servant of the Lord was brief; but we are persuaded that all, who were acquainted with the diligence and faithfulness which characterized him as a minister of the Lord, will be ready to say that he finished the work which his Heavenly Master had given him to do. Of him it can be truly said, he adorned by his own Christian character, and commended by his Christian deportment, the doctrines of the Gospel, which, out of a well furnished mind, and a heart overflowing with love to God and men, he so affectionately and faithfully preached.

It was his happiness to be placed over an interesting and important congregation. He loved his work and his people. His people felt and appreciated his worth, and loved him for his work's sake, and for the sake of the graces and virtues so conspicuous in his character and life. Of their love to him they afforded substantial evidences, not by words merely, nor yet by honorably fulfilling their pecuniary obligations to him, but by bestowing upon him, over and above all this, several valuable presents, whereby he felt greatly encouraged in the performance of his duties, and the bonds of affection between pastor and people became greatly strengthened and endeared.

The name of Mr. Lindsay has now become a household word in Litchfield. His memory possesses a precious savour there, and young and old, we believe, will long remember the affectionate earnestness and zeal with which he, as the ambassador of Christ, besought them to be reconciled to God; and will greatly profit by the many ways in which, in season and out of season, he laboured to promote their temporal and spiritual welfare.

As bearing evidence to the worth of Mr. Lindsay, and as manifesting still farther the attachment of his people towards him, we cannot forbear placing before our readers an extract from the letter which the writer received from one of his elders, announcing the death, as that worthy elder expresses it, "of our beloved and excellent pastor," viz.:—"He died in the full triumph of that glorious Gospel which while living, he so faithfully preached. His death-bed scene was one which, I am sure, will never pass from before any who was privileged to behold it. Oh! what glory was full displayed before his ecstatic gaze! His last words were ci-

ther "Welcome, Heaven", or "Blessed Jesus." He repeated both so many times that in my anxious state at the moment I will not venture to say which. He was in my arms during the last four hours of his life, when he breathed his happy and redeemed soul into the arms of his Saviour. When speech failed him, I would ask him if all was light and joy? Oh, how earnestly would he, in response, press my hand! My feelings will not allow me to dwell more at length on this glorious scene; but my tears are those of joy, for what is our great loss is his unspeakable gain."

This is creditable alike to the departed and to the living.—We also subjoin a few facts which have been furnished to us in reference to the previous history of the deceased, which many, we believe, will read with interest, and which the young especially should read with solemn and profitable feeling. And, with reference to some of these facts, we ask the gay, especially our young men, to consider what causes had Mr. Lindsay, who from his boyhood had been most moral and amiable, for deep convictions of sin, which many of them have not! Under what obligations, we also ask, was Mr. Lindsay to devote himself to God in the ministry of the glorious Gospel of His Son, that do not press upon hundreds of the young men in those families to which our humble publication pays its monthly visits as the silent messenger and remembrancer of God? Once more, we would most affectionately and earnestly call upon our young men to contemplate Mr. Lindsay's brief but important and honourable career. Let them visit Litchfield, and learn the honour and affectionate regard in which his memory is held. Above all let them visit his death-bed, and let them see him yield-up his departing and rejoicing spirit into the hands of his Redeemer, exclaiming with his last breath, "Blessed Jesus," "Welcome, Heaven;" and then let them say whether honours and rewards and blessings, at all comparable to these, are to be found in the race for riches or in any of the other courses pursued by those young men who, foolishly, and to the ruin of their best temporal and eternal interests, allow themselves to become enslaved and led away by "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life."

Mr. Lindsay was born in the month of March, 1823, in Paisley, Scotland. His family emigrated to Canada in the year 1827. In the spring of 1832 they settled in the Township of Ormestown on the Chateauguay river, where his aged parents still live to mourn over his loss. Here for many years Mr. Lindsay was engaged in the ordinary occupations of a farmer. In the latter end of 1845 and the year 1846 he came under strong religious convictions. It was impressed upon his mind that he should give up the farm and devote himself to the ministry. For a time his

mind seemed as if torn by contending forces; at length he resolved to give up all, and devote himself to study. He began to study with the utmost ardour, assisted by his elder brother (now the Rev. Peter Lindsay, minister of Buckingham and Cumberland,) who at that time was suffering from severe affliction. In the spring of 1847 he went to the Upper Province, and, still unsettled in mind, took a school. After teaching about a year, he was joined by his brother, and they went to the United States, where they studied for a year. In the month of June, 1849, the brothers came home together, and in the fall of the year entered Queen's College together, both having now resolved to consecrate themselves to God for the ministry.

In College Mr. Lindsay was ardent in study, and passed with much credit through the various classes of his literary and theological career. In the spring of 1854 he completed his studies at the University, and in course of the summer was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Kingston, and soon afterwards ordained by that of Bathurst to the pastoral charge of Litchfield.

The seeds of the disease that cut off Mr. Lindsay, it is believed, were laid in his constitution in the spring of 1850 at the close of his first session in College. He went home that spring enfeebled by internal disease. He recovered, yet he has never been the same since. He has several times since that had severe attacks of sickness. Last winter he laid his plans to go to the sea-side during the summer months. He attended the meeting of Synod at Hamilton in May last, and there asked and obtained from his Presbytery leave of absence for the purpose now stated. During the meeting of Synod he preached at Guelph. He then visited his parents in Lower Canada, where he also preached on the first Sabbath of June. He visited his brother in Cumberland in returning home. On his return to Litchfield he was sick from exhaustion, yet he continued his ordinary labours. After a time his health seemed to recover. On the 28th of June he preached for the last time. On the 2nd of July he was seized with violent intermittent fever, and on the 4th was attacked with dysentery. His disease seemed to yield to medicine, and on Monday the 6th he was better, but weak. On Wednesday he became much worse, and evidently had but a short time to live. In the evening of that day he conversed with all about his approaching end. When one spoke to him of the dark valley, he corrected them, saying "There is no darkness." His death was one of joy and triumph. He expired about 6 o'clock of the evening of the 9th ult. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours and their works do follow them."

THE CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.

We learn from the *Halifax Record* that another Missionary, the Rev. Thos. Tulloch, arrived from Scotland in the month of July last, and that still another was expected. The Colonial Committee are certainly doing great things for Nova Scotia.

The Synod of Nova Scotia in connection with the Church of Scotland met in St. Andrew's Church, New Glasgow, on the 8th of July. The roll as compared with that of last year is very much altered, chiefly in consequence of the numerous accessions to the ministry during the past year. The Moderator, the Rev. A. W. Herdman, preached from these words of Ex. iii, 2. "The bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed." The Rev. A. McKay, M.A., the minister at Belfast, P. E. I., was elected Moderator for the ensuing year. The Rev. Dr. Barclay from the Synod of Canada, and the Rev. James Steven from the Synod of New Brunswick, were welcomed as corresponding members. The Rev. John McRae, Stornoway, Scotland, and the Rev. W. Snodgrass, Montreal, being present, were invited to sit and deliberate with the members of Court. Business of much importance affecting the interests of the Church was transacted. Quite a number of overtures were introduced and disposed of. We notice one relating to the participation by the ministers in Nova Scotia in the benefits of the Widows' Fund of the Synod of Canada. In the deliverance on this overture the Synod expressed their gratification that the Synod of Canada had instructed the Managers of their fund to take legal counsel on the practicability of extending their operations to the Lower Provinces. A committee was appointed to consider the whole subject and report at a subsequent sederunt. The result is not given in the present number of the *Record*, which contains only a part of the proceedings. Arrangements were made for the allocation of Missionaries as they arrive from Scotland, and the duties of the Superintendent of Missions were particularly defined with reference to vacant stations and destitute fields of labour. Instructions, based on overtures, were given to Presbyteries to prepare statistical tables and condensed reports of their proceedings to be submitted every year to the Synod. The Rev. Allan Pollok, who is on a visit to Scotland, and the Rev. John McRae, of Stornoway, were commissioned to use their endeavours in securing the services of Gaelic Missionaries, some of whom are yet greatly needed. The Synod recorded their unanimous satisfaction at the introduction of the *Juvenile Presbyterian* into some of the Sabbath Schools under their charge, and recommended its increased circulation. The Orphanage Scheme was

also unanimously commended for more general adoption and support. A Committee of Correspondence was appointed to communicate with similar committees, appointed by the Synods of Canada and New Brunswick, on the formation of a General Assembly. The scheme for the education of young men, natives of the Province, for the ministry is in a flourishing condition. No less than six are pursuing their studies at College, and the Treasurers' reports show a sum of £215 Halifax currency on hand. The Treasurer of the Home Mission Fund, which was instituted for maintaining Missionaries while acting as such, reports £120 on hand.

In addition to other useful and instructive articles the *Monthly Record* contains a long and interesting letter from a correspondent at Berbice.

THE PIC-NIC OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOL.

[From the *Gleaner*, August 3.]

On Tuesday, being the day set apart for this Pic-Nic, a large company of the younger portion of the community, together with a goodly sprinkling of middle-aged and old folk, proceeded in Mr. Bell's arge steamboat to Beaubear's Island, where they spent a merry and a happy time. Not being able to attend ourselves, we are unable to give a report of the proceedings, and are therefore indebted to a Correspondent for the following account—

It is pretty well known that Mr. Millar, our Grammar School Master, assisted by his good lady and a few friends, whose labours of love are beyond praise, has taught the Sabbath School in connexion with St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, for nearly 25 years past. During that long period Mr. M. has laboured in the good work of training the youth in the fear and nurture of the Lord with equal ability, fidelity and success.

It may not be deemed out of place to state here that St. Andrew's Church Sabbath School, which numbers from 80 to 90 scholars, has been, all along, a self-sustaining Institution, that its Library numbers nearly 1,000 volumes, and that it pays annually for the education and maintenance of a Hindoo Orphan, whom it has adopted and named Elizabeth Millar. This little orphan is being instructed at one of the Institutions of the Church of Scotland in India.

For some time past a disposition had been evinced on the part of the parents of the pupils and friends of the Church to tender to Mr. and Mrs. Millar, some expression of their gratitude for their unwearying exertions in so good a cause. A meeting was accordingly convened in the School-Room on Tuesday, the 21st ult., at which it was resolved, in compliance with the suggestion of Mr. Millar himself, that a *Water Excursion and Pic-Nic* be got up for the scholars of the School, their juvenile friends of other Sabbath Schools, and such others as the Parents of the former may invite. A Committee of active and intelligent young men was chosen to secure the services of Mr. Bell's largest Steamer, raise funds (an easy task) to pay for the Boat, &c., and make all preliminary arrangements.

The Pic-Nic came off on Tuesday and was truly one of the most delightful, best conducted and successful efforts of the kind that we have ever witnessed. The Steamer started from the Ferry Wharf about 10 o'clock, and

proceeded up the River, calling at Douglstown and Newcastle, till she reached the North-west Bridge. After affording the party an opportunity of inspecting this long and admirable structure, she put about, and, passing through the *Tickle* to the South-west, stopped at Beaubear's Island, and landed the party at the wharf of Mr. Harley. Here they remained till a little after 4 o'clock.

Having marched to the selected field of conflict, a terrific slaughter ensued. Knives and forks were put into the hands of all present, and great was the destruction of beef and mutton, puddings and pies, cakes and crackers, creams and custards, &c., &c. To attempt a description of all the fun and frolic, singing, dancing and speechifying, which were kept up till the *Whistle* announced the hour for departure, would be about as impossible as unnecessary.

To Mr. and Mrs. Harley the Party are under lasting obligation. The preparations made by them previously, their unremitting exertions to contribute to the comfort and harmony of the Company while on the Island, and their hospitality to all who would partake of it, need no comment from us.

One great object of this Pic-Nic was to bring together without distinction as many of the Youth of our community as possible. It is well known that the friendly intercourse even of an hour has not unfrequently sown the seeds of friendship, which time instead of destroying has only tended to deepen and mature. The invitations were therefore as numerous and general as the size of the Steamer and other circumstances would warrant. Perhaps not less than 300 to 400 souls shared in the pleasures of the party. Persons of all ages—from the babe in its mother's arms to the man of 'bald pate' and wrinkled brow—were there. Every class, creed and country were represented.

The Steamer was tastily decorated with flags, and rendered comfortable by awnings fore and aft. Mr. Bell, the Owner, whose courtesy and kindness on such occasions are proverbial, did his best to render all, while on board, as comfortable and happy as possible. Besides securing the indispensable services of the Band, who ever and anon discoursed sweet music, he took part in these performances himself.

The day was dry and delightful: a cooling wind kissed the cheeks of all, but not too roughly, and all, from first to last, went off as happily as heart could wish or pen describe.

Truly, if there be one thing more gratifying to the benevolent mind than another, it is the pleasure to be derived from ministering to the amusement and witnessing the innocent mirth of children: and it is wonderful what a small matter will suffice to render them happy. Only shift the scene at short intervals, and it will matter but little how 'tame,' or 'stale,' the representation may be; for

'In life's sunny morn every thought is joy.'

Although pretty far up the hill of life ourselves, we seldom fail to share the happiness of the young as they laugh and prattle and Lop about like butterflies in quest of fresh draughts of delight. Nor are we ashamed to confess that, unmindful of the fact that "silent time" has sped us far on the journey of life, we often unconsciously fall into the ranks and take part in the innocent frolics of youth, even as in days long gone-by.

May Heaven's best blessing rest upon each and all of the "little ones" who attended the Pic-Nic. May God bless abundantly their Parents and Teachers with health, happiness and prosperity; and may He in His own good time re-assemble the whole party on that happy shore,

"Where death-divided friends do meet,
To part no more."

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(Concluded from page 122.)

MONDAY, JUNE 1.

The General Assembly resumed this morning at eleven o'clock—Dr. Robertson, Moderator.

THE MISSION AT COCHIN.

Professor Mitchell intimated that the Jewish Committee proposed to appoint the Rev. Mr. Yule formerly in the service of the Ladies' Association for Female Education in India at Calcutta, as missionary to Cochin, in room of the Rev. E. Laseron; and it was remitted to the Presbytery of Dundee to take the Rev. Mr. Yule on trial for ordination, the said ordination, if conferred, not to entitle him to receive a presentation to any charge in Scotland.

REPORT OF INDIAN CHURCHES.

Dr. Hill read the report of the committee appointed to bring before the East India Company the claims of the Scottish residents in India for an increased number of chaplains in the Presidencies in connection with this Church. The committee, with the view of being better able to report progress, had applied to be informed how far the Church of Scotland might now entertain the hope that the boon so long and urgently requested might be conceded, and they had learned that the expected despatch on this subject had not yet reached the India House. Communications, however, though not of an official character, had been received by the committee, which led them to believe that the result of the inquiry would soon reach the India House, and that, taking into view the rules acted upon with regard to the chaplains of the Church of England, the report would be found to authorise the appointment of a larger number of Scottish chaplains than the General Assembly had ventured to request.

On the motion of Dr. Grant a resolution was agreed to, expressing approval of the report, and the Assembly's satisfaction at being able to entertain the hope of an early and favourable result to their applications to the Indian Government.

GAELIC SCRIPTURES.

The committee was reappointed to endeavour to obtain from Government the same protection in the publication of the Gaelic Scriptures as was enjoyed by the English version.

ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

Dr. Robertson, having left the chair, which was taken by Dr. Crombie, ex-Moderator, read the Report of the Endowment Committee, of which the following is an abstract:—

The operations of your Committee during the past year have been almost exclusively confined to the raising of additional funds on the plan of provincial subscriptions, which was approved of by preceding Assemblies. The plan has been generally approved of, and has met with encouraging success. Some subscribers prefer, indeed, to restrict their subscriptions to one or more chapels in which they take a special interest. We receive the subscriptions of such parties in their own terms. Sums subscribed in this way will supply, in whole or in part, the balance of endowment capital which the provincial subscription leaves unprovided for. In conjunction with this subscription, they may thus be made serviceable to the accomplishment of our object. Your Committee have the pleasure to report that an encouraging amount of subscriptions has been raised on the provincial plan during the past year, particularly from parishes. This gratifying result they chiefly attribute, under God, to the Christian zeal and patriotism with which the interests of the Scheme have been espoused by many of the leading noblemen and gentlemen of the country.

The following is an abstract of the collections and subscriptions that have been received or intimated during the past year, arranged under the several heads of (1) Church-door collections; (2.) Provincial subscriptions; and (3.) Subscriptions in favour of particular chapels:—

1. Church-door collections, donations, and other receipts,	L. 2215	13	3
2. Provincial subscriptions —			
Group I., L. 1407; Group II., L. 5991, 4s. 6d.; Group III., L. 16,017, 12s. 6d.; Group IV., L. 1358, 16s. 6d.; Group V., L. 12,237, 15s. 10d.,	37,012	9	4
3. Subscriptions to particular Churches directly through Committee, enumerated in list appended to this Report, L. 16,168, 3s. 4d.; value of manse and relative buildings at Wanlockhead, and of stipend L. 150) a twenty-five years' purchase, contributed by his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch to Endowment Scheme, L. 4650,	20,818	3	4

Total subscriptions, &c., during the year,	L. 61,046	5	11
Amount reported to former Assemblies,	239,164	15	11

Gross amount of subscriptions, &c.,	L. 300,211	1	10
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The following is a list of the subscriptions upon the provincial plan towards the endowment of each of twenty chapels in the several groups, viz.:—Group I., L. 714, 17s.; Group II., L. 730, 6s. 11d.; Group III., L. 1819, 12s. 7d.; Group IV., L. 534, 9s. 10d.; Group V., L. 693, 18s. 4d. It thus appears that the average amount of subscriptions already procured for each of twenty chapels in the several groups—excluding Group III.—reaches one-third of the total sum required, while little more than a sum of L. 200 is now wanted to give the full complement of L. 2000 to each of twenty chapels in Group III., and to cover the necessarily heavy outlay attending the prosecution of the provincial plan of subscriptions.

As the collection for the past year was made at an unfavourable season—soon after the rising of last Assembly—the fact of its not having fallen below the standard of former years would indicate, on the whole, some little improvement. The number of non-collecting parishes, however, is still considerable. The sum reported under the head of provincial subscriptions, notwithstanding it comes far short of what we hoped it might have amounted to, is still encouraging. Indeed, for the group of chapels in the south-eastern district of the country, the provincial subscription, from the assurances of farther support which your Committee have received, and the confident hopes which they are permitted to entertain, might be regarded as complete. On the grounds stated, they conceive themselves to have an absolute certainty that, long before the meeting of the Court of Teinds in November next, the comparatively trifling balance that is still wanting will be more than supplied; and, therefore, that to the General Assembly of 1858 they, or those who come after them, will have the high privilege of reporting for this district or province the first instalment of twenty additional parishes. Nor, from the province of the far north, though much has still to be done in it, are the returns which have been received during the past year of a less gratifying character. As yet we have only had one meeting in the province, that which was held at Elgin in autumn last under the auspices of the Duke of Richmond; but the provincial subscriptions that have resulted from this meeting have been such as to give promise of an abundant harvest,

amounting, as has been already noticed, to upwards of L. 12,000. Your Committee cannot forbear to mention the munificent returns which have been made by one of the smallest presbyteries of the province—a presbytery comprising but five parishes, and partly Pighland too—the Presbytery of Aberlour. Including a subscription of L. 200 from Sir George M'Pherson Grant of Ballin Jalloch, a sum of more than L. 1300 has been raised by the indefatigable exertions of the members and friends of the Church in this remote district on the banks of the Spey. Your Committee regret to state that the returns under this head from the Midland, Lanarkshire and Western provinces are less satisfactory. But the main cause why the returns from these provinces have not been so encouraging as they could have wished has been their own inability to occupy fully, during the currency of a single year, so wide a field as the whole of Scotland. As respects the Midland province, however, they have very lately had communications with the Synods of Perth and Stirling, and of Angus and Mearns, from which they anticipate with confidence that, within the bounds of these Synods, a course of energetic action in support of your Scheme will soon be entered upon. Of equally encouraging results in the Lanarkshire and Western provinces, when these provinces shall be fully occupied, they cannot allow themselves to doubt. The numerous contributions that have been made in aid of the endowment of particular chapels amply justify the confident expectation, which we have all along entertained that a successful prosecution of the plan of provincial subscriptions would be found to operate as a powerful stimulus to local exertion. Already, of the group of chapels for which our provincial subscription is most nearly completed, we find seven or eight provided with the necessary complement of endowment, and the parties interested in them, severally, each eager to be the first to take action in the Court of Teinds. The examples of local exertion which have now been brought before the Venerable Assembly leave not a shadow of doubt but that the poorest of our chapel congregations, if the boon of a parish Church be but fairly placed within their reach, will strain every nerve to make good their claim to that boon.

In conclusion your Committee, while grateful for the measure of success which has attended their humble efforts, are yet unable to forbear expressing regret that the work proceeds at so slow a pace. It is not the necessary amount of labour which they grudge, but the prolonged time. Your Venerable House must be aware that the time of some, at least, of the members of your Committee is almost wholly occupied with the prosecution of your Scheme. Those members are not disposed to withdraw from the task which you have been pleased to assign to them. But they certainly would rejoice with joy unfeigned if the progress of the work could be accelerated, and they are humbly of opinion that the progress might be accelerated if the Venerable Assembly would fervently recommend to all the ministers, elders and congregations of the Church to do instantly, and with their might, whatsoever their hands should find to do.

Dr. Robertson, on reading the Report, mentioned that Lord Aberdeen had contributed for a chapel in which he had an interest an amount equal to half the stipend; and that he had also given three or four acres of land for a glebe, and had likewise been a liberal donor to the building of the church and manse. With reference to the sum which had been contributed according to the plan of provincial subscriptions, he believed that, if he had not been so highly honoured by this Assembly, and had to occupy the chair for the last ten days, he would probably have been able to make the provincial subscriptions for the third group of chapels com-

plete. It was so nearly complete that he had not the slightest doubt that within two or three months, and before they could take action in the Court of Teinds, which could not be before November, it would be complete. With regard to the return from the North, he was very much gratified indeed. They had but one meeting in that province—namely, at Elgin, and he was gratified to find that the result of that meeting had been a return of L.600 for each twenty chapels in the province, or a gross subscription of L.12,000. (Applause.) At the close of his Report he had intimated his desire that this Scheme should be warmly recommended to the support of the ministers of this Church. He was convinced that, if such a recommendation went forth over the country, and if it should be given with power and spirit, and cordially sympathised with by all the members of this Assembly, before another year came round, not only would they be able to relieve him of the burden of labour which he had felt to be to some extent oppressive, but they would accomplish an object of great importance to themselves; they would, by the blessing of God, do very much to make the provision for Divine ordinances supplied by this Church again equal to the wants of the country, and would light up the torch of munificent Christian liberality, which, he believed, would not only never be extinguished, but would continue to blaze brightly and yet more brightly until there should not be one single family or individual in this land to whose heart and conscience the Gospel had not been so testified as to be, before God, its own witness. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Grant, in moving the deliverance of the Assembly, said he apprehended the day was long since gone-by when it was needful, either in regard to this House or the country at large, to make any formal defence of the objects and principles of this Scheme. He would just in one word say that the necessity of the Scheme was found in the spiritual and moral destitution that existed in the mineral districts, as well as in many other parts of the country, and its principle seemed to be, that the extension of the Established Church was the best means of reaching the moral outcasts that dwelt among them. The State, for reasons satisfactory to itself no doubt, had, while affording them certain facilities, refused their direct aid, so that there was no means of attaining this object but by voluntary contributions—one chief feature of the Scheme being that, though it was founded on voluntary contributions, their object was to apply it in strict conformity with the Established principle. And surely he needs not say what peculiar obligation lay on them as an Established Church to prosecute this Scheme, and to further the interests of their fellow-countrymen. Having become too straitened from the increase of population, the result had been that the rich had monopolised the scanty provision, and in truth ousted their poorer neighbours from their share of that which was all along intended to be a common inheritance, and it was this share that their richer friends were now called on to restore. The appeal had been made to them, and he was very happy to say that in very many cases it had been nobly responded to. In truth they were now beginning to learn how suitable and how profitably voluntary effort might be engrafted on a Church adhering to the Established principle in all its integrity, and how very abundant and elastic were the resources that might be placed at its disposal. (Applause.) In conclusion, needs he remind them that to one man amongst them, a master in their Israel, and one peculiarly distinguished for a Christian and truly catholic spirit, they had been mainly indebted, under God, for the measure of success which had attended this Scheme? (Applause.) His temporary absence from the chair, to which he had been so fittingly called by the unanimous

voice of his admiring grateful brethren—(Applause)—would not tempt him in his presence to speak at length of the obligations under which he had laid them, and not this Church only, but their common country, and all who valued her real prosperity and her moral welfare. This much, however, he would say, that he had raised for himself a monument more enduring than brass, and done that which would make his name great in the history of this Church, and amid the recorded efforts of Christian benevolence; that the effects of his mighty and untiring efforts would not be limited to his own brief and passing day, but would continue to affect the moral and religious welfare of millions who were yet unborn, and that it would not fail to prove to him a source of extatic delight, second only to the approval of the Master he had so faithfully served, when the time should come that the tongue now so eloquent in the cause of God and righteousness should be for ever dumb, to look down through the vista of coming generations and hear his name employed as a household word, and repeated by none but with reverence and gratitude. (Loud applause.) He had only further to refer to the rev. doctor's earnest appeal for aid in the discharge of his duties to the more earnest co-operation of the ministers of this Church. His zeal was no doubt untiring, but at the same time there was a limit to his strength. He believed that his reverend friend's strength had really been tried to the uttermost; he had other and most important duties to perform, which could not be neglected, and he trusted the appeal made to them in the close of the Report would succeed in calling forth the cordial co-operation of every minister of this Church. Dr. Grant concluded by proposing the following resolution:—

"The General Assembly cordially approve of the Report, and regard with the highest satisfaction and deepest thankfulness the great measure of success which, under the Divine blessing, and the untiring and most able exertions of the Convener, has attended the progress of the Scheme. The General Assembly regret there should be in any quarter lukewarmness and backwardness in taking-up and zealously and actively pressing the claims of this Scheme on the notice of the friends of the Church in districts with which they may be connected. The General Assembly request the Moderator *pro tempore* to return thanks to the Convener, and through him to the Committee, for their zealous and successful exertions during the past year; reappoint the Committee, Dr. Robertson Convener. The General Assembly cannot doubt that every minister only requires to know the desirableness of instant action in this matter to consider it alike their duty and their privilege to bring the merits of this Scheme before their respective congregations as thoroughly and earnestly as in them lies. The General Assembly accordingly most earnestly presses on and recommends to all the ministers, elders and congregations of the Church, without delay to use their best and most instant endeavours to forward to a successful and early accomplishment the objects which the Committee and the Church have in view in connection with this Scheme."

Principal Tulloch seconded the motion. He said he could not doubt that the interest of the Church in this Scheme had been now thoroughly awakened, and that it would become deeper year by year until the consummation of the Scheme was reached. He considered that in the carrying out of this Scheme their national existence and character as a Church was at stake, and he was sure he was only saying what every member of this House would admit, when he remarked that a national Church, rightly viewed, was not only a nationally recognised institute, but was a Christian institute covering the land, and commending itself by its ministers, its sacraments

and its agencies to every family and to every heart in the land. While he acknowledged most cordially all that their dissenting brethren had done in this work, and all that the Free Church had so nobly and enthusiastically done, yet he was sure there was not a parish minister in any of their large towns that did not know that, after all, the burden of the misery of the social masses fell on him: that he above all, and the city missionaries labouring under him, were the men who had to deal with the real destitution of our towns; and the great end of this Scheme was that these men should be enabled fully and thoroughly to grapple with these difficulties, and in their several localities and according to their several needs to carry out the great Christian purposes for which this Church existed. He could not doubt that this Scheme would prove one of the grandest objects in which this Church had ever been engaged, and it would be the best practical answer which could be given to all the abuse leveled in certain quarters against this Church and against its national character and position, if, within a few years after the troubles which had overtaken her, and after the crippling and mutilation she had suffered, they should be able not only to carry on all their Schemes in increasing vigour but to organise, extend and carry out this great Christian work, and if they were thus to show that they were really looking into the duties of their position, and were determined, by the blessing of God, that these duties should be fulfilled. (Applause.)

Mr. Cochrane, St Peter's, Glasgow, stated that in Glasgow, where there had been a large number of chapels erected under this Scheme, they were realising all that could have been expected from them. In his own locality they had organised the means of regular and systematic superintendence of the parish, and, by the aid of his congregation, he was enabled to visit every family in the parish at least once a month, and offer the means of grace to all; while to every child of the parish they were able to offer education whether their parents were able to pay or not.

The motion of Dr. Grant was then agreed to; and

Dr. Crombie, as Moderator *pro tempore*, conveyed the thanks of the House to Dr. Robertson in appropriate terms. He expressed his hope that he would be spared to complete this work, and that, like the gentleman who had last spoken—whose parish had been erected under this Scheme—he would yet see many more rise up in this Assembly to call him blessed, and to testify in a similar manner to the value and importance of the work he had been able to perform.

COLLECTION MADE DURING THE LATE WAR.

Dr. Robertson, as the convener of a committee appointed one or two years ago to make a collection throughout the Church on behalf of the widows and children of soldiers and sailors who perished during the late war, reported that out of upwards of L.5000, which had been subscribed for this purpose, there remained a balance of more than L.100. The committee wished for instructions as to the disposal of this balance.

After some conversation it was agreed that the money should be transmitted to the Calcedonian Asylum, London.

DEBTS ON QUOAD SACRA CHURCHES.

Professor Swinton gave in a long report from the committee on this subject, which stated that during the last year seven chapels in different presbyteries had, through the assistance given them by the committee, been enabled to clear off their encumbrances. During the last five years the assistance of the committee had thus helped to relieve from their financial embarrassments not fewer than nineteen chapels.

Dr. W. Paul moved the adoption of the report and the thanks of the Assembly to the convener,

which were unanimously adopted, and the thanks of the House returned to Professor Swinton.

COMMITTEE ON PSALMS AND HYMNS.

Dr. Arnott, on the part of this committee, verbally reported that they were not yet in a position to make any statement to the Assembly. He at the same time expressed a wish that the committee, with the addition of several names to its number, should be reappointed.—Agreed to.

THE ADMISSION AND SETTLEMENT OF MINISTERS.

An overture on this subject was taken up. It was in the following terms:—

"Whereas it is of vital importance to the peace and prosperity of the Church of Scotland to secure the settlement of suitable and acceptable presentees; and whereas, to accomplish this end, distinct laws and stringent regulations are necessary: and whereas the provisions of an Act passed 6 and 7 Vic., c. 61. 'to remove doubts respecting the admission of ministers to benefices in that part of the United Kingdom called Scotland,' have not proved sufficiently definite, while they lead to expensive and protracted litigation: It is humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly that a committee be appointed to examine the whole subject, and to consult with lay patrons thereon, with the view of obtaining such a legislative measure as will clearly define and fully preserve the rights of the Christian people in the settlement of ministers."

Dr. Gillan, in support of the overture, admitted that the subject of which it treated was of a very difficult and delicate nature. The question was one which had attracted or, he might say, had distracted the Church from its commencement till now; and he was afraid that the very mooted of it would make him be regarded as one who was disturbing causelessly the peace of the Church. He had taken the liberty of making a proposal to the House, which was, in the first place, that any law on the subject should be so definite that one and all—the people as well as the patrons—should have no difficulty in its interpretation. And he ventured to submit that the whole subject should be viewed through the medium of a committee, whose duty would be to go to first principles—to the very foundation of the Church, and the genius and development of its constitution—and follow out the facts which had resulted from any changes that had been made. Let it not be imagined that he wished to ignore patrons, the conduct of most of whom, in the exercise of their rights, deserved every commendation. It was only of the system that he spoke. With regard to the general question he admitted that in any steps to be taken they must have the Legislature along with them. He concluded by moving in terms of the overture.

Sheriff Barclay seconded the motion for the appointment of a committee.

With the concurrence of Dr Gillan, who withdrew his motion in its favour,

Dr Leishman submitted an amended motion in the following terms:—'Sustain the overture to extent of appointing a committee to inquire into the working of the Church Benefices Act, as to how far the same has been or may be effectual in the satisfactory settlement of suitable presentees, and as to the practicability of altering those regulations passed by the Assembly, or otherwise, so as to lessen the time and expense hitherto consumed in cases occurring under the Act, the committee to report to next Assembly.'

Dr Pirie seconded the motion; which, after a few words from Dr Gillan, was unanimously adopted by the House.

The Assembly adjourned at a quarter before six o'clock till the evening.

EVENING SEDERUNT.

The Assembly resumed at eight o'clock.

REPORT ON POPEERY.

The Rev. W. Robertson read the annual report of the committee on Popery. It commenced by stating that it was to be feared that the committee's estimate of the vast importance of the work entrusted to them was not universally entertained throughout the Church, and that many had adopted John Bunyan's idea of Popery as an infirm and disabled giant instead of looking on its violent and active persecutions on the Continent, and its notorious encroachments and aggressions in this country. Notwithstanding their deep sense of the importance of the work, the committee regret to state that, owing to the limited means placed by the Church at their disposal, it has been entirely out of their power to obey the injunctions of last General Assembly, "to extend their operations, either in the metropolis or in other portions of the Church, where it may be deemed advisable to counteract the errors of Popery." On the contrary they found themselves under the painful necessity of reducing the number of their missionaries, retaining the services of only two in Edinburgh and one in Maryhill. They are happy, however, to be able to state that the work of the mission has not, on that account, been permitted to flag in Edinburgh; at this crisis the Special Mission to Roman Catholics, by whom the mission was originally commenced, again stepped forward, re-engaged the missionaries, and resumed their own work independent of and without any connection with the committee, except that they requested that Mr Turnbull, the superintendent, should be authorised to superintend and instruct the missionaries employed by the special mission, as well as those under the committee. With this request the committee gladly complied, so that, whether in the employment of the committee or of the special mission, ten agents have been uninterruptedly engaged in visiting from house to house among the Roman Catholic population of Edinburgh, reading the Word of God in every family, and taking every proper occasion to bring under the notice of the people the contrast between the doctrines of the Gospel and those of Rome. Two of these agents, one in the service of the mission, speak the Irish language. The week-day evening school for adults, adverted to in the report to last General Assembly, has continued to flourish, the average attendance during the winter being from twenty-five to thirty, all of whom are Roman Catholics. The progress made in reading, writing and a knowledge of the Scripture by all the pupils has been most creditable to the assiduity of Mr Sullivan, one of your missionaries, to whose care this class is entrusted. Though they cannot boast of any converts during the past year—at least in the sense of being admitted to the communion in any of our churches—yet the facts already stated, and the encouraging circumstances that many individuals have forsaken the Popish chapel, and are now to be found on the Lord's-day worshipping in our parish churches, and that many more have been brought to avow their conviction that the teaching of Rome is erroneous, and to profess their intention of adhering to the Protestant Church, we are fully justified in accepting them as earnest of future success. In addition to these, the committee have two Lord's-day evening schools—one in New Street Church, and one in Heriot's School, Rose Street—which are well attended and faithfully taught. These classes are intended for Protestants, and the pupils are of a more advanced age than those attending ordinary Sunday schools. During the winter and spring months courses of lectures have been delivered, both in Edinburgh and in Glasgow, under the auspices of the committee, which have created great attention, and, especially in Glasgow, have been attended by overflowing audiences. Your superintendent, Mr Turnbull, continues to give the highest

satisfaction. With regard to the only station out of Edinburgh as yet occupied by the mission—viz, Maryhill, near Glasgow—the committee have only to report that they have received from the parish minister, the Rev. Mr Colvin, the most gratifying accounts of the assiduity and zeal of the missionary labouring among the Irish population there. After an eloquent pleading in behalf of the objects of the committee, the report states, with regard to the funds of the committee, that the collections for the year amount to L.591, 17s. 1d., including donations from private individuals of L.64, 0s. 6d.; a sum sufficient to clear off the debt reported to last Assembly, and to pay all expenses up to the present moment, leaving a few pounds only on hand.

Mr. Mackenzie, Ferintosh, moved that the General Assembly approve of the report, and instruct the Moderator to return the thanks of the House to the convener and the committee for their diligence and zeal; reappoint the committee, and give them commission to raise the funds necessary for the purposes of their operations; direct them to gather information on the subject; and, on the whole, encourage them to continue and extend, so far as circumstances admit, the interesting and important operations which they have been hitherto carrying on.

Dr. Nisbet stated that in the fourteen years of his ministrations in Edinburgh he had observed a considerable change in the character of several localities in this city, where Irish importations had nearly supplanted the old Scottish Presbyterian families. He adverted to the great necessity for this mission amongst the Irish population of this city, and expressed his high appreciation of the abilities, zeal and noble devotedness of Mr. Turnbull, the superintendent of the mission in this city.

The motion being agreed to,

Dr. Crombie, as Moderator *pro tem.*, conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to the Rev. Mr. Robertson, and expressed his sense of the great importance of the work in which the committee were engaged.

THE MODERATOR'S ADDRESS.

The remaining matters of business were left to the Commission, and the Moderator then delivered the following valedictory address to the Assembly:—

—You have now brought your labours in this Assembly to a close, and, by your appointment, I am about to dissolve it. Before dissolving the Assembly, however, I take the liberty, in accordance with custom, to address you in a few parting words. My heart constrains me to preface them by an expression of my warmest acknowledgements for the distinguished honour which you were pleased to confer upon me by elevating me to this chair.—It is surely a token for good to our Church—an earnest of her being increased with the increase of God—that, for not a few years past, Assembly after Assembly has shown itself pervaded by the missionary spirit, each evincing a deeper interest than its predecessor in the diffusion of the Gospel both at home and abroad. Nor is it only in our several Assemblies that a missionary spirit is revived. The life current has flowed from the heart to the extremities; and, happily, the parishes are now but few in number which have not had experience of its vivifying influences. May we not cherish the hope that the time is at hand when such parishes will no longer be found, but when the Spirit that has been felt to animate our deliberations in this place shall be poured forth in rich and refreshing showers over the whole Church? Doubtless, as yet, it is only the day of small things with us; but the day of small things is not to be despised. There is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few. If we wait upon the Lord, and keep His way, He will surely

exalt us to inherit the land. In fact an encouraging earnest of this inheritance is already in our possession. We cannot but believe, indeed, that the educational field is already white unto harvest, and that in this department of her labours the Church has now encouragements to perseverance such as were never enjoyed by her at any previous period of her history. May I not adduce her Home Mission Scheme as another instance in which her labours have been so signally blessed as to justify the largest and most cheering hopes? Founded, originally, to collect anew the isolated remnants of dispersed chapel congregations, this Scheme has grown and prevailed till its aim has been now advanced to testify the Gospel of the grace of God to every neglected family in the land. Nor, from the measure of support which it has received, can such an expansion of its aim be regarded as unwarrantable. It would seem but to have stretched its line in conformity with the indications of a gracious Providence. If the members and friends of this Church were stirred up to look not on their own things only but also on the things of their destitute brethren it was surely the duty of the mission specially directed to those brethren to enlarge the place of its tent, and stretch forth the curtains of its habitations—to lengthen its cords and strengthen its stakes. It is true, indeed, that much more yet remains to be done in this case than in the Education Scheme. Yet here also we are encouraged to cherish the joyful hope that a spirit has been awakened, which, with God's blessing, will never again allow itself to slumber till it shall have accomplished the task which it has marked out for itself—till, in deed and in truth, it shall have caused the Gospel to be preached to every individual amongst us.

Our Colonial and Foreign Missions have a wider range, and it is not to be expected that they should lead, directly at least, to the same complete results. The countrymen who have left our shores, or descendants of those countrymen, are now scattered over colonies on which the sun never sets; and obviously, without their own efforts adequate supplies of religious ordinances are not to be provided for them. The parent Church can but animate and aid those efforts. Encouragement and aid to a considerable extent have already been given; and assuredly the expectations of the Church have not been disappointed in the result. Many are the instances in which she assisted to set up the tabernacle of testimony in the wilderness, where under its grateful shade and the continuance of her fostering care the wilderness has since been made glad, and rejoiced, and blossomed abundantly. Probably by none of her missions more than by her Colonial Mission has it been the privilege of the Church to reap a rich harvest of souls unto everlasting life. Fond recollections of the home of youth, innumerable kindred associations of the tender character, a sense of isolation, the stillness of the forest itself, have all been combined here to prepare hearts for the heavenly seed, and to perfect in them the fruits of righteousness and peace; and, if the Colonial Mission has been successful in its highest and primary aim, it has been not less successful in binding the colonies to the Mother Country, and fostering the principles of devoted loyalty. Followed by the care of the Church to the land of their adoption, and summoned by her Sabbath bell to the simple services in which they were nurtured, our expatriated fellow-citizens are made to feel that it is of truth that all that they have left behind them—people, and Queen, and country—is still their own. We are privileged to hope, too, when we take into account those wonderful discoveries of these last days, by which time and space have been annihilated, that, with the Divine blessing, triumphs are

before our Colonial Mission of which all that it has yet achieved can be regarded but as an earnest. May it be given to it, with the facilities supplied by the discoveries referred to, and the fulfilment of their respective objects by our Education and Home Mission Schemes, to awaken a spirit throughout the length and breadth of the colonies that shall never cease to wax stronger and stronger until it shall have constrained the inhabitants of each colonial state to make equally adequate provision within their own bounds for sound educational training and the preaching of the everlasting Gospel! Is this a mere day-dream, the fulfilment of which our rational nature forbids us to look for?—Is it a hope so bold that the strong and triumphant language of prophecy refuses to warrant it? or does not the palpable fact, on the contrary, force itself upon our minds, that elements of power are even now within our grasp, which, God favouring our right improvement of them, would enable us to go far at least to secure its accomplishment? So much, indeed, is perfectly clear, that we have but to furnish the requisite type at Home—but to have the loins of the Church (of which we have been made the overseers) girded about with truth, and her lights burning—to arm not our Colonial Mission only, but our missions also to India, and the scattered sheep of the flock of Israel, with more than ten times the force that they have ever yet possessed. It is the coming-in of the fulness of the Gentiles that is to do away, under God, the blindness of His ancient people, when returning to the house of Jacob seemed meanwhile the most hopeless object of missionary exertion. He will say to it, "Fear thou not; let not thine hands be slack, the Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in His love; He will joy over thee with singing." Who can doubt, then, that a most important step would be taken to the coming-in of this fulness were the fulness of our own land come in; or that we should thus be furnished with an element of missionary power, which, whether among our fellow-subjects in India, or among the dispersed tribes of Israel, should cause a shaking in the valley of dry bones, bone to come together to his bone, the sinews and the flesh to come up upon them, the skin to cover them above, the breath to come into them, the dead to be made alive unto God? May the Lord Himself grant, of His infinite grace, that the deliberations in which you have been here engaged, in relation to the educational and missionary enterprises of our Church, may result in thus strengthening her hands for diffusing, by all her missions, the saving knowledge of the Truth as it is in Jesus. Right Reverend and Right Honourable,—You are now to be released from your attendance on the Supreme Court of the Church, and return to your several spheres of ordinary duty. Let the place which I hold by your favour be my apology for presuming to exhort you to occupy them as becomes those who shall render an account to the Chief Shepherd of souls. Make it your constant and prayerful study to be centres of Christian light and life in your respective parishes and circles of influence, that men may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven. Be examples to the flock in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Keep the solemn responsibilities of the trust committed to you ever before you; give yourselves wholly to the discharge of them; let your profiting appear to all. In so doing you shall both save yourselves, and be enabled to cherish a comfortable hope of saving all of whom you have the oversight. You will also make the gainsayer ashamed of himself, seeing he will have no evil thing to say of you. Right Reverend,—Study to show yourselves approved

unto God, workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. Acquaint yourselves with the necessities of the several members of your respective flocks, that you may be able to give to every one his portion of meat in due season. Be it your special care to feed the Church of God with that True Bread from Heaven which you have proved by experience to be the life of your own souls. That which is life in yourselves you will be able to dispense in the full conviction that it will be life also in all who receive it. Right Honourable,—You may well magnify your office. It is the great glory, indeed, of our Presbyterian polity. It is that which makes our Church emphatically the Church of the people, by supplying her with an order of overseers who are constantly mingling among all classes of them in the ordinary relations of life. Make it habitually your prayerful endeavour, then, to discharge the functions of your high office to the glory of God and the good of souls. Keep diligent watch over the morals of the flock. In your social intercourse never let the word in season be wanting on your lips which shall rebuke vice and give encouragement to virtue. Be found in your respective families and neighbourhoods sweet savours of Christ unto God, and make it felt by all about you, that the spirit of Jesus does indeed dwell and rule in your hearts. Let the educational and missionary enterprises of the Church have your warmest countenance and support, and labour assiduously to enlist in their behalf the sympathies of all whom it may be in your power to influence. Strain, especially, to call forth the efforts of the members and friends of the Church, of all orders of society, to secure to every neglected family in the land the blessings of a preached Gospel. Make all see in you a living image of Him who was anointed of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to the poor. Right Reverend and Right Honourable—Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, that peace may be within her walls, and prosperity within her palaces. Ye that make mention of the Lord keep no silence, and give him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth—till He create Jerusalem a rejoicing and her people a joy.

ELDERS' DAUGHTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Elders' Daughters' Association was held within the Office of the Schemes of the Church, the Rev. Dr. Cook, of Haddington, presiding.

The Chairman having opened the meeting with prayer.

Dr. Johnston, the secretary, read the Report, which expressed satisfaction in announcing the continued prosperity of the Association. Although no great results had to be communicated, yet there was an increase both in the amount of subscriptions and in the number of contributing parishes. The amount of the subscriptions and donations for the year ending 31st March, 1857, was £148, 17s. 2d., being £10, 19s. 2d., more than the amount collected during the previous year. Sixteen additional parishes have contributed this year to the funds of the Association, while only two of those formerly contributing have failed to send subscriptions. This showed that the Association was gradually acquiring sympathy throughout the country. The sum contributed by new parishes was £25, 1s. The Committee, at the suggestion of friends in Irvine, made an application to the trustees of the late John Ferguson, Esq. of Cairnbrock, for a grant from the funds left for educational purposes. They felt warranted in doing this from the fact that Mr. Ferguson was a large subscriber to this Association at the time of his death. They had not yet been informed of the result of this applica-

tion. The Assembly's Education Committee had, during the past year, expended £88 upon 13 female schools, in all of which various departments of industrial education are taught. To meet this the grant from this Association to the Education Committee was last year £86, being within £2 of the total sum given to these schools, most of which, without such aid, would have been suppressed, on account of the inability of the localities of themselves to maintain them in operation. In like manner this Association provided £42 towards a total expenditure of £133 for female schools by the Ladies' Gaelic Schools Association, and thus enable it to continue schools on its list which otherwise must have been dropped. The Committee recommended that the sum of £90 be given this year to the Education Scheme of the Church of Scotland, and £45 to the Ladies' Gaelic Schools Association, being in the proportion usually observed in apportioning the sum at the disposal of the Association after making provision for expenses.

The Rev. Maxwell Nicholson, in moving that the Report be approved of, printed and circulated, in an eloquent speech described the influence on national prosperity which is exerted by such education as that promoted by the Elders' Daughters' Association. The Rev. Dr. Lawrie, Monckton, seconded the motion.

The Rev. Mr. Bell, of Haddington, moved that the sums of £90 and £45 should be allocated respectively to the Education Committee and the Ladies' Gaelic Schools Association. He considered the education of females the root of the social scale, and warmly urged the members of the Association to increase their exertions, and strive to help both the Education Committee and the Ladies' Gaelic Schools Association out of their pecuniary difficulties, in order that so important a cause might be greatly advanced. The Rev. Mr. Goldie, of Coldstream seconded the motion.

Mr. James Hope, D.K.S., moved the appointment of committee and office-bearers.

Mr. David B. Hope moved a vote of thanks to the Chairmen, who, in reply, expressed the gratitude which the Education Committee felt to the Association for the assistance it rendered to them, and his hope that the day might soon come when every parish school would be supplemented by a female school.

Mr. Bell pronounced the benediction, and the meeting separated.—*Ediab. Even. Post.*

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND LAY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the members of the Lay Association in support of the Schemes of the Church of Scotland was held in the Assembly Hall. There was, as usual, a crowded attendance. On the motion of Mr. Pringle of Whytbank, Lord Neaves was called to the chair. The proceedings were opened with devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Crombie.

Lord Neaves said he had great satisfaction in presiding over the meeting of an Association which had done so much good already, and which, he trusted and believed, was destined to do still farther good to the Christian interests of the community and of mankind. He did not mean to anticipate what would be better said by those who would follow him, but he might take the opportunity of saying a few words in giving his own testimony and expressing his full adherence to the motives and objects of this Association. (Applause) The Schemes of the Church of Scotland were so formed as to embrace very happily all the great objects which the Christian mind must seek to accomplish in connection with the Church. Perhaps they would always find that those Schemes that were more immediately connected

with their own countrymen had the first place in their regards, for surely nothing could be more dreadful for them than to shut their eyes to the heathenism that existed around them, and to the condition of those for whom the Christian Church had as yet been set up in vain. But it was scarcely less natural that they should also seek to send to their expatriated countrymen the blessings of that religious instruction which perhaps they once enjoyed at Home. In like manner was it possible for them to overlook the heathen lands lying in darkness on every side? The people there were their neighbours as well as those living in the wretched lanes and wynds of our own city, because, wherever British authority or influence or commerce could reach, there it was their business to carry the tidings of peace and goodwill to man. The British nation would ill fulfil the high position in the scale of nations if she did not make that position subservient to the propagation of Christianity. (Applause.) They must testify to all mankind that they were all of one blood and kin, that they all partook of the calamities of our fallen nature, and that there was only One Name given under Heaven whereby they could be saved. To the Jews they owed a double debt of gratitude, that nation having been long the sole and trusted depository of the Oracles of God, and of whose race after the flesh came the Saviour of mankind. All these missions had claims upon them, which it was their duty as a Christian Church to meet. (Applause.)

Mr. Colin Campbell Grant (secretary) read the annual report of the Association. It stated that the contributions received during the past year amounted to £1,549, 14s. 1d., and, after payment of all expenses, the following sums have been allocated to the several Schemes:—Education, £396, 13s.; Foreign Missions, £271, 2s. 5d.; Home Mission, £331, 19s.; Colonies, £239, 8s. 6d.; Jews, £174, 18s.—total £1,404, 0s. 11d. In allocating the amount left to their disposal by contributors, the Acting Committee had proceeded upon the principle followed in previous years, and which had met with the approval of the Committees of the General Assembly. The allocation had been made after maturely considering detailed reports of the existing financial state and prospects of each Scheme, furnished by their respective office-bearers. While the income of the Association during the past year was somewhat less than that of the year preceding, this arose mainly from causes which were satisfactorily accounted for, and formed no ground for uneasiness or despondency. The difference was owing to a slight diminution in the amount received from London, and a decrease in the amount received from the western branches, there having been included in the receipts from Glasgow last year a donation to the Home Mission Scheme of £100, no such donation having been received this year. The report proceeded to notice the resignation of Mr. Watt, who had, since the institution of the Association in 1843, filled the office of secretary of the Aberdeen branch, and the appointment in his stead of Mr. William Paul, advocate, a son of an esteemed minister of the Church in the county of Kincardine. Although Mr. Paul undertook the charge of this branch only a few weeks before the close of the financial year, the Committee were glad to be able to report a considerable increase in the collections made by him over those of the previous year, and they look forward with confidence to an enlarged measure of success next year, as the result of the arrangement. The contributions from the other branches of the Association were maintained this year at at least their former amounts. The Committee had great satisfaction in reporting that there was now every prospect of the branch of the Association at Inverness being

shortly revived, with good hope of subscriptions being received from that quarter to a considerable amount. The Earl of Seafield, with that zeal for the interests of the Church which had distinguished his Lordship's family, and consented to become president of the district committee, and had become an annual subscriber to the Association of a liberal sum. The Committee also entertained hopes of being in a position, during the next year, to establish new branches at Dumfries, Stirling and several other large towns. Arrangements were in progress for sending a deputation to Liverpool in the course of this summer for the purpose of re-establishing the Liverpool branch. The Committee had been in communication with clergymen and other friends of the Church in Canada and others of the British colonies, with the view of taking steps for bringing the claims of the Church Schemes prominently and effectually under their notice, and evoking the liberality in their behalf of the wealthier classes of our colonists. The Committee were assured by their correspondents of the lively interest taken by the adherents of the Church in these distant lands in everything that concerned her welfare, and they were encouraged to hope that a field might there be opened to them for securing substantial assistance to their Church Schemes, and at the same time of drawing closer the bond which united them to their expatriated fellow-countrymen by becoming fellow-labourers in the field of missionary enterprise.

After reading the Report, Mr. Grant made a verbal supplementary statement as to the entire sums collected for the different Schemes of the Church during the past year. The total sum collected for the 5 Schemes amounted to little short of £20,000, being an increase of £1,500 on the amount collected last year and of between 40 and 50 in the number of congregations contributing. This was exclusive of the sum collected for the Endowment Scheme, the returns for which showed an amount of nearly £40,000, while some additional returns were expected before the close of the Assembly. Including the funds derived from auxiliary associations, the total sum contributed during the year for the missionary enterprises of the Church appeared to be little short of £65,000. (Applause.) Mr. Grant added that he had only one remark farther to make, which he did out of a sense of justice to a large class of their subscribers. It was to his mind one of the most pleasing features connected with this Association that a very considerable proportion of their funds was derived from heritors and others not members of their own but of the Episcopal communion. (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. Monro, Campsie, then addressed the meeting on the Colonial Scheme. He dwelt at considerable length on the greatness of the Colonial field, and the uses which bound them from love and duty to do what in them lay for their Colonial brethren. He stated that in no former period of the Church's history since the Separation of 1843 had she been in a better position to fulfil her duty to the colonies. The Report which would be presented to the Assembly by the Colonial Committee, he was betraying no confidence in stating, would make the cheering announcement that last year they had sent to the colonies a larger number of ministers and licentiates than the Committee ever did at any former period. Their enlarged enterprise would be a loud call on the Church for increased liberality, and he trusted that to that call the Church would adequately respond.

The Rev. Mr. Brown, Scoonie, then spoke on the Home Mission and Education Schemes. After adverting to the great necessity that existed for the former Scheme, he said that the Education Scheme was equally a missionary

work. It was a Schemo designed to supplement the parochial schools, and had been founded on the same basis of religious education. After examining the question of religious education, and defending the system pursued in the schools connected with the Church, he referred to the work as one peculiarly incumbent on the Church. The highest and noblest way in which they could prove themselves to be the National Church of Scotland was by doing their duty to the nation and to the whole body of the people. They had much to be thankful for in the possession of a territorial establishment, and they had also to be thankful that they possessed their beloved parish schools; but the time had come when these things, valuable in themselves, were to be valued most as furnishing a basis of operations, missionary and educational, in behalf of the untaught and depraved. The Church of Scotland must be brought more and more to resemble, not a stationary fortress, but a moving army carrying on an aggressive warfare against all ignorance and vice within the limits of Scotland. With all clarity and toleration towards others engaged in the same field, what they wanted was the power that grew up after the footsteps of the missionary and the labours of the schoolmaster. With that they could command respect where they could not expect favour—with that they might gain sympathy where they would have met indifference; and then would it be written in her history, in the same page which recorded the trials of their beloved Church, that these trials were blessed by God by arousing her to more earnest zeal and more successful exertions in behalf of the ignorant and the depraved. (Applause.)

The Rev. Dr. Gillan, Glasgow, then addressed the meeting on the Foreign and Jewish Missions. He referred to the vastness of the Indian field, the great resources of the country and the remarkable genius of the people: but said that it was there perhaps that Satan's empire had the strongest hold. He trusted that they, and all who were on their side, would go up in one united phalanx, advancing with the standard of the Cross to destroy the power of their adversary by bringing to bear upon it that Word which was mighty to the pulling-down of strongholds. With regard to the Jewish Schemo, he had often wondered how it was that it seemed to elicit the least sympathy of all the Schemes of the Church. The world was debtor to the Jew such as it was to no other nation. He adduced numerous arguments to show the powerful claim which this mission had upon them as a Christian Church, and adverted to the prophecies which assured them of success. He referred to the door which had been lately opened in the East, and to the promising aspect of their missionary operations in Smyrna, Salonica and elsewhere. The Jewish mind, he contended, was not impervious to the Truth, and the work would be done by others if not by them. Let not their brows, however, be bare while others were crowned with laurels, but let them go forward in the faith of the Divine promises given them, looking to the time when the ransomed of the Lord should return, and the days of their mourning should be forever ended.

The Rev. Dr. Muir pronounced the benediction, and the meeting separated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN SCOTLAND.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In beginning my monthly letter the first thought that strikes me is the great dearth of ecclesiastical news for the last few weeks. This is to

be accounted for by the fact that the efforts of the Church reach their culmination at the sittings of the General Assembly, after which there is a period of meditation upon past achievements and of preparation for future action; and by this kindred fact that, owing to the warm weather, and the setting apart of this season of the year as the summer holidays, less of moral and spiritual effort is put forth in June and July than in any other months in the calendar. The city churches are all thin, Sabbath schools languid, visiting and clothing societies suspended, for minister, teachers, visitors and congregation are away rusticated, scattered to the four winds of heaven, the worthy pastor most probably at this present moment clad in shooting-coat and wide-awake, fishing for codling off the Cumbræ. It has now come to be a thoroughly understood matter, that a clergyman, like other people, is the better of a few weeks' recreation at this season of the year, to recruit his energies and lay-in a store of health; and certainly none have a better right to it than those whose calling so often brings them in contact with filth, and vice and misery. Public attention has for the last two weeks been mainly fixed on two events, the one of which is now over, while the other is still going on; the trial of Miss Smith for the murder of her betrothed, and the mutiny of the Sepoys in Bengal. No criminal trial in this country for many years has excited any thing like the interest of the recent one, with which Miss Smith's name is associated. Her position in the first circles of Glasgow society, her youth, her composure in court, the frightful revelations of the correspondence, the mystery of L'Angelier's death, all tended to wind-up the excitement of the public to the highest pitch, and for many days business was almost suspended; newspaper offices were besieged, and nothing else spoken of wherever one went. I need not allude to the particulars, as I presume that the *Times* newspaper has carried them to the remotest corner of the British Empire. The speech of John Inglis, who, like so many others of the great men Scotland has produced, is the son of one of our clergymen, is spoken of as one of the greatest triumphs of the Scotch bar in the memory of living men, and I am told by an eye-witness that during its delivery many of the audience were dissolved in tears. The verdict, "not proven," has given general satisfaction, and even those who think her guilty are glad that one so young and in such a position has escaped the gallows. The public sympathy for Miss Smith's parents and family is very great, and from the disclosures of the correspondence, so much calculated to shake confidence in society, taken along with the fact that the crown officers from the first, on account of the wanting links of proof, could scarcely have expected a verdict of guilty, many regret that the prosecution was proceeded with.

After the trial Miss Smith returned to her father's summer-house at Row, and the report is that the whole family intend emigrating to one of the colonies; but in a case of this kind it is better to remain where the subject has been thoroughly ventilated than to go to a strange place, where the news will in all likelihood have preceded them, or where at best they will be preyed upon by constant suspicions and alarms.

All eyes are now turned to Bengal, where a mutiny that threatens the existence of our Indian Empire has broken out. Thirty thousand Sepoys have deserted, many of the Europeans have been massacred, and a native King has been proclaimed at Delhi, which is in the hands of the insurgents. The most decisive measures have been taken, both in India and in this country, for the suppression of the rebellion, and there is every confidence in the result; though it must be admitted that the extent of the disaffection, and the state of our relations with China, give our affairs in the East a rather gloomy aspect at present. Many of the Queen's regiments are now *en route* for India, and all the Company's Officers, on leave in this country, are under orders to return. The last news reached London a few days ago, bringing among other intelligence the death of General Anson, the Commander-in-chief. The command was at once offered to our brave countryman, Sir Colin Campbell, and he is now with his staff far on his way to the East. He takes with him, as *aid-de-camps*, two fine young Scotchmen of historic names, officers in our Highland Regiments—Mr. Ali-on, son of the historian, and Sir David Baird, whose ancestor, the great Sir David, figures so largely in the history of British India, and of whom his mother, a plain old Scotchwoman, when she heard of his being taken prisoner along with others, and of their being tied two and two to keep them all right, is reported to have said, "The Lord help the man that's yoked to our Davie." The alleged ground of the mutiny is the use of hog's fat in the cartridges served out to the soldiers for the rifles, which have superseded the old musket; and this may perhaps show those of our clergymen who insisted upon refusing the grants in aid, and argued that the East India Company should establish Christian schools throughout the Empire, that the Company have gone as far as they could without endangering their sway.

A new Bill is now before Parliament for the abolition of the Edinburgh Annuity Tax. It is backed by the Baillies; but it is of such a villainous character that I can hardly think its supporters expect it to pass. It proposes to reduce the number of ministers by uncollegiating the churches as they fall vacant, to lower the stipends of the remainder, and to pay them out of the Deaneries of the Chapel Royal and the money proposed to be appropriated

from the sale of Trinity College Church—Government supplementing further deficiency from the public purse. A measure more unjust in every particular, and more thoroughly infamous, can scarcely be imagined. Trinity College Church, one of the most interesting ecclesiastical buildings in Scotland, was sold to a Railway Company some years ago for a very large sum on the understanding that the money would be spent in replacing the old building on another site; and to use it for any other purpose is downright dishonesty. To say nothing of the reduction of ministers and their stipends, what again can be more contemptible than the proposal to pervert the Deaneries from their present purpose? These three or four Deaneries are all the prizes which the country affords to distinguished clergymen, and, instead of taking them away, everybody of sense wishes they were multiplied ten times over. The fact is, the Church of Scotland has been robbed ever since the Reformation; robbed by the land-owners, who are fattening on her unexhausted tithes; and robbed by the Government, who receive annually a large sum from the old ecclesiastical revenues of Scotland. Dissent plays into their hands; it is the vulture at the heart of Scottish nationality. It has broken-up the compactness and beauty of Scottish society, and has shattered its influence at Home and Abroad; and, except a man feels that his duty to God compels him to leave the Church, his duty to his country should keep him from dissent. Free-churchmen, no doubt, considered their movement a patriotic one; but we all know now, and they must feel it too, that they have broken-up the Scottish nation, and done more to denationalise it than all that went before. When our Church goes now to Government to insist upon her rights, and to urge that her soldiers and sailors, and people in India, have as much right to chaplains as English churchmen, Government can treat us with indifference, the Free Church claps its hands, and Scotchmen abroad are anguished. I should say there is not the slightest chance of this new Annuity Bill passing into law; but, if it should, it will tend to rouse the Church, to strengthen Church feeling, and she will heal from her own resources the wound which her enemies inflict. I was looking at the *Witness* newspaper yesterday, and I learned from it that a correspondence has been going on between two Free Church ministers—one of whom, no doubt, to the honor of his opponent, his brethren and the readers of the *Witness*, has been advocating the strange doctrine that it is not right to charge the Church of Scotland and the Church of England with denying the headship of Christ; that they repudiate and disown it, do not mean it, but desire to love and honour Him, and therefore are not guilty of the crime with which in Free Church documents they are charged. The letter I read was sensible and charitable;

but I am afraid it will alarm Free Churchmen, as it strikes at the root of their favorite solatium—saying, in fact, that their warfare is unjust and untrue. I would not be surprised to hear of Dr. Candlish, and Andrew Gray, of Perth, making a raid through the country to quench the rising heresy; but in the meantime it is gratifying to find that some Free Churchmen are ceasing to identify their own headship with the headship of Christ, and giving-up the idea that every one who differs from them is a denier of the Saviour. The proposed union between the Free Church and the U. P.'s has quite blown over, and no one hears it mentioned now. It will not come about, I fear, till the day when the whole Presbyterian family throughout the British Empire is united into one Church. This would be something worth while and, if a few of the leading men of the various denominations would make this their watchword, I believe many from all quarters would gather round them. The great majority of men dislike a sectional Church. I believe that a national faith is, for all classes, an unspeakable blessing; and that no little matter—nothing but its infidelity to the essentials of Christianity—can justify a man in seceding from it, or disturbing it. In America, made up, as the population is, of emigrants from older countries, nothing is better now, nor more holy, than for the separate Protestant nationalities to be true to the faiths of their fatherlands; till the day comes when these are fused down into one, and the memory of them has grown faint, and then I suppose the Christian Church will assume a new form, continuing the advantages without the faults of the old European types. To me the most interesting Church in the United States is the Dutch Reformed, to which the *Vans* and the *Tens* have remained faithful through all the changes of British possession and the American Revolution. And in the British colonies, where are there such hallowed feelings, such tender recollections, such loyalty to the past, as among the Scottish exiles who adhere to the faith of their forefathers?

We have had, so far, an unusually warm summer; and, as it has been tempered with seasonable showers, the prospects of harvest are highly favourable.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OPEN AIR PREACHING.—Between thirty and forty clergymen and dissenting ministers of Bristol have arranged to carry out a series of out-door services during the summer months.

THE BISHOPRIC OF SIERRA LEONE.—It is reported that Mr. Labouchere has offered the vacant see of Sierra Leone to a real native of Africa, in the person of the Rev. Samael Crowther, once a slave boy, now a missionary at Abeokuta.

THIRTEEN THOUSAND ON OLD HUNDRED.—At the Handel Musical Festival, at Sydenham, England, on the 26th ultimo, "Old Hundred" was sung by thirteen thousand people! A correspondent says:—"I think it was safely

affirmed that Old Hundred was never before sung with such power and effect. It is worth a voyage across the Atlantic to have heard it."

THE BRITISH MINISTER A SABBATH-KEEPER.—The Christian public will be gratified to learn that the British Minister at Washington, Lord Napier, sets a good example as to keeping the Sabbath—steadfastly refusing to receive visitors on that day. We understand that a commodore in our navy not long since called at Lord Napier's residence on the Sabbath. The servant who came to the door informed him that his lordship did not receive visitors on Sunday. "But I am Commodore —," replied the visitor. "It makes no difference, sir," said the servant, "he will not receive you." "But go and tell him Commodore — has called." "I'll do so, sir, if you insist upon it; but I know he'll not receive you, for it is not his custom to receive visitors on Sunday." The finale was that the commodore had to depart without seeing the minister.—*American Presbyterian.*

MISSIONS IN INDIA.—There is a moral aspect of British rule in India which should not be lost sight of. The Rev. Mr. Mullens, of Calcutta, after carefully obtaining returns from every missionary station in India, has published the following statistics:—

Missionaries.....	443
Native Catechists.....	698
Native Christians, counting all who have renounced Heathenism and placed themselves under the care of the Missionaries.....	112,191
Communicants, or church-members...	18,410
Scholars, boys.....	64,480
Do girls.....	14,398

Of the male pupils above mentioned, 14,000 learn English, and of the girls 2,779 are in boarding schools. The whole Bible has been translated into 10 languages, and the New Testament into 4 others. Toward the cost of these missionary labors £33,000 sterling are annually raised in India.

BEAUTIFUL APOLOGUE.—A shepherd was mourning over the death of his favourite child, and in the passionate and rebellious feeling of his heart was bitterly complaining that what he loved most tenderly, and was in itself most lovely, had been taken from him. Suddenly a stranger of grave and venerable appearance stood before him, and beckoned him forth into the field. It was night, and not a word was spoken till they arrived at the fold, when the stranger thus addressed him:—"When you select one of these lambs from the flock, you choose the best and most beautiful among them. Why should you murmur because I, the Good Shepherd of the sheep, have selected from those which you have nourished for me the one that was most fitted for my eternal fold?" The mysterious stranger was seen no more, and the father's heart was comforted.

AN ARGUMENT FOR RESIGNATION UNDER AFFLICTION.—To silence and quiet your souls under the afflicting hand of God, dwell much upon the brevity or shortness of man's life. This present life is not life, but a motion, a journey towards life. Man's life, saith one, is the shadow of smoke, yea, the dream of a shadow. Saith another, Man's life is so short that Austin doubted whether to call it a *dying life* or a *living death*. Thou hast but a day to live, and perhaps thou mayst be now in the twelfth hour of that day: therefore hold out faith and patience, thy life and thy troubles will shortly end together: therefore hold thy peace, death begins to call thee off the stage of this world, death stands at thy back, thy sun is near setting, thou must shortly sail forth on the ocean of eternity, and thy grave is going to be made. Though thou hast a great deal of work to do, a God to honour, a Christ to close with, a pardon to beg, a soul to save, a race to run, a

crowns to win, a hell to escape, a heaven to make sure, yet thou hast but a little time to do it in; thou hast one foot in the grave, thou art even going ashore on eternity; and wilt thou now cry out of thy afflictions? Wilt thou now mutter and murmur when thou art entering upon an unchangeable condition. What extreme folly and madness is it for a man to mutter and murmur when he is just going out of prison, and his bolts and chains are just knocking off! Why, Christian, this is just thy case, therefore hold thy peace; thy life is but short, therefore thy troubles cannot be long; hold up, and hold out quietly and patiently a little longer, and Heaven shall make amends for all.—*Brooks's Mute Christian under the Smarting Rod.*

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S LAST LETTER.

The following letter from Sir John Franklin is believed to be the last received from his pen.

WHALE FISH ISLAND,

Bay of Disco, 11th July, 1845.

"My dear Sister: * * * The appearance, dress and manner of the Esquimaux bespeak that care is taken of them by the Government. Several of them can read the Bible with ease, and I am told that, when the families are collected, the children are obliged to attend school daily. I looked into one of the huts arranged with seats for this purpose. When the minister comes over from Disco, he superintends the school; at other times the children are taught by a half-caste Esquimaux. How delightful it is to know that the Gospel is spreading far and wide, and will do so till its blessed truths are disseminated through the Globe. Every ship in these days ought to go forth to strange lands bearing among its officers a missionary spirit; and may God grant such a spirit on board this ship. It is my desire to cultivate this feeling, and I am encouraged to hope that we have among us some who will aid me in this duty. We have Divine service twice on each Sabbath, and I never witnessed a more attentive congregation than we have. May the seed sown fall upon good ground, and bring forth fruit abundantly to God's honour and glory.

Ever your affectionate brother,

(Signed) JOHN FRANKLIN."

—Exchange Paper.

P. S.—Since going to press we have received the following particulars regarding the late Rev. Mr. Bell, of Perth, whose death has been noticed at page 131:—

He had preached with much difficulty for the last time on the 3rd of May. The congregation to whom he had so long ministered, having been united with that of St. Andrew's Church in the beginning of June, according to the deliverance of Synod, on occasion of the Communion being dispensed to the united congregation he was conveyed to the Church and addressed the Communicants at the table. The little quaint-looking Church, which amid many difficulties he had got erected in the early times of the settlement, is now deserted, but there linger around it many of the holiest and most heartfelt associations of two generations of the Presbyterian Community.

His funeral took place on the following Tuesday afternoon, and was attended by all his surviving sons, a number of grandsons, such ministers as could receive intimation in time, the elders, the members of the Perth congregation, and some persons

from the surrounding townships and villages, and many others of the inhabitants of Perth, the merchants having closed their places of business during the time of the funeral. In the long procession were to be seen the venerable survivors of the early pioneers of the Perth settlement, among whom, more than 40 years ago, he had commenced his labours in a room of one of the first houses erected in Perth.

The members of the Presbytery of Bathurst who were present, afterwards met in the Church, and made a record of the event, and appointed Mr. Morrison, of Brockville, to preach a discourse suited to the circumstances in Perth on the following Sabbath.

POETRY.

EMMAUS.

"Lo, I am with thee!"—bid thy fears
And anxious sorrows cease;
My hand will dry thy saddest tears.
My lips will whisper peace.

"Lo, I am with thee!"—when the tomb
Thy loved ones calls away,
My voice shall cheer the valley-gloom
With thoughts of endless day.

"Lo, I am with thee!"—what the loss
Of all thou canst deplore,
When placed beside the awful Cross
Which once for thee I bore?

"Lo, I am with thee!"—when the bed
Of languishing is thine,
Thou shalt repose thy aching head
Upon My love Divine.

"Lo, I am with thee!"—when the knell
Of closing hours shall ring,
Mine arm the final foe shall quell
And crush his vanquished sting!

"Lo, I am with thee!"—still the same
Through endless years above;
Mid brighter worlds I shall proclaim
My changeless, deathless love!

ALTAR STONES.

Grant us, O Lord, a tranquil mind,
Which rest and peace in Thee doth find,
Convinced, whatever ills betide,
That Thou art still our faithful guide.

O Lord, without Thy Spirit's aid,
In vain is supplication made;
His gracious influence impart,
Yea, dwell thyself within my heart;
The thoughts incite, the words suggest,
And grant me what Thou deemest best.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST PUBLICATION.

John Gordon, Howick Village, .. 1857 0 2 6
Alex. Scott, Beauharnois, .. 54-5-6-7 0 10 0
A. Struthers, Cranstown, .. 56-7 0 5 0
R. Nichol, " .. 56-7 0 2 6
Rev. J. Anderson, " .. 56-7 0 2 6
Mrs. C. Ross, Goderich, .. 54-5-6-7 0 10 0
Thomas Masson, Kingston, .. 57-8 0 7 6
Miss A. Gibson, .. 57 0 2 6
J. Low, Lachine, .. 57 0 2 6
R. McKechnie, Dundas, .. 54-5-6-7 0 10 0
Mrs. A. Barrie, " .. 57 0 2 6
John Hamilton, Clarmont Pickering, .. 56-7 0 5 0
Alex. McGibbon, Montreal, .. 1857 0 2 6

UNIVERSITY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.

THE Sixteenth Session of Queen's College will begin on the first Wednesday of October, (7th October) 1857, at which date all Intrants and regular Students in the Faculty of Arts are required to be present.

The Divinity classes will be opened on the first Wednesday in November.

Candidates for Matriculation as regular Students of the first year will undergo an examination before the College Senate in the first three books of the *Aeneid* of Virgil, the first three books of *Cæsar's Commentaries*, Mair's Introduction, the Greek Grammar, and Arithmetic as far as Vulgar and Decimal Fractions, inclusive.

The only charges are £1 for Matriculation Fee; £2 for each class per session, to be paid on admission to the Classes, and £1 additional in the Natural Philosophy Class for expenses of apparatus.

Convenient accommodation for board can be procured on reasonable terms.

Each Student on entering must produce a certificate of Moral and Religious character from the Minister of the Congregation to which he belongs.

A certain number of Bursaries will be awarded at the commencement of the session. The Bursaries for Students of the first year will be conferred on those who display the greatest proficiency in the subjects of examination for Matriculation, together with the first book of *Euclid*. For Students of previous years the subjects of examination for Scholarships will be the studies of former sessions.

The preparatory department, or College School, will be conducted, as usual, under the charge of competent Masters.

The Fees in this department are as follow:—

TERMS PER ANNUM.

For Tuition in English Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, for pupils under 12 years of age.....	£4 0 0
For pupils above 12 years of age.....	6 0 0
For Tuition in the above branches together with Geography, English Grammar, Composition, the Latin Rudiments, and the use of the Globes.....	6 0 0
For Tuition in all the above branches with Lessons in the Latin Classes, Greek, or Mathematics.....	8 0 0

All Fees payable quarterly in advance. A deduction of 25 per cent is allowed on the Tuition Fees of Parents sending more than one scholar.

This department is under the superintendence of the Professors. The course of instruction is conducted so as to prepare the pupils for entering with advantage the Classes of the College.

By order of the Senatus Academicus.

GEORGE WEIR, A. M.,
Secretary to the Senatus.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE,
Kingston, C.W., 20th Aug., 1857.

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