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OF THE

Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia and the adjoining Provinces.

"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET HER CUNNING."—PSALM 137, 10.

Vol. I., No. 7.

HALIFAX, JULY, 1855.

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THE CHURCH AT HOME.

General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

The Annual Meeting of the Supreme Court of the National Church having been appointed to take place on the 24th inst., the Right Honourable Lord Belhaven, her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly, arrived in Edinburgh on Tuesday, and took up his residence in Holyrood Palace. On Wednesday evening, at six o'clock, his Grace was presented with the keys of the city by the Lord Provost, who was accompanied by the Magistrates and other civic functionaries, and attended by the usual retinue.

THE LEVEE.—His Grace the Lord High Commissioner held his first Levee in Holyrood Palace on Thursday morning.

The presentations were more than usually numerous.

THE PROCESSION.—The levee terminated about a quarter before twelve o'clock, at which hour his Grace the Commissioner left the Palace, and went in procession to St. Giles's Church, attended by a large number of the gentlemen who had been present at the levee, the officers in garrison, city dignitaries, and other officials.

An able discourse was preached by the retiring Moderator, Dr. Grant of St. Mary's, who chose for his text, Matthew xix. 28, "Jesus saith unto them, Verily, I say unto you, ye which have followed me, in the regeneration, when the Son of Man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

OPENING OF ASSEMBLY.—At the conclusion of the service, his Grace left the church and proceeded to the Assembly Hall, where a guard of honour from the 92d was also stationed. He immediately took his seat on the Throne, the gallery attached to which, and the side galleries, were filled with a brilliant assemblage of ladies. Lady Belhaven was among the number. His Grace

was accompanied to the throne gallery by Lord Melville, Commander of the Forces in Scotland, several officers of his Staff, the Lord Provost, a number of the Magistrates, the Solicitor-General, Sheriff of Edinburgh, and other gentlemen.

The Assembly having been duly constituted by the retiring Moderator engaging in prayer, the roll of members was called over, and the House proceeded to the

ELECTION OF A MODERATOR.—DR. GRANT rose and said—My fathers and brethren, it is now my duty to quit this chair, and it is your duty and privilege to select a fit and proper person to succeed me and to preside over your deliberations.

I feel assured that I but anticipate the expression of your own wishes when I name the Rev. Dr. Andrew Bell of Linlithgow.

Principal LEE seconded the nomination, and bore his testimony to the high qualifications for the Moderator's chair possessed by Dr. Bell.

Dr. Bell was then introduced to the Assembly, and took his seat in the Moderator's chair amid the applause of the House.

Her Majesty's Commission, appointing Lord Belhaven as her Representative to the Assembly, was then presented and read. The Royal letter was then presented, in which her Majesty intimated her "resolution to maintain the Church of Scotland in the possession of its ancient rights and privileges" and expressed her hope that the Assembly would participate in her feeling of sympathy for the suffering that had been occasioned by the war, and in her earnest desire that the sacrifices which her people had so cheerfully made might be the means, under God's providence, of obtaining an honourable and lasting peace.

The letter was ordered to be recorded in the minutes of Assembly.

THE LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER then addressed the Assembly. He said—Right Reverend and Right Honourable—her Majesty has again done me the honour to appoint me as her Representative to the General Assem-

bly, and has commanded me to express to you the perfect satisfaction with which her Majesty sanctions this meeting of our National Church. Her Majesty has, at the same time, commanded me to present to you the usual Royal gift of £2000. It is to be employed by you in such manner as you shall think best for promoting the moral and religious instruction of her people in the highlands and Islands of Scotland. Right Reverend and Right Honourable—I feel assured that all your deliberations on this occasion, as well as on former, will be conducted with that moderation and true Christian charity which is so essential to promote the great interests that are committed to your spiritual care. I have only further to state that I shall be most happy to do anything in my power to add to your comfort during the sittings of the General Assembly. (Applause.)

A committee was then appointed to draw up the Royal letter.

THE WAR—ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY.—DR. GRANT said—The House has now appointed a committee to answer the Queen's letter, but it has been usual, in addition to this, when the country was placed in circumstances of difficulty or danger, to transmit a separate address to the Throne. I beg to move that the General Assembly, taking into consideration the present state of the nation, and particularly the war in which the country is still engaged, resolve to present to the Queen a loyal and dutiful address, with reference to the same.

DR. PAULI of Tullynessle seconded the motion.

FRIDAY, MAY 25.

The Assembly met to-day at twelve o'clock. After the usual devotional exercises had been engaged in,

DR. HILL intimated that the Committee on Business had met that morning, and agreed to the transmission of several overtures:—

The Assembly then proceeded to engage

in devotional exercises, and at a quarter to three adjourned

SATURDAY, MAY 26.

The Assembly resumed this morning at half-past eleven.

PSALMODY.—DR. MACPHERSON read the report of the committee on Psalmody and Hymns, recommending to the favourable consideration of the Assembly the collection of 25 Hymns now laid on the table, which they suggested should be sent down to Presbyteries, and the committee reappointed to receive suggestions.

The report was ordered to lie on the table.

THEOLOGICAL TEACHING.—An overture from the the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, in favour of the establishment of a more full and regular course of theological training, and one from the Presbytery of Linlithgow, anent the superintendence of students and preachers, were remitted to a committee.

The Assembly then adjourned at six o'clock till Monday morning.

LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER.—On Sabbath his Grace attended divine service in the High Church. The Rev. Mr Gray, of Lady Yester's lectured on the twenty-third Psalm, and afterwards preached from 1st John iii. and 2, "It doth not yet appear what we shall be." In the afternoon the Rev. Mr. Shaw, of Ayr, preached an eloquent discourse, selecting his text from St John xx. and 22, last clause, "and be not faithless, but believing." His Grace was accompanied by the usual court attendants in the throne seat, to the right of which we observed Lady Belhaven and other ladies. The official pews in front of the galleries were filled by the Lords of Session and Justiciary in their court costumes, the Moderator of the General Assembly and ex-Moderator in full canonicals. The Right Honourable the Lord Provost in ermine robe (partially covering a very richly ornate velvet full court dress), the Magistrates, Lord Dean of Guild, Deacon Convener, and 14 other Councillors in their scarlet cloaks. The arrangements for ingress and egress were such as to conduce to the comfort and convenience of the public, notwithstanding the crowds that obtained admission at both diets. A prayer meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church in the evening at seven o'clock, Lady and Lord Belhaven, R. Ramsay, Esq., P.B., the Rev. Mr. Russell, and the Moderator, were among those present. The devotional services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Young of Mochrie, and the Rev. Mr. Carrick of East Kilbride. The church was well filled, and the collection was devoted to the five schemes of the Church of Scotland.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

The Assembly resumed to-day at twelve o'clock.

JEWISH MISSION REPORT.—MR. TAIT, Kirkliston, read the report of the Committee for the conversion of the Jews.

Mr. TAIT addressed a few remarks to the Assembly, enlarging on the statements given in in the report. He expressed his warm sympathy with the proposal to establish a missionary at Jerusalem, and his regret that the state of the funds did not warrant the committee in entering more heartily into the object, particularly as they had not yet been able to send a missionary to Paris, where there were 20,000 Jews among whom he might labour.

DR. GRANT moved that the General Assembly approve of the report. The Rev Doctor said that the report bore the marks of the master that had traced it, and gave to them such accounts of this missionary undertaking as were well fitted to give them encouragement, and to satisfy them that the work was being done with zeal and vigour, and with great Christian prudence and discretion.

DR. AITON, Dolphinton, moved that the Assembly remit the overture of the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr to the Committee for Conversion of the Jews, with instruction to appoint an ordained missionary to Jerusalem. He had been most hospitably and kindly entertained by the English Bishop there. He had drawn the attention of the bishop to the anomaly that there was no representative of the Church of Scotland in Jerusalem, and he said that when he went home he would promote by every means in his power the sending out by this Church of a missionary there. But first, he asked the bishop's advice and concurrence, lest it should be thought they wanted to compete instead of co-operate with the bishop's agents there. The bishop at once told him that no such impression would ever enter into his mind, that he would hold out the right hand of fellowship to any missionary from this Church, as he had done to all the missionaries of the reformed Christian Church from wheresoever they had come.

DR. ANDERSON, Newburgh, seconded Dr. Aiton's motion.

After some remarks from Dr. Bisset, Dr. Paull, and others, it was agreed to recommend the subject of the overture to the favourable consideration of the committee:

The MODERATOR then conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to Mr. Tait, and expressed his peculiar satisfaction in doing so to a co-presbyter for thirty years.

The Assembly adjourned at a quarter to one A.M., till seven o'clock next day.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

The General Assembly met at 11 o'clock. After praise, and the reading of a portion of the Scriptures by the Rev. Dr. Simpson of Kirknewton, the meeting was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

ANSWER TO THE ROYAL LETTER AND ADDRESS BY THE ASSEMBLY TO THE THRONE.—

The MODERATOR here, on behalf of the Assembly, respectfully asked His Grace the Lord High Commissioner to do the Assembly the honour of presenting the answer of the Assembly to her gracious Majesty's Royal Letter, and also the address of the As-

sembly on the War in the East, to which His Grace replied that he would have much pleasure in so doing.

THE ELECTION OF LAW AGENT OF THE CHURCH.—Mr. Bell was declared elected by a majority of 25 votes, and was thereafter duly sworn in and inducted into office; after which Mr. Bell briefly thanked the Assembly for the high honour which their kindness had conferred on him, and said that he would endeavour to discharge the duties which they had now devolved on him to the best of his ability.

PROPOSED NEW PRESBYTERY.—A petition was presented from the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Auchterarder, and Kirkcaldy, praying for the disjunction of certain parishes, and the formation of them into a new Presbytery of Kinross, on the ground of their remoteness from the parishes to which they at present belong, and the extreme difficulty of intercommunication in the district.

PSALMODY OF THE CHURCH.—The Rev. P. C. CAMPBELL, Professor of Greek, King's College, Aberdeen, laid on the table of the Assembly a motion on this subject, to the following effect:—"That the Assembly approve of the diligence of the present Committee, discharge the same, instruct their thanks to be given to the Convener, and appoint a new Committee to consider the whole matter, and particularly the selection of hymns printed by them, (which, however, they were not prepared to sanction) and report to the next General Assembly.

The Rev. Dr. MACPHERSON, the Convener of the Committee, was thereupon called to receive, through the Moderator, the thanks of the house which were accordingly tendered to him, in due form and acknowledged by him.

The Moderator having pronounced the benediction, the Assembly adjourned at twelve o'clock, to meet on Wednesday (this day) at eleven o'clock A.M.

WEDNESDAY, May 30.

The Assembly met at eleven o'clock.

THE SCOTCH SYNOD IN ENGLAND.—A letter was read from the Scotch Synod in England in connection with the Church of Scotland (signed by Dr. John Cumming), containing the usual expressions of respect, attachment, and sympathy towards this Church. It stated that the Synod had petitioned against the Lord Advocate's Education Bill. The Moderator was requested to prepare a suitable answer to this address.

THE EDUCATION SCHEME.—DR. JOHN COOK (Haddington) gave in the report of the committee for increasing the means of education in Scotland, particularly in the Highlands and Islands:—

DR. PAULL, Tulleynessle, moved the adoption of the report. Dr. Paull referred to the considerable increase that had taken place in the number of the scholars and of the schools, and to the fact that they had now nearly twenty thousand of the youth of the land in regular training, and enjoying

the benefits of a sound religious education, which fact ought to awaken deep gratitude to God that the Church of Scotland had been instrumental in effecting so much good.

Professor CAMPBELL SWINTON, seconded the motion.

The MODERATOR then briefly conveyed the thanks of the House to Dr. Cook (Haddington), remarking that his services in this cause were worthy of the honoured name he bore.

PARISH SCHOOLMASTERS AND SCHOOLS.—Dr. COOK, St. Andrews, read the report of the committee on parish schoolmasters and schools. It stated that since last Assembly four bills affecting education in Scotland had occupied the attention of the committee. 1st, The bill brought in by the Lord Advocate after the rejection of his large bill of last year—a short bill of two clauses providing that the salaries of the parish schoolmasters shall continue to be paid for two years longer according to the fiars prices of 1852, instead of those of 1853, and to which bill it did not seem necessary to the committee to offer any objection; 2d, the bill laid by Lord Kinnaird on the table of the House of Lords last session, but not proceeded in before the prorogation; 3d, the bill introduced into the House of Commons by Mr Stirling, the provisions of which were the same as those of Lord Kinnaird's bill, and of which the committee, at a meeting held on the 3d March last, expressed their general approval; and 4th, the Lord Advocate's new bill, which was, in all essential points, the same as the bill petitioned against by the judicatories of this Church, and thrown out last session upon the second reading. The committee opposed this bill on the following grounds:—

"1. Because it would effect a radical change to the present system of parochial schools in Scotland, as existing in connection with, and under the superintendence of, the Church of Scotland, and that in violation of solemn statute and ancient treaty, in hostility to the principles on which the Established Church is maintained, and to the destruction of the security which exists for the continuance of sound religious instruction in the schools.

"2. Because the bill appears, by clause 27, to authorise or require the separation of religion from the ordinary instruction of the schools, which would in that case become purely secular.

"3. Because, while it appears that religious instruction is to be communicated at certain stated separate hours, there is no security for the religious instruction being Christian, or for the Christian knowledge, belief, or character, of the teachers by whom that instruction is to be given, or of the inspectors or others by whom the teachers are to be superintended.

"There are various other provisions of the bill to which strong objections might be urged, and the committee deem it enough to state the general and leading grounds on which they regard the bill as fraught with peril to the interests of sound education and religion in Scotland, as well as most injurious to the Church of Scotland."

The report concluded by stating that the committee had sent a deputation to London to oppose to the second reading of the bill; that its second reading, however, had been carried by 210 to 171; and that the amendment

of Mr. Cumming Bruce, to divide the bill, had been lost by 149 to 142. Various other amendments on the bill had been given notice of, but these did not seem to the committee to be likely to take away its dangers and hostile character. It did not appear to the committee, however, that there was any reason to regard as unavailing the continued endeavour to resist the passing of the bill in the House of Commons and they deem it most necessary that urgent means should be adopted by the General Assembly to bring the character of the bill before the members of the Upper House, that no opportunity might be lost of endeavouring to prevent the passing of a measure which was likely to change, fundamentally, the religious and educational institutions of Scotland, and to endanger the future character of the people and the prospects of the country.

Dr GRANT moved the adoption of the Report, and that the thanks of the Assembly should be given to the Convener and the Committee.

Dr Grant concluded by moving resolutions to the following effect on the subject of the Lord Advocate's Bill, in addition to those expressing approval of the report, and giving thanks to the Committee:—

"The General Assembly find that, while the Bill violates the securities provided by statutes and by solemn national compacts for maintaining the connection of the Church of Scotland with, and her superintendence over the national schools, and which has resulted in the education of youth in the principles of religion as contained in the recognised standards of the Church, it substitutes no definite or efficient security for the preservation of the religious character of the schools, and is otherwise wholly objectionable; and they, therefore, resolve to petition in the strongest terms against the same."

The Rev. Doctor also proposed that the Assembly should petition in favour of Mr Stirling's Bill.

After a few observations from Dr Craik, Dr Grant briefly replied, and his resolutions were agreed to.

The Assembly then adjourned at half-past eleven o'clock till next day.

THURSDAY, May 31.

The Assembly meet to-day at half-past eleven.

CASE OF CREICH—OBJECTED SETTLEMENT.

—The Assembly took up appeals of the Rev. James Gunn, minister of the Parliamentary parish church of Cross, Island of Creich, and since presented to the parish of Creich, by the joint patrons, the Crown and the Duke Sutherland, against the finding of the Presbytery of Dornoch, sustaining objections to his settlement at Creich, brought forward by certain parishioners and communicants there.

Dr. Robertson moved that the Assembly sustain the appeal, recall the judgment of the Presbytery, but find that the trial discourses preached by the presentee were ill deduced and unedifying, and that the third objection was to that extent proven: find that the presentee is unsuitable for the parish, reject

him accordingly, and appoint the deliverance to be intimated to the patrons.

On the vote being taken, the motion of Dr Robertson was carried by 83 to 18.

FRIDAY, June 1

The Assembly met at eleven o'clock, and was constituted with prayer.

SERMONS BEFORE THE LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER TO-MORROW.—The MODERATOR said that, seeing both the reverend gentlemen in their places, he was directed to intimate to the Rev. Dr Park of St. Andrews, and the Rev. Mr. Yotug of Finty, that the Assembly had appointed them to preach before his Grace the Lord High Commissioner in St. Giles's Church to-morrow, the 3d inst., respectively on the forenoon and afternoon of that day.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.—Dr. GRANT laid on the table the report of the trustees managing this fund. The report comprised the annual period from the 23d November, 1853, to 23d November 1854. Dr. Grant said that the fund was in a most satisfactory state.

Principal LEE testified to the great attention and affectionate care bestowed by Dr. Grant on the management of the Fund, and

The MODERATOR briefly conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to the reverend collector and manager, believing that in Dr. Grant they found the various and diversified qualifications not often met with in the same individual necessary for the discharge of the important duties attaching to the management of this important fund.

HOME MISSION SCHEME.—The Assembly then called for the report of the Committee on the Home Missions of the Church, which was brought up and read by Dr. Simpson of Kirknewton, the convener.

Dr. GRANT rose for the purpose of moving the approval by the Assembly of the report now read. He thought that it was, upon the whole, most encouraging in its character and highly interesting. He would not waste the valuable time of the House by speaking of the nature and objects of this admirable mission scheme. He need not tell the Assembly that this was one of the oldest schemes of the Church, and that no one had been more cherished, and none produced a greater amount of visible fruit.

Mr. WALTER COOK, W.S. briefly seconded the motion.

The MODERATOR returned the thanks of the Assembly to the Convener for his interesting and valuable report.

COLONIAL COMMITTEE.—The Very Rev. Principal MACFARLAN, the convener, brought up the report of the Committee on the Colonial Mission Scheme, which was read by the Rev. Dr. Arnot, the vice-convener.

Dr. BISSET of Bourtie moved the adoption of the report, and the thanks of the Assembly to the convener and the committee.

Dr. ANDERSON, Newburgh, seconded the motion in a speech of some length.

Principal MACFARLAN briefly addressed the Assembly.

The MODERATOR then tendered the thanks of the House to the Very Rev. Principal and to Dr. Arnot, the vice-convenor, for their successful labours in the cause of Colonial Missions.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON, CANADA WEST.—On the motion of Dr. SIMPSON, supported by Professor Campbell, who explained the circumstances under which the application was made for the grant of a piece of ground adjoining the college, belonging to the Board of Ordinance Department of the Home Government.

The Assembly having had brought under its consideration an application from the trustees of the University of Queen's College, Kingston, Canada West, to her Majesty's Government, for a grant to said trustees of a piece of land adjoining the buildings of said college, unanimously agreed to recommend said application to the favourable consideration of her Majesty's Government.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON POPERY.—The Rev. JAS. C. FOWLER, of Ratho, Convener of the Assembly's Committee on Popery, gave in and read the report on that subject.

A lengthened discussion ensued, in the course of which Dr. Hill moved that the General Assembly approve of the report of the Committee on Popery, record their thanks to the Committee, and especially to the Convener, and of the diligence and zeal with which they have prosecuted the matter to which they were directed and authorised to attend, and extend their exertions so far as circumstances permit and render admissible.

Dr. GRANT then introduced to the notice of the House the Rev. Dr. Blakeney of Birkenhead, Liverpool, Honorary Secretary to the Protestant Reformation Society, and proposed that the Assembly should hear a statement by that gentleman.

The Rev. Dr. BLAKENEY then addressed the House, stating that he would not at that late hour detain them, and, after a brief introduction said—*I thank you for the privilege you have afforded to me of appearing at the bar of your venerable House. I thank you especially for the good will which it indicates towards a sister Church, and I hope that the proceedings of this day will give evidence to the world at large that, there are churchmen on both sides of the Tweed who can strive together with one heart and one mind for the faith of the Gospel. We have great principles in common, not only as Christian Churches, but as national establishments of the United Kingdom. We have common interests and common foes, and I trust that we shall likewise have, through the blessing of God, a common, a vigorous, and successful action for the maintenance and extension of the Kingdom of our God. May God bless the Churches of this realm, and enable them, in harmony with each other, to contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.*

I rejoice that the Scottish Churchman and English Churchman can now shake hands, across the borders, evidencing to the world, that, while each retains his own polity, they are one in heart and soul, determined to stand together for the common faith. This co-operation will be most important, as offering a check to the extreme party to which I have referred. It will be seen that true sons of the Church

of Scotland and true sons of the Church of England can combine for good. And, let it not be supposed that, in giving utterance to these sentiments, I am diverging from those of the Church of England. I rejoice that the Church of which I am a minister gives no sanction to the views of the Romanizers, who endeavour to find shelter under certain ambiguities in the prayer-book, but who cannot fairly evade the force of the plain, decided statements of our dogmatic formularies.

I well remember the first meeting which I attended in Edinburgh. A number of the Church of Scotland opened the meeting with a prayer, in which he invoked a blessing upon the churches of England, Scotland and Ireland. After the meeting, I expressed my satisfaction to him, and I told him that the 55th canon directs the clergy of the English Church to call upon the people to pray for Christ's Holy Catholic Church—"that is," says the canon, "for the whole congregation of Christian people dispersed throughout the world, and especially for the churches of England, Scotland, and Ireland." Mark—"especially for the churches of England, Scotland, and Ireland." This is the canon law of the Church of England. This canon was drawn up in 1603, when the Church of Scotland was Presbyterian. I rejoice, therefore, that the church of which I am a minister, does not exclude herself from but takes a position among the reformed churches. Away, then, with the human figment, that no church is a church of Christ which does not possess a particular kind of hierarchical succession. I rejoice, that northern churchmen and southern churchmen are now about to co-operate, and in that sentiment I am joined by a large body of clergy in England. We love the Church of Scotland—we love her evangelical formularies—we love her for the truth's sake—we sympathise with her in all her struggles, and are ready to labour for her in her efforts—to weep with her when she weeps, and to rejoice with her when she rejoices. And our earnest prayer on behalf of Zion in Scotland, as well as England, is,—"peace be within her walls and salvation within her bulwarks."**

Dr. BISSSET, in moving the thanks of the Assembly to Dr. Blakeney for his interesting address, said that his name was in all the Churches, and that no members of that House could be ignorant of his high character and attainments—"not to know him was to argue one's self unknown."

The MODERATOR (Dr. Grant) then in a beautiful and eloquent address tendered the thanks of the Assembly to Dr. Blakeney.

To be concluded.

Kelso Parochial Association.

It had long been the earnest desire of some members of the Kelso Parish Church, to form a missionary association for the purpose of endeavouring to increase the parochial contributions for the support of the Schemes of the Church of Scotland. This desire was at length realised in November 1854, when the minister and kirk-session, together with a number of the members of the congregation, met, and formed themselves into an association for the above purpose. A number of the young members of the Church volunteered their services as collectors, and to each was assigned a district. The collectors in their first round of calls were generally received with great kindness, and met with much en-

couragement and success, and have gone on till this time with untiring zeal, and with uniform success. Some discouragement met them occasionally from those who are lukewarm in the cause, and who decline supporting such schemes, but on the whole they have reason to be thankful that their unselfish efforts have been so far encouraging.

It has been thought necessary to circulate missionary information among all classes, and, for this purpose, the collectors are provided each with several copies of the *Missionary Record*, to circulate among their contributors. By this means they hope to awaken an increased interest in the minds of their fellow-Christians in the spiritual and eternal welfare of those who are destitute of the privileges they themselves enjoy; and thus, being induced to subscribe more liberally, be the means of spreading far and wide the knowledge of the kingdom of Christ.

At a meeting of the Directors lately held, it was unanimously agreed to forward to the treasurer of the schemes, the amount of money at present on hand; so that the sum now sent is the result of five monthly collections, and though (£22, 11s. 9d.) not very large, yet we entertain great hopes that during the coming year, the exertions of the collectors will enable the association to forward a much larger amount next year. This contribution is of course quite independent of the church door collections, but our experience has been too short to enable us to form a judgement as to the operation of the association upon these collections. In one or two of these, for the schemes which have taken place since the formation of the association, the amount has been much the same as usual.

Presbytery of Edinburgh.

The annual public meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, in behalf of the schemes of the Church, took place in St Andrew's Church on Wednesday—*the Rev. David Brown, Moderator of the Presbytery, presiding, after devotional exercises, the Rev. Henry Duff, Presbytery Clerk, read an abstract statement of the contributions of the different congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery for the five schemes of the Church and of the additional sums raised for educational and benevolent purposes, the total sum being £9,499 16s. The Rev. J. C. Fowler, Ratho, remarked that the report was of the most gratifying kind, and showed an increase, as compared with the previous year, of £2904 in the contributions of the Presbytery towards the different objects promoted by the Church. While there has been in the whole this increase, there has been a deficiency in the contributions of every one of the schemes proper for which collections had been ordered by the General Assembly. It was, therefore, to be hoped that, in future, while the Church was enlarging her liberality towards educational and benevolent purposes, she would keep up, if not increase, her contributions towards the six schemes. It was also*

gratifying fact that, with the exception of one congregation which had only collected for five schemes, all the congregations within the bounds had collected for all of the six schemes. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Rev. W. H. Gray on the Education and Colonial Schemes; by the Rev. Maxwell Nicholson on the Home Mission and Endowment Schemes; and by the Rev. Dr. Paul on the India Mission and Jewish Mission Schemes.

The Rev. Dr. McTaggart of Greyfriars, Aberdeen, has transmitted £.72, 7s. 6d. — £ 36, 3s 9d. each to the Colonial and Jewish Missions—being “part of the sum left by the late Mr. Harvey of Beadlieston, to the Rev. Dr. Pirie, for distribution among Foreign Missions.”

THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

Australia.

The Colonial committee have now received a communication from the Rev. William Purves, the Delegate who was sometime ago sent to this country, by the Synod of Australia, for the purpose of obtaining ministers to supply the spiritual destitution existing in many parts of the colony; and with whose assistance, the committee were enabled to send out seven ministers to Australia, previous to the last General Assembly.

In reference to these appointments, Mr. Purves in his letter expresses his conviction that, on taking a calm and extended view of all the transactions and events connected with his mission to this country, and the introduction of the ministers sent out by the committee, into the colonial field, the result, so far as it has yet been seen, is such as every friend of the Church both here and in the colony, must see reason to rejoice in. Everything has not gone just as could have been wished; but considering the number of interests that were concerned, and the varied feelings and views of so many different persons, as well as the comparative magnitude of the undertaking itself, the success which, in the good providence of God, has attended the efforts made, is as great as could have been reasonable expected.

We have great pleasure in inserting the rejoined account of the reception of Mr. Purves in the Synod of New South Wales, after his return from this country. It is taken from the printed minutes of the meeting of Synod, held on 26th October, 1854.

The Rev. Wm. Purves, who was sent by the Synod as their delegate to the Church of Scotland, in 1852, with a view to procure additional ministers for the colony, and to advocate the general interests of the Colonial Church in the Mother Country, gave a detailed and very interesting account of his mission, mentioning the various steps which had been taken by him in connection with the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly, and the valuable assistance which he had received from that venerable body, who took the warmest interest in the prosperity of our church, and most cordially co-operated with our delegate in carrying out the instructions of the Synod.

The Synod having heard with great satisfaction the statement of the Rev. Wm. Purves, on the subject of his late mission to Great Britain, which, by the blessing of God, had

been so eminently crowned with success, unanimously resolved to record their deep sense of gratitude to Almighty God for having graciously preserved their brother during his absence; for having strengthened and sustained him in his arduous undertaking, and restored him in health and in safety to the sphere of his former labours, after the successful termination of his mission, from which the most beneficial results might be anticipated. The Synod unanimously expressed their entire satisfaction and approval of Mr. Purves' conduct, and of the skill and prudence which he had displayed in the management of the delicate and important business which had been entrusted to him, and resolved to record their grateful acknowledgement of the eminent services rendered by their delegate to the Colonial Church. The Moderator was then instructed to convey to Mr. Purves the cordial thanks of the Synod, which was accordingly done.

British North America.

We sincerely trust that the very touching appeal contained in the subjoined Bond, will stir up some of our liegionates having a knowledge of Gaelic, to offer their services to supply the great spiritual destitution which has so long prevailed in this part of the colonial field.—*H. & P. Miss. Record.*

We, the undersigned, being managers for the congregation of the West Branch and East River, in the county of Pictou, Nova Scotia, and authorized to act for said congregation, beg humbly, but most earnestly to bring under the notice of your Committee, the painful destitution of which, for many years, we have had to complain.

For the long period of eleven years we have been without a pastor. A generation is rising among us, and approaching manhood, who never had the privilege of seeing the face of a minister of Christ whom they could call their pastor. We are still unbroken, and well able adequately to maintain a clergyman; but if left further, for any length of time, situated as we are, we must, and almost of necessity, be scattered, and many will leave the Church of their fathers, and thus render it impossible for those who might still cling to her to support the ordinances of religion.

It is painful to be driven from the Church to which, by the strongest possible ties, we have been and are attached—in which our fathers worshipped their God, and received the consolation of religion through life and in death.

Often and again we appealed to the Church of Scotland for aid, but for eleven years all our appeals have been in vain; we blame not the Church—but we must repeat and urge our wants on her attention. We trust we shall not be disregarded.

We now entreat of your Committee to assist us in our difficulties; and we do so with all the earnestness of men who will not be driven from our beloved Church while any hope remains; and with all the confidence, too, of men who are fully persuaded that we are addressing faithful and affectionate ministers of Christ, who can and do feel for us, and are willing to send us assistance.

In order to satisfy your Committee that we are able and willing to meet any responsibility which the enjoyment of the ordinances of religion may devolve upon us, and that we wish not to be to any extent a burden on your funds, we hereby bind and oblige ourselves, as managers of the above congregation, jointly and

severally, to refund to you whatever amount may be necessary as passage-money for any Gaelic minister you may select and send to the district of Pictou; and we further promise to pay to such minister the yearly stipend of £150 currency, until such time as he may choose a congregation, and be regularly settled among them.

This, in our humble opinion, must be more agreeable to any minister purposing to come to this country, than to receive a regular call while at home and ignorant of localities and their comparative desirableness. It is certain our wide destitution and many vacancies, render it a painful certainty that any minister coming among us will have but too many congregations to choose from.

PETER CAMPBELL.
JOHN GRAY.
DUNCAN McDONALD.
HUGH FRASER
JOHN FORBES.
WILLIAM CHISHOLM.

I am intimately acquainted with the above individuals, and I can with utmost confidence assert, that they are thoroughly honest men, and in circumstances enabling them fully to meet the above responsibilities.

ALEXANDER MACLEAN,
Minister of West River and Gairloch.

Presbytery of Hamilton.

This presbytery met in Hamilton on the 9th of May, and was engaged till a late hour in considering and transacting several important items of business.

The statistical returns required by the Synod to be sent up to its next meeting were called for, and were given in by all the ministers present.

It was agreed to transmit to the Colonial Committee an urgent application for a Missionary to be sent out on the same terms as several have recently been sent out to the other colonies, viz. that a salary of £150 sterling shall be guaranteed him by the Committee, the Presbytery promising to pay £100 currency of this sum. Mr. MacDonnell was instructed to prepare a letter to the Committee, on this subject.

The Presbytery allowed six weeks leave of absence from his congregation to Mr. Grigor, on account of his ill health, and Messrs. Macdonnell, Gibson and Thom were elected to supply his pulpit on three Sabbaths during the vacancy. Mr. MacLennan was appointed to preach in Nelson and Waterdown on the 20th, and various appointments of Missionary labour were made for Messrs. Mowat, Gibson, Burnett, W. McEwen, and J. McEwen.

The Presbytery resolved to report to the Synod its disapproval of the Act aforesaid Resigned Ministers, and its approval generally of the form of process for the settlement of Ministers.

Having heard a statement from Dr. Skinner, in reference to the expenses incurred by his congregation in carrying on the recent Chancery suit for the recovery of their property, the Presbytery appointed a Committee to confer with Dr. Skinner, with a view of bringing before the Synod the claims of his congregation on the sympathy and assistance of the Church.

After considering the excuses given by those absent from the last meeting for their non-attendance, examining the Session Records, making up the Presbytery Roll, &c., the Presbytery appointed a special meeting to be held in Hamilton on the 28th inst., in reference to the congregation at Ancaster.—*Presbyterian.*

Induction at Fergus.

On Thursday the 3rd of May, according to appointment, the Presbytery of Hamilton met at Fergus, to proceed with the induction to the charge of St. Andrew's Church there of the Rev. George McDonnell, of Nelson and Waterdown. During the vacancy occasioned by the death of the former Pastor, the lamented Dr. Mair, the Presbytery with much consideration had supplied the Pulpit at Fergus, almost every alternate Sabbath, and had seen it right to forward the views of the congregation in the translation of Mr. Macdonnell to what appeared a more important sphere.

The morning of the settlement was not very promising, but, as has happened on many an occasion on which interests far less important were involved, the day brightened and notwithstanding that the notice of the solemnity had been very brief, and only partially circulated, and that the season was the busy one of seed-time, the attendance was respectable. All ages were there, from those in the morning of life, and buoyant with hope, to those encompassed by the infirmities of age. Some memories there were doubtless of other days, and it could not well be otherwise, but we believe the prevailing feeling was one of thankfulness that such an occasion had called together those so recently left as "a flock without a Shepherd."

The Rev. W. Johnson of Saltfleet, presided, preaching from Mark xvi. 16. "He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned." The sermon, and the addresses to minister and people by the Rev. Colin Grogan, of Gueph, and the Rev. Robert Burnett, of Hamilton, were all characterized by suitableness to the occasion and parties, and by the earnestness of manner and expression with which the great importance of the truths and duties was ably and forcibly stated and inculcated.

This settlement was cordially desired, by the members of our Church at Fergus, and is likely to prove highly beneficial to them, and the only subject of regret in reference to it is, that the advantages that will accrue to them from Mr. Macdonnell's translation are obtained at the expense of the loss of his valuable services by his former flock. There is reason, however, to suppose that the vacancy thus occasioned at Nelson and Waterdown need not be of long duration.

The Presbytery of Glengarry.

This Presbytery met at Cornwall on the 16th day of May, and among other things the Clerk introduced the mournful subject of the decease of two of the ministers of the Presbytery since their last meeting. At the request of the Moderator, the Rev. Mr. Urquhart, minister of Cornwall, offered up a most impressive prayer to Almighty God, for comfort and direction under these most afflictive dispensations.

After prayer the Presbytery agreed to record the following expression of their sentiments and profound sorrow on this occasion.

While this Presbytery desire to humble themselves before God, and to recognize in the present afflictive dispensation His righteous, all-wise, and sovereign decree, they at the same time, with entire submission and resignation to the Divine will, desire to give expression to their poignant sorrow under the heavy bereavement that has thus come upon them, and at the same time to record their deep

sense of the high personal and ministerial character of their departed brethren, and of the great loss sustained by them as individuals, and a Presbytery, as well as by the Church in general, in the dissolution of those sacred bonds of affection, of Christian brotherhood, and ministerial co-operation, which many years of mutual fellowship had strongly confirmed and united.

And this Presbytery with sincere sorrow would take this opportunity, while recording the deaths of their deceased brethren, also to record their deep sympathy with the bereaved widows and families, commending them affectionately to the grace and consolation of their Heavenly Father; and with the congregations of Martintown, Williamstown, that have thus been deprived of their pastors, guides and faithful friends for a long series of years.

Mr. J. McLaurin, Minister of Martintown, was the first whom it pleased God to remove from his earthly labours. Mr. McLaurin was born in the parish of Balquhider, Perthshire, Scotland. When a youth of 11 or 12 years of age he accompanied his father's family to Canada in 1818; and after receiving a preliminary classical education in this country was sent back to Scotland in 1819 to enter the University of Glasgow, and to qualify himself by the prescribed course of preliminary study for the sacred office of the ministry, to which parental piety and affection had early dedicated him. In 1837 he was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Mull, in the Synod of Argyle, and in August or September, 1838, was chosen as assistant missionary by the Revd. Dr. Norman McLeod, Minister of St. Columba Church, Glasgow. In December 1839, he returned to Canada, and after a few months spent with his friends, and in exercising his ministerial gifts in various places, he was called to be their pastor by the congregation of Martintown, then vacant by the death of their then late revered pastor, Archibald Connel; and in August, 1840, was ordained over that congregation, among whom he continued to labour with increased assiduity and faithfulness till the day of his death, on the 22nd day of March last.

As a man and a minister, Mr. McLaurin was endowed with rare qualities of mind and body; possessed of a physical frame of uncommon power he was capable of undergoing great labour and fatigue, and no man ever spared the power, God had given him, less than he did in the performance of ministerial duties. He seemed to have thoroughly imbibed the sentiment and resolution of Paul, "I will very gladly spend and be spent for you;" and, like Paul, too, he had at times to take up the sad complaint, "Though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved." On the whole, however, no man's labours could be more highly appreciated. Mr. McLaurin was no less highly favoured in his mental qualities, especially the qualities of the heart. His intellect was at once clear and commanding, and always under the guidance of a sound judgment, and a correct taste, and nowhere was this made more manifest than in the power and charm which characterized his pulpit labours. And to an intellect of so rare a stamp, was joined a heart possessed of all the simplicity of a little child, and of all the tenderness and devoted affection of the kindest nature. To this, the warmth and steadfastness of his friendships, the ardour of his domestic and parental affections, and the unwearied exercise of the tenderest sympathy with the distressed, and of unbounded beneficence towards every human being that needed his aid or his coun-

sel, bore the most pleasing, and the clearest testimony.

As a minister of the Gospel, and a pastor of the flock, Mr. McLaurin was highly distinguished. In the pulpit he had few equals and as a Gaelic speaker he had no superior. From a child he had known the Holy Scriptures, and the great radical truths of the Gospel, as they had obtained a strong hold on his mind and heart, constituted the great theme of his preaching. His style was at once forcible and perspicuous, dignified but not pompous, plain but not mean.

As a pastor he was faithful and assiduous, indefatigable in his attention to the sick and the destitute, kind and affable to all his flock, and to none more so than to the lambs of the flock. Hence arose a strong feeling of mutual and reciprocal affection between minister and people,—and affection but too suddenly and unexpectedly torn asunder by the stroke of death.

It was in the arduous discharge of an act of pastoral duty, from which his high sense of the sacredness of an engagement already made would not allow him shrink, when even the elements in one of our severest Canadian March storms would have seemed a call from Providence to restrain him, that he contracted that mortal disease which, after a day and a night of indescribable suffering, terminated his earthly labours. As a member of Presbytery and of the higher Court Mr. McLaurin was more a modest observer than an obtrusive actor, being often diffident of himself, when inferior men were confident. His judgment on ecclesiastical matters was, however, always discriminative and just. And no man ever yielded to the wishes of his brethren in any act of imposed duty with a sweeter grace, or greater readiness, than he was wont to do. While at the same time his brethren, both of his own and other Presbyteries, never can forget the cheerful and graceful readiness, with which he came to their aid on any moment of emergency. In a word no man ever established higher claims on the affection and regard of all his brethren than the lamented deceased.

Such is a brief and most imperfect sketch of one of those brethren over whose death, in the vigor of his days, and in the meridian of his usefulness, this Presbytery are this day called to mourn.

Mr. John McKenzie, minister of Williamstown, was the next whom it pleased God to remove from the midst of us. Mr. McKenzie was born at Fort Augustus, parish of Bolekine, Inverness-shire, Scotland, in May, 1799. Like Mr. McLaurin he was from his youth dedicated to the sacred office of the ministry by the devoted piety of Christian parents. After completing that simple, yet substantial and efficient course of preliminary education, which is furnished in the parochial schools of Scotland, Mr. McKenzie was removed to the University and King's College, Aberdeen, and such was his proficiency in his preparatory education, that he carried the first competitors' bursary over many rivals on entering College. During his course he was distinguished alike for his industry and exemplary deportment. Like most young men of his standing his vacations were devoted to the instruction of youth, first, as teacher of the Parish School of Urquhart, in the Presbytery of Inverness, and afterwards as assistant teacher in the Grammar School of Old Aberdeen. After finishing his College course, he was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Aberdeen in 1819, about which time he received a call to become their pastor from the congregation of Williams-

town, Canada, then vacant by the death, some years before, of the much esteemed and venerable John Bethune, first minister of the Church of Scotland settled in Canada. The circumstances of the times rendered the steps of calling an unseemly, an unheard pastor necessary; and, though hazardous and unadvisable in any circumstances, in the present case it proved a mutual blessing. By special permission Mr. McKenzie was accordingly ordained in 1819 by the Presbytery of Aberdeen as pastor over that congregation, among whom he laboured with apostolic simplicity and faithfulness to the period of his death, being 36 years.

He found himself, on his arrival at Williamstown, the only minister of the Church of Scotland, in Upper Canada, and was justly regarded, from that time as being next to Mr. Bethune the father of the Canadian Presbyterian Church, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and accordingly on the first formation of the Synod of the Church in 1831, Mr. McKenzie was unanimously chosen Moderator. He lived to see the Synod increased into 6 Presbyteries, and its ministers to 80 members,—a number which, but for the calamitous Secession of 1811, consequent upon the disruption of the Church of Scotland, would have been more than doubled.

In person Mr. McKenzie was of a slight frame, but of great activity and endurance. Like his master he was continually going about doing good. In intellect, Mr. McKenzie was more clear than commanding. In style he was remarkable for his taste and correctness, and his judgment was sound and eminently practical. Susceptible of strong partialities and antipathies, he was a warm friend and a manly opponent. But great benevolence of heart was his distinguishing characteristic. No one ever appealed to his sympathy in vain. His hand was ever open to the poor, and the afflicted and distressed always found in him the sympathizing friend and comforter. As a husband and a relation, he was most devoted and dutiful. As a neighbour and member of society, no man ever gained more the good will and respect of all who approached him, without distinction of name or party. At his burial, Roman Catholics vied with Protestants in doing him honor.

In his ministerial and pastoral relations, Mr. McKenzie was eminently successful and useful, as a preacher his style and manner were unassuming and unimpassioned, but always chaste, practical and pleasing. But it was as a pastor that he shone, rather than as a preacher. In the pastoral field few had attained to greater success, whether that success be measured by the salutary influence, he obtained over his flock, or by the respect and affection with which he was regarded by them in return.

Mr. McKenzie did that which few pastors can venture with impunity; he interested himself minutely and extensively in the temporal dealings and concerns of the people, and that in a manner that often benefited them, while his pastoral influence remained uninjured and undiminished; and all this as the result of the deep conviction, created by all his dealings, of his simple-hearted and disinterested beneficence. In a word he taught and influenced his people more by his blameless life than by his persuasive words.

As a member of Church courts Mr. McKenzie was well-informed and efficient, but never obtrusive nor dogmatical; and as his brethren in days past, felt strengthened and encouraged by his presence and counsel, so we are this day called to mourn at seeing his seat vacant, and to sorrow that we shall no more see his

face, nor hear his voice raised up among us.

Faithfully and imperfectly as the characters of these two brethren in Christ just removed from their midst have thus been delineated, they will abundantly serve to show how deep and solemn is the call made this day upon this Presbytery for sorrow and lamentation.

While then we would humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, and lie low before Him, and would acknowledge in these bereavements, His righteous and sovereign will, we would at the same time call upon our souls to be stirred up to greater diligence and faithfulness in the work of the Lord.

On an application from the congregations of Williamstown, and Martintown through their Elders, 7 of whom were present, for the services of a Missionary, the Presbytery appointed Mr. Donald MacDonald, Student of Divinity, Queen's College, to act as a Catechist within the bounds of Martintown, Williamstown and Lochiel, for 6 months, his time being equally divided among them. This appointment appears to give great satisfaction to the people among whom he is to labour, and promises much future good, as Mr. MacDonald is able to address them in the language they love, that of the Gael.

The Presbytery appointed Mr. McPherson and Mr. Scott to dispense the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the congregation at Martintown on the second Sabbath of June next; Mr. Urquhart to preach on Friday, and Mr. McLean on Saturday.

The Presbytery appointed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be dispensed in the congregation of Williamstown, on the fourth Sabbath of June next, Mr. Macpherson to preside, and to make such arrangements as may be necessary with such members of other Presbyteries, as are expected to take part in the services.—16.

St. John's Church, Dalhousie.

The Presbytery of Miramichi met in St. John's Church, Dalhousie, on the 10th of May last, for the induction of the Rev. Alex. Forbes into the Pastoral charge of that congregation. The Rev. James Murray, Minister of St. Luke's Church, Bathurst, presided, and preached an excellent and appropriate sermon from Luke xiv. 22: "And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room." He then put the usual questions to the Rev. Mr. Forbes, and having received satisfactory answers thereto, he admitted him as Minister of St. John's Church, Dalhousie, and briefly addressed the Minister and Congregation on their respective duties.

There was a good Congregation present, and at the dismissal of the Congregation the Rev. Mr. Forbes received a hearty welcome from those over whom he was placed in the Lord.

Synod of the Church of Scotland.

(From the Montreal Gazette)

At Montreal, the 30th day of May, the Synod, after an earnest and faithful sermon by the Rev. J. Williamson, L.L.D., Moderator, from 1 Cor. iii. 7,—“So then neither is he that planteth anything neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase”—met according to appointment in St. Andrew's Church, and was constituted with prayer. The Synod Roll was then made up from the Presbytery Rolls and the names of members called over.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of a Moderator, when the Rev. Alexander MacKil of Goderich was unanimously elected and took the Chair.

Dr. Matheson then called attention to the roll which had just been read. Names of those they have been accustomed to meet in fellowship with were there, recalling the old familiar countenances of friends, but alas! they were not. In the short interval since the last meeting of Synod death had been busy; the stroke had fallen heavily, and five of their number, including the father of the Synod, the Rev. J. McKenzie, had been called away. He feelingly alluded to the circumstances attending these removals, and faithfully portrayed the characters of the departed, and then stated that these events were a loud and important call, 1st, to earnest prayer to God for his help, 2dly, to increased exertions, looking to Him to bless them. After the close of Dr. Matheson's address, on the nomination of the Moderator, the Rev. Mr. Urquhart engaged in prayer. Thereafter, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Matheson, the Rev. Messrs. Urquhart and Geo. Bell were appointed a committee to prepare a minute expressing the sense of the Synod of its bereavement and its humiliation before God, and further, to suggest steps for supplying the vacant congregations, especially those requiring Gaelic preachers.

A committee was then appointed to revise the minutes of the Annual Meeting.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of two trustees for Queen's College, Kingston, when the retiring Trustees were elected.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of two Clergy Reserve Commissioners, when the Hon. John Hamilton and W. Edmonstone, Esq., were re-elected.

The Synod then appointed a Committee on Bills and Overtures to meet at four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day.

Presbytery Clerks were instructed to place the Records of Presbytery on the table.

Leave was given to Presbyteries to sit in Montreal during the meeting of the Synod when Synod was not in session.

The Synod agreed to meet at half-past nine daily, and adjourn for an hour at one and six o'clock respectively.

The Synod then adjourned to meet at eight o'clock the same evening.

At the meeting in the evening, the Committees on Bills and Overtures reported an overture anent the appointment of corresponding members to the Synods of the Church in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and commended it to the support of the Synod. The overture in appropriate terms set forth the advantages of wider intercourse, and invited the Synods in the Lower Provinces to appoint corresponding members to this Synod.

Mr. Alex. Morris supported the overture. He referred to the position of the Church in the Lower Provinces, detailed its exertions and struggles, and pointed out some of the advantages which would be derived from interchange of sympathies, Queen's College would be benefited. Already three students from Nova Scotia were at that institution; and instead of attempting to organize a College of their own, the people of the Lower Provinces should in the meantime take advantage of Queen's College. He also referred to close union as likely to be the result.

Rev. Dr. Matheson, seconded the motion—thought freer intercourse with the brethren in the Lower Provinces very desirable, Presbyterianism was peculiarly catholic in its spirit,

but there were peculiar reasons for cultivating friendly relations with the Lower Provinces. Why should we be separated—nursed in the same church, and come forth to plant the Gospel of Peace in these colonies? Our hands would be encouraged, and we would be helpful of our brethren. He referred to a letter of the Rev. Mr. Henderson, advocating this measure, which he had received.

The Rev. Mr. Muir briefly addressed the Synod, feeling assured that the overture would meet with cordial approval.

The Rev. Mr. Bain (Scarboro') was of opinion that such efforts deserved countenance, being a manifestation of Christian feeling and expansive affection; but was desirous that the result should be a practical one—that the people should be brought under the influence of the effort. He suggested that the press should be used as a vehicle of diffusion of our sentiments. If the overture led to active co-operation it would be eminently successful.

It would be very important that the idea of a General Assembly should be kept in view. He further thought that care ought to be taken to give wide publicity to the reception given to the deputation.

Dr. Mathieson said that a General Assembly in British North America was the object had in view, by the promoters of the overture, but the present was an initiatory step in that direction.

The Rev. Dr. McGill supported the overture, and suggested the appointment of a committee, to take the matter into consideration and report as to the men who should be sent, and as to the most effective mode of carrying out the scheme with efficiency. He thought that it might be well to instruct the Committee to prepare a scheme for an Assembly.

After some further conversation, the Synod unanimously adopted the overture, and appointed a committee to suggest the corresponding members, and also to indicate the most practical mode of carrying it into effect.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.—The Rev. Dr. Mathieson stated that he was prepared to hand in the Report of the Managers of the Fund. He then read the Report, and explained the position of the fund.

Rev. Mr. Muir thought the scheme would be more largely supported if the Committee brought themselves into direct communication with the congregations themselves. If the Elders took up the matter also it would be of great service.

Rev. Mr. Haig thought that there ought to be no fastidiousness on the part of the members in pressing its claims on the people. He had examined the accounts for some years carefully, and was surprised at the smallness of some of the contributions from some congregations. Why, if all the heads of families gave but 7s. each the effect would be wonderful. He thought it a duty incumbent on members, in view of the large number of annuitants, to press it on the people.

Rev. Mr. Urquhart testified to the assiduity and zeal of the Managers. He also stated that he did not think delicacy of feeling any just reason on the part of Ministers for refraining from the performance of their duty with respect to this fund and urging its claims.

Mr. Hew Ramsey said that the Managers, in view of the recent addition of five annuitants to the number previously on the list, had it in contemplation to issue a statement of the position of the fund, accompanied by an appeal to the people for its support, intending to circulate it widely.

The thanks of the Synod were then, on motion, given to the Commissioners of the Fund, by the Moderator, for their attention to its interests.

The Synod then adjourned, after engaging in prayer.

DIET II.

THURSDAY, May 31.

The Synod met this day, and after engaging in devotional exercises, proceeded to the transactions of business.

An objection to the Commission of Judge Malloch as representative Elder of the congregation at Brockville, at the instance of the Rev. Mr. White, was considered; and after a lengthened discussion, in which many members of the Court took part, but which our space will not permit of reporting, the commission was sustained by a majority of the Synod.

At the afternoon Sederunt, an overture with reference to the appointment of a Committee to ascertain the state of the property of the Church which had been transmitted by the Committee of Overtures, was considered.

The Rev. Dr. Mathieson supported the overture in an appropriate and forcible manner—pointing out its necessity, and referring to cases requiring attention.

The Rev. Dr. Machar thought the matter deserving of serious consideration. It was highly important that an efficient Committee be named, and he would be glad to see laymen forming a large proportion of it.

Judge Malloch said it was no new matter; it had frequently been considered. He had been member of a former committee which had proved ineoperative. He then explained the position of the law in Upper Canada with reference to the manner of holding Church property. He thought some action in the matter desirable.

The Rev. Mr. Burnett detailed the action of the Hamilton Presbytery in the matter. The Rev. Drs. Skinner, McGill, Williamson and Barclay, and Rev. Messrs. Urquhart, McKerras and Muir, and other members, took part in the discussion.

A motion in terms of the overture was then adopted, and it was agreed that the Committee should be named at a late period of the session.

The Synod then adjourned, after the pronouncing of the benediction.

FRIDAY, June 1.

The Synod met again to-day, and after devotional exercises by the Rev. Mr. McLennan, proceeded to business.

Committees were named to draft the several addresses to Her Majesty the Queen, and His Excellency the Governor General.

A discussion of some length took place upon reference from Bathurst upon the question as to the right of any party to allow the Church to be used for other purposes than that of Worship.—It was urged on one side that the Trustees might be held to be vested with such a power by the trust deed, and on the other that the Trustees only held in trust for the public worship of God and other religious uses, and with the Kirk Session, who had the ordering of such worship and religious exercises. This latter opinion was finally adopted by the Synod *nem. con.* on motion of the Rev. Dr. Skinner.

An application from London, C. W., for aid in defraying the expenses of a Chancery suit in which the Church there was concerned, was referred to a Special Committee.

An application from the congregation of Westminster, C. W., to the Colonial Com-

mittee of the mother Church for aid in the erection of a Church recommended by the Presbytery of Hamilton, and submitted to the Synod for its recommendation, was assented to upon the condition of the execution of a deed of the land for the site in duo form to be approved of by the Hamilton Presbytery, that submitted being informal and insufficient.

The remaining portion of Friday's sederunt and that of Saturday were occupied with the consideration of a case of discipline—that of the Rev. Mr. White, of Brockville.

MONDAY, June 4.

After devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Scott, the thanks of the Synod were voted to the Rev. Professor Wilhanson for his sermon at the opening of the Synod, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Urquhart.

The consideration of the case of the Rev. Mr. White, in appeal from the Presbytery of Bathurst, was then resumed, and occupied the Synod during the remainder of the day.

TUESDAY, June 5.

After devotional services, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Lindsay, the consideration of the case of the Rev. Mr. White was resumed, and after the rejection of several other motions, that of the Rev. Mr. Bain (of Scarborough) was adopted, which, on view of the whole case, confirmed a decision of the Presbytery of Bathurst, dissolving the connection between the Reverend Gentleman and the congregation at Brockville, and suspending him from the exercise of his office, and the Synod declared that the suspension should continue until he should manifest signs of penitence and amendment. The charge held to be proven was harsh treatment of his wife.

The Committee appointed to consider the London case reported, authorizing the Minister, the Rev. Dr. Skinner, to consult counsel with respect to ulterior proceedings, and recommending the case to the favourable consideration of the several congregations of the Church in the Province and the Clergy Reserves Commissioners.

The Rev. Dr. Mathieson brought before the Synod an overture on the subject of the election of representative elders. His object was so to define the act of 1845 as to prevent any mistakes in the future about the date of the expiring of their charge. He moved that it be declared that their tenure of office expired on the rising of the Synod in each year; that successors should be elected by the Kirk Session within two months thereafter; and that in case of failure in such election, the Presbytery should institute an inquiry into the cause of the neglect.

Rev. Dr. Machar moved in amendment that representative elders should hold office for two months after the rising of the Synod, unless an election of their successors were sooner held. He contended that this was necessary in order to prevent congregations being in many cases unrepresented for a greater or less period an evil which should be above all things obviated, for he was satisfied that nothing would tend more to promote the interests of the church, and extend her influence than that the lady should take an active interest in the administration of her affairs. It had been said the present rule had been adopted to prevent the packing of the Synod, by compelling elections at periods long anterior to its sitting, and preventing any one from being elected with a view to any particular question then impending but he thought it desirable that where any important question was to be decided the congregation should send such a representative as

would most faithfully support their views.

He therefore would be willing to go still further and change the law so that the election should take place within forty days after the meeting of Synod, instead of within two months after.

Rev. Mr. Muir, advanced the same views as Dr. Machar.

After a few words from Dr. McGill, which were imperfectly heard.

Dr. Mathieson said, there need be no difficulty in having the congregations represented, if the Ministers did their duty. They only required so distinctly to define the law, that all might understand precisely, what they had to do, and enjoin on Presbyteries to enforce the rules of the Synod. He thought great inconvenience would result from the adoption of Dr. Machar's proposition.

On a division being taken, the amendment was lost, and the original overture adopted.

On motion of Dr. Cook, the Presbytery of Quebec was revived, Three Rivers being added to its former bounds.

Mr. Sinclair being recommended by the Presbytery of Bathurst for examination, admission and ordination, and the petitions of the congregations of North and South Hants, to whom he had ministered for some time as a missionary, that he might be ordained their minister being submitted to the Synod, together with Mr. Sinclair's statement and application, was examined by the Committee, and the Presbytery instructed to admit him.

The Committee appointed for that purpose reported favourably on the proposition to appoint corresponding members to the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and recommended the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Mathieson and Rev. Professor George to Nova Scotia, and the Rev. Dr. McGill and Professor Weir to New Brunswick, and the Moderator (Rev. A. McKid), and Synod Clerk (Rev. A. Bell), as Alternates. The Report was adopted.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to Her Majesty reported.

Dr. Mathieson called the attention of the Synod to the fact, that there were eleven congregations, viz: two in the Presbytery of Hamilton, three in that of Toronto, five in that of Glengarry, and one in that of Montreal, needing Pastors provided for them, and recommended that the Moderator should be instructed to communicate with the Colonial Committee of the Church upon the subject. Three or four of these would require Gaelic preachers.

WEDNESDAY, 6th June, 1855,

The Synod met at 10 o'clock. The opening devotional services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Cleland.

An application to the Colonial Committee from the Congregation at Beech Ridge, Beauport, for aid to enlarge their Church, was admitted, approved, and recommended by the Synod.

The Report of the French Canadian Mission, under the charge of Mr. Charbonnel, was presented on behalf of the Presbytery of Montreal by the Rev. Dr. McGill,—showing considerable and gratifying progress in the work.

An increase of salary of the Missionary was recommended, and a grant of £100 for the purchase of globe land. Rev. Dr. McGill was appointed Convener of the Missionary Committee.

New Ramsay, W. Edmonstone, Jno. Greenleaves, and A. Morris, Esquires, were named Standing Committee on the Property of the

Church, with corresponding members in the principal towns of the province.

After the transaction of some farther routine business—

The Reverend Moderator then closed the proceedings of the Session of the Synod with the following Address:—

The business of the Synod having come to a close, it is expected, that I address a few words to you before we separate, as is our practice

Fathers and Brethren.—Allow me again to thank you for the honour conferred on me in unanimously electing me to preside over your deliberations on this occasion. In undertaking the highly responsible duties of the Moderator of this Assembly, I did so with hesitation, being fully aware of my own inability to perform the duties required of me in such a manner as to justify my choice. I have to tender you my most grateful thanks for the kind indulgence with which you have borne with my faults and failings; and I may be permitted to say that in whatever point I may have come short, it was my constant wish and endeavor to perform my duty conscientiously and impartially. With reference to the proceedings of the synod, permit me to say, that I trust the feeling which seemed to pervade every one, at our first meeting, on listening to the pathetic, solemn and Christian appeal of Dr. Mathieson, may be lasting. Sad and wide, indeed, was the breach that had been made by the hand of death in our number since the previous meeting—and need we wonder, then, that in accordance with the melancholy circumstances brought before us, a gloom should have been on our spirits—a feeling of our deep responsibility, and of our need of greater supplies of that grace which can alone fit us for the active duties of time, or the more solemn objects of eternity. I pray God that this feeling may produce lasting effects—that we may be not only four men in our various stations and relations,—needing not to be ashamed—but that in our character of ambassadors for Jesus, we may be filled with a double portion of that spirit, whereby our ministrations may be blessed to others, and our own souls given to us for a reward.—Discipline, although necessary for the purity and well being of the Church, is at all times painful to those who are engaged in the investigation. I think I am borne out in this observation by what has taken place during our present Session—painful was the nature of the evidence—distressing were the feelings displayed and difficult indeed was it for members to arrive at a satisfactory judgment—yet I trust that the judgment come to may, through the blessing of God, be as well for the welfare of the Church at large, as for the benefit of the congregation especially concerned, and that our erring brother may be brought to see the error of his way, and that by repentance and humility he may be restored to the status, from the duties of which he is now suspended, and be spared yet to be the instrument—in the hand of the Spirit—of much good to the Church.

The verbal report of Dr. Cook, with reference to the commutation of our interests, must have been heard with satisfaction by all.

It has been an element in our Constitution, handed down to us by our reforming forefathers, that it was the duty of the State not only to watch over the general interests of religion, but also support its ministrations. The history of our Church, since its formation in this Province, now stands on the records of the country affording a lesson to all who choose to read it.

We claimed our share of that provision which had been made for the support of the Established Churches in this Province. We obtained a share, though not the full share of what we were entitled to. Against this Legislative enactment has been made, whereby the State cuts off all connection with the Church, but guarantees to incumbents their present allowances for their lives. I congratulate you, on the near prospect of a scheme being wrought out, whereby these allowances will be put beyond the reach of any more legislative enactments, and whereby a permanent fund shall be secured, through the liberality of a self-denial of the ministers.

Brotherly love and communion is, in all occasions most desirable and becoming our character and profession. I trust the appointment of the deputation to meet with our brethren in the Lower Provinces, at their synods, will be productive of much good and promote a permanent union of the Presbyterian body. So that, by this union, we may be able to form a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in communion with the Church of Scotland in this Province. A scheme well worthy the attention of all, as being fraught with great advantages.

It is a matter of sincere pleasure to the Ministers of this Church, to find the subject of lay representation taken up so warmly as it has been, and I trust that the terms of the overture on that subject will not be lost sight of, and means will be found to secure a larger attendance of elders. When I mention that there are the names of seventy-two elders on the list of members, and that only six of these attended, it must be evident to every one, that it is time that something was done to remedy this evil.

In addressing my fathers and seniors, I feel it would be presumptuous in me to offer an advice, but I would merely say, that from the experience you have had in the vineyard of our Lord, and having already borne the heat and burden of the day, I trust that now, in the evening of life, you may still be enabled vigorously to work out the work given you to do, and that in the gleaming time the clusters you gather may be not only ripe, but large and abundant, even as the clusters of Eschol.

To my brothers and equals I would say, the work in the field of the world may, in many instances, have proved laborious, but what does our gracious master say to encourage us to persevere: "my grace is sufficient for you, and my strength will be perfected in the midst of your weakness." Let not your hands be weary in well doing, but may you see the work of the Lord prospering in your hands. Let not your hearts fail within you—he not dismayed—for the work, though arduous, is glorious.

Do not despond because you cannot discern that success you would wish. Remember you are not called on to judge, but to labour. Though the portion of the field you labour in may appear rugged and unfruitful, and the seed you have scattered over it may not appear in that healthy and vigorous state you could wish remember the suitable exhortation which was addressed to us by my predecessor at the opening of the Synod—"A Paul may plant, and an Apollus may water, but it is God alone that can give the increase." You know not what refreshing influences the dews of the Spirit may yet have upon your labour;—it is only when the harvest shall have been completed, and the crop gathered into the garner, that the result will be known. Remember the Owner of the field requires none to work for nought—He will pay us our wages; and whilst

receiving that, may we also have the welcome, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

To the younger members, of whom so goodly a number have been present, I would say—bear with me while I offer you a word of exhortation. While it rejoices our hearts, to see so many young and ardent laborers conjoined with us, and while we have cause to feel proud of the talent and the amount of literary attainments exhibited by many of you, let me exhort you to much watchfulness, study and prayer. You are yet young; I would recommend to your earnest attention, the bearing and example of the stately David when going forth alone in the sight of the warriors and mighty men of valour of both armies, to do battle against him who had defied the enmity of the living God. The warfare you are engaged in, is a soul-sarring one. The armour of the soldiers and the splendour of the array is such as to attract your attention. You are now on the battle field; look well to your armour—see that it is firmly buckled on; for this armour is not only admirably suited to ornament the person, but also to protect and enable you to fight successfully—fight the Giza fight. Look steadily to the Great Captain of our Salvation. The enemy opposed to you is not only strong and powerful, but also subtle and vindictive. If you are victorious, you may, as David, hear the sounds of praise and laudation. We beseech you not to linger to listen to such—the melody may be pleasant, the sounds may be agreeable, still it is but the praise of men. But remember that, like David, you will have to suffer the persecution of the world and of the powers that be, and this even in the face of promised support and assistance. This may be so severe, that, like David, you may have to leave for a time that shelter to which you were introduced by that very power which now harasses and annoys you. But though like him you may have to wander solitary—even as an outcast—be not dismayed, there is a throne in prospect, there is honor in reserve.

And now that we are about to separate, may the protecting arm of an All-gracious providence be around us,—may we arrive at our several abodes in safety, refreshed with the brotherly communion we have enjoyed,—and may our flocks from our hands again drink renewed draughts, drawn from that precious fountain which is free to all.

A portion of the 122d Psalm was then sung, and thereafter the Moderator having engaged in prayer, pronounced the Benediction, and the Synod closed, to meet again at Kingston, on the first Wednesday in May, 1856.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Book of Books.

THAT "aggregate of printed leaves"—a book, is not only one of the wonders of the world, but one of the greatest wonder-workers upon the earth. How vast a power for good do the pen and the press confer on the instructors of mankind! Spoken words reach only a few ears; and their effect is seldom more permanent than the figures sketched on the sand, which the next tide obliterates forever. But the press gives diffusion and perpetuity to speech. It causes words, which were originally addressed to hundreds, to be heard by millions; and it enables a gifted teacher to speak even after he has gone to his grave,—nay, to speak to the ends of the earth, and to the end of time. By means of their

published writings, the great thinkers of the world enjoy an earthly immortality. Their bodies die; but their genius and wisdom survive, to assert for them that noblest and most lasting of all dominions—the power of delighting and instructing their fellow-men.

Nor is the power much less wonderful which books convey to their readers. The elder Cato comforted himself in the prospect of death, by anticipating his admission to the society of departed sages and legislators. But with the writings of the ancient worthies in our hands, we require not to die, in order to converse with "that divine assembly of exalted spirits." In the little body of thought, which lies before us in the shape of a book, we possess the constant presence and companionship, of its author. In a form thus slight and portable, we have, preserved for our benefit, the mighty energy of Homer, the solemn grandeur of Milton, the exalted piety of Pascal. In a single apartment, walled with shelves, we have around us the assembled spirits of the wise and good of all time, waiting to pour their souls into ours, and to enrich us with their treasures of knowledge and experience. Nay, it is the property of books not merely to admit us to the fellowship of their authors, but to invest us with a sort of omnipresence. With the warrior, we live over again the day and the hour and the agony of the battle. With the traveller, we cross again the ocean, and climb the Alps, and tread with glowing heart the classic soil. With the philosopher, we trim anew the midnight lamp, and adjust the crucible, and watch with breathless interest for the spark or the effervescence which is to confirm or overthrow the favourite theory. In books we possess a spell to raise the dead, and be it prophet or sage, philosopher or poet, whom we may wish back from the grave to instruct or charm us, we have but to issue the summons, and he stands before us with his "thoughts that breathe and words that burn."

Of all books, the most wonderful, whether as an imperishable embodiment of its authors' thoughts, or as a vehicle of instruction to its readers—is that whose literary characteristics I have undertaken to describe. Irrespective of its peculiar claims and character as the Record of Divine truth, the Bible stands, as a mere book, apart and aloft from all others. The first in order of time, it is also the first—by a long interval—in point of literary excellence. Its poetry is far in the van of all other poetry; its history of all other history; its morals of all other morals. Compared with the average level of other writings, it is "an exceeding high mountain from whence we behold all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them." It is the earliest and the brightest star in the literary heavens. He who goes for the first time to its pages, will find himself, like Columbus, exploring a new world with features and productions immensely more varied and beautiful than the old. In a mere literary point of view, it is well entitled to its name—the Book of Books. Nor did that unfortunate son of genius—the singularly gifted Shelley, speak unadvisedly, when, in answer to a friend who asked him what book he would save for himself if he could save no other, he replied, "The oldest book, the Bible." Dr. McCulloch's *Literary Characteristics of the Holy Scriptures*.

A Highland Widow.

SHE came one morning among the many who occupy, with various matters of business, the time of the minister of a populous parish.

She was cleanly dressed, and appeared very sad and dejected. Her story, and the cause of her sorrow, were soon told. She and her family, consisting of four daughters and a son had been accepted by the Government Commissioners as emigrants to Australia. Under the impression that they were to sail early in spring, her daughters had left their service. The son, in the meantime, had broken his arm, and was unable to work. They were strangers, in a strange land. The certificates in their possession, from their minister and landlord in the Highlands, represented them as a sober, industrious, and most deserving family. Week after week passed, while waiting for the expected order to sail. The purse, never very full, was fast getting empty in the great city. But at last the order came, that in three days they must embark. Their passage was paid. They must go or lose all. One difficulty alone remained,—they could not supply themselves with all the necessary articles of clothing; and unless these could be obtained, their chests, when opened at Liverpool, would be found wanting in the shoes, the petticoats, the shifts, &c. which were absolutely necessary for the voyage; and she and her family would be sent back in poverty and despair! How much was required to make up the defective articles? Only twelve shillings! A small sum, reader! but nevertheless, as far, almost, as Australia itself from the poor woman's grasp. Oh! ye who think little of twelve shillings, or twelve pence, would they have accompanied a minister in his daily rounds, and soon would you be taught to feel what comfort to the widow and the fatherless, the hungry and the sick, aye, and to your own heart, ye are daily making and daily spending without hardly knowing how or why! Perhaps, however, the money might be got, "somehow or other," in a few days. But that afternoon I was obliged to leave town, and in two days the ship was to sail; and after she had sailed, the twelve shillings, one hundred times multiplied would not get the widow and her family on board. "What is to be done?"—"God alone knows!" she replied, meekly bending her head, and wiping her tears with her apron. I have not shut an eye for four nights,—the lassies are as ill as me. We have parted with all we had." Who will give me twelve shillings? thought I. Why not give it yourself? I exclaimed my readers. Try the experiment first, I reply, when such demands come daily on you—hourly almost! a very convenient philosophy is this, of everything being done now-a-days by ministers! "Go to the minister! Ask the minister! Apply to the minister! Fond of money those ministers.—why not get twelve shillings?" Instead of saying so, please go to your own minister if you have one, and say to him, "I can afford to give such and such in charity—twelve shillings occasionally—let me know of any case where it can be of use. Ah! had I known of such a considerate friend how glad I would have made my poor Highland petitioner! What can be done? To repeated questions, which too clearly said "Nothing can be done," she replied in such words as "Surely God, who has helped me in my widowhood—who has never left me since I was gaed awa—will not desert me in the clearest hour. 'Though He slay me, yet I'll put my trust in Him!'" "I can give you four or five shillings," cheerfully said I; "but what good will that do!"—"God who made one friend, a stranger might find another before we were said!" "Come back," I said, "in an hour and we shall see what can yet be done."—This was one of those expedients to which we were

in order to remove pain even for a tir from our eyes when we cannot see how to relieve it. I had resolved, however, to give her the money, and not to buy the next tempting 12s. book which met my eye! In the meantime a marriage party was announced, and the happy bride and bridegroom stood where the widow had stood a few minutes before; for thus do sorrows and joys constantly pass in light and shade across the daily life of the minister. The bridegroom was a Highlander, and returning that day to his Highland home. The marriage being over, the bridegroom, to my unspeakable surprise, begged me to accept of one pound, to be expended for any charitable purpose! I told him of his poor countrywoman. He requested that she should have it all. May God bless the pair! Long may it be ere the bonnie bride is a widow; and when that dark hour comes, may she find a widow's friend like her own good bridegroom!

The poor widow returned. "You trusted in God," I said; "and no one who does so was ever put to shame." I gave her the pound. I shall not tell you, reader, for I cannot, what she said or how she looked. But as she departed, with many tears and thanksgivings to the Father of the fatherless, I found myself weeping like herself, and my faith strengthened in the providence of God.

The wind blows fresh and clear! and while I write, the widow and her family are on their voyage, and taking, probably, a last look of the old country, and remembering with many thoughts the lonely spot where he lies buried, and "the dim shielding on the misty island!" that shall never more be their home.

THE MONTHLY RECORD.

JULY, 1855.

Georgetown, P. E. Island.

It must always be a subject of deep regret to the friends of the Church of Scotland, that so many of those localities throughout these colonies in which her Ministers were at one time established and where her cause seemed once so prosperous, should now be in a great measure lost to her communion. Many a district could we point to, more especially in the lower colonies, where under proper and judicious management, the Church of our forefathers might in these days have occupied a prominent position, and indeed held undisputed sway, where she now enjoys but a bare existence. Not by any means, that we should feel disposed to reckon Georgetown among the number: for we know that we have still many staunch friends in that quarter, whom no consideration would induce to forsake us. But we are led to these somewhat unpleasant reflections by the perusal of a communication which we have received from the Rev. George Harper, who, having as we mentioned in a former number of the Record accepted of a call from the people of Wallace and Pugwash, has only been able to spend a few weeks among our friends at the east end of Prince Edward Island. We sincerely regret that having been called to labour in another corner of the vineyard, Mr. Harper has been unable to make a lon-

ger stay among them. But let them not despair; better days we trust are in store for them as for others of our destitute congregations. Slowly but surely are the ranks of our colonial clergy increasing. Every year sees fresh accessions to our numbers; and it is indeed highly gratifying to think that we are entering upon times when the Church of Scotland seems to be girding herself for her great work in such a manner as she never did before. With her Divinity Halls crowded with able, zealous and enthusiastic students, every year sees a greatly increased number of licentiates sent forth to proclaim the glad tidings; and if it be said that of late comparatively few have reached these shores—the answer is easy—it is only because her borders are enlarging and her influence extending on every hand. Australia calling across the wide waste of waters from the far south implores the aid of our Committee to send more labourers among her scattered and benighted population. India stretching forth her hands imploringly and almost despairingly for help—while the other Colonies of North America, with anxiety equal to our own are expecting their assistance. These are certainly very encouraging prospects. Meantime, let us earnestly pray that in the "good time coming" all our waste places may yet be supplied, and our Scottish Judah possess at length a name and a place in every corner of the land.

We may mention that we were somewhat surprised to learn that until very lately, owing to some misunderstanding, none of our friends at Georgetown had become subscribers for our "Monthly Record." We are now however glad to find that a considerable number have taken copies of that periodical, and we trust that more names from that quarter will soon be added to our list. Considering that it is published at the lowest possible price, and has in view the best interests of the Church, besides involving no inconsiderable trouble to its conductors, who derive no pecuniary benefit from its circulation, we think that few of our friends (except those who are in actual poverty) ought to be without a copy of the Record. Indeed, where the expense might be too much for one, two people might join, and take a copy between them.

In conclusion, we have only to add that we trust Mr. Harper, having now had an opportunity of estimating the capabilities of the congregation of Georgetown, will lose no time in bringing their still desitute condition under the notice of the Colonial Committee; and it is our earnest wish that the result will be the speedy appointment of a Missionary for the district.

St. Andrew's Church, New Glasgow.

On Sabbath the 13th May, a collection was taken in St. Andrew's Church, New Glasgow, in aid of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The amount £8 3s. 6d. was handed over to the Treasurer.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was

dispensed to the same congregation on Sabbath 24th June. The Services were conducted, as usual, in English and Gaelic—and although this ordinance was also dispensed in St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, on the same day, yet there were on this occasion more than the ordinary number of Communicants. The Sacrament being dispensed in two places on the same day, there were only two clergymen at New Glasgow: Rev. Mr Pollok, Minister of the Parish, conducted the English services with much solemnity and ability—while Rev. Mr. McLean, Minister of Garloch and Salt Springs, conducted those of the Gaelic with equal efficiency and acceptance. It was truly pleasing to observe the orderly and christianlike conduct maintained by both congregations throughout the whole time.

St. Matthew's Church.

The General Annual Meeting of this Congregation was held in the Church, Hollis Street, on Monday, 11th June, in accordance with the Act of Incorporation.

The Honble. James McNab, Moderator, presided.

Wm. Murdoch, Esq. Chairman of the Trustees, submitted the Annual Report to the Congregation, with the Secretary's and Treasurer's Accounts for the year, with Auditor's Report,—all of which were highly satisfactory, and the report was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

The Session Poor Fund account was likewise submitted, and the Treasurer's account of the Library Fund in connection with the church, for the information of the congregation; from which we gleaned that there was nearly £40 expended in charity by the Session, collected in the church during the year, besides the quarterly collections for the Poor and Library; £11 9s. 6d. for Queen's College, Canada, £30 for Colonial Committee Fund in Edinburgh; and £13 2s. 6d. for the Ladies' District Visiting Society, in connection with St. Matthew's. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

- Hon. JAMES McNAB, Moderator,
- WM. MURDOCH, Esq., Chairman.
- WM. SCOTT,
- JOHN MUNRO,
- D. MURRAY,
- DAVID FALCONER,
- NICHOLAS VASS,
- GEORGE DRILLIO,
- JOHN WATT, Treasurer.
- A. W. SCOTT, Secretary.

Trustees.

Montreal Lay Association.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following kind and fraternal communication from the Montreal Lay Association—to the Secretary of the Lay Association of Nova Scotia.

MONTREAL, 5th June, 1855.

SIR,—I am instructed to communicate the ensuing minute:

Moved by Mr. A. Morris, seconded by Mr. D. D. McKenzie:

That this Association has observed with satisfaction that a monthly paper has been issued in Halifax to advocate the interests of our church there on a similar plan to that

on which the Presbyterian is conducted, and that remembering the encouragement which was felt when the Lay Association of Halifax became subscribers to the Presbyterian, and desiring to reciprocate the attention, the Secretary be instructed to subscribe for 12 copies of the Monthly Record, to be distributed among the office-bearers of the Association, and further that this Resolution be communicated to the Lay Association of Halifax."

You will oblige by laying the above resolution before your Association, and by ordering 12 copies to be addressed to T. A. Gibson, Montreal, for the Lay Association.

Our Synod is about closing its session, one of its measures has been the adoption of an overture naming corresponding members to the Synod in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and wishing them to do likewise, should no outward event occur to prevent. I hope that our Synod will be represented and that the practical effect may be the drawing more closely the bonds of fraternal feeling between our Synods.

The foregoing resolution would have been communicated earlier but for the illness of Mr. Gibson.

Yours, respectfully,
ALEX. MORRIS.

The General Assembly.

By late papers from Scotland we have received full accounts of the proceedings of the General Assembly, and we have devoted a considerable portion of our space to a brief summary of the business transacted. We have only been able to overtake part in this number, but we intend continuing it in the next, and as our space admits to give extracts from the reports and speeches, some of which were most admirable. To the annual meeting of our highest church court we always look with the deepest interest. It is the only great national gathering which now takes place in Scotland. The only occasion on which we can find a large combination of the intelligence, piety, rank, and influence of the nation. In the Assembly Hall, one of the most chaste and beautiful buildings in Edinburgh, all classes are represented. The Lord High Commissioner, fills the place of the sovereign, while on the benches of the house are to be seen learned Professors from the Universities, eminent and valuable city clergymen, who, had they been members of an episcopal communion would have been bishops and high dignitaries, quiet country pastors from the Orkneys and Hebrides, elders of all ranks and classes, the peer of ancient name, the merchant prince, the country gentleman, the tenant farmer, and occasionally a few men of foreign garb and aspect, deputations from the sister churches on the Continent. A roll call of the General Assembly as the clerk, Dr. Simpson, of Kirknewton, well known in these Colonies,

sounds forth the long list of weighty and honourable names, never fails to inspire confidence in those who hear it, and to give them good hopes for the stability and extension of the church.

But it is not to the Assembly as a gathering of much that is of most note in Scotland, that we look with so much interest—the place where the annual proceedings of our church are detailed, and where prayers are offered and measures devised for her prosperity in the future. In both these respects the recent assembly has upon the whole afforded us much satisfaction. It has been characterised beyond many of its predecessors by a spirit of harmony and brotherly love. The unhappy jangling and contentious, the strivings for victory, the theological gladiatorship which for so many years distracted its deliberations, and which those who chiefly forwarded are yet to some extent familiar with, are now unknown to our Assembly. They have gone with their abettors to another place, and have been superseded by a spirit in every respect more worthy of the followers of Christ. Another characteristic of the recent assembly is its thorough devotion to business. There were many matters before it which in a free and deliberative assembly necessarily give rise to discussion, but the amount of discussion seems to have been happily proportioned to the importance of the business, and thus a needless expenditure of time avoided. Very able reports were given in by the Conveners of the different Committees on the schemes of the Church. The Endowment Scheme which aims at the dividing of large parishes and the endowment of chapels until the territorial machinery is adequate to the necessities of the whole population seems to be progressing most favourably. Nearly £200,000 have been voluntarily collected for this object by Churchmen in Scotland within the last few years, and many new parishes have been erected where the population had outgrown the means of grace. The report on Education is also satisfactory. In connection with this subject the discussion on the Lord Advocate's Bill called forth some speeches which must conduce powerfully to the rejection of that obnoxious measure. We have also read with much pleasure the report of the Indian Mission. During the past year the number of ordained missionaries has been increased, and preparations are being made for a still further increase. A number of converts have recently been baptized and the schools continue to be largely attended and to be productive of much good. The mission of our church in the East seems to be greatly indebted to the voluntary efforts and unwearied interest of the Scotch clergymen at the different Presidencies, who are chaplains to the E. I. Company. In connection with the Jewish Mission, a proposal was made to appoint a Scotch clergyman to Jerusalem, which we are happy to say met the approval of the Assembly and is likely soon to be carried out. Hitherto, no Presbyterian missionary

has been stationed in the Holy city. It was also stated that Dr. Cumming of London had suggested a mission to Turkey, and that he had collected a considerable sum for that object, should that important field be taken up.

In the report of the Colonial Committee we naturally take a deep interest, and, though, this year it is in some respects satisfactory, yet we deeply regret that so few missionaries have been sent to supply the urgent necessities of the Colonies. Seeing that there is no lack of either money or men, we are decidedly of opinion that there ought to be some increased agency at home with the view of inducing young men to go abroad, and meeting every application as it comes up. A permanent advertisement in the Record has failed, and something more cogent and forcible should be tried. Why should not some of the Committee go to the University seats, and hold intercourse with those who are on the eve of license with the view of persuading them to go abroad, or why should not a convener be appointed who would be able to give his whole time and influence to the Colonies. We are confident that such an arrangement would prove like life from the dead. We do not speak thus from any want of confidence in the present convener, who we believe does all that is in his power, but from the conviction that no man who has a parish to attend to can give that time to this work, which the growing extent and wants of the Colonies demand.

During the past year we regret to observe that the contributions to several of the Missionary Schemes have fallen off, but this is accounted for in the reports not from any decrease of interest on the part of the people, for as the Moderator remarked in his closing address, there is a growing anxiety among the adherents of the Church of Scotland as to the salvation of others, but from the large sums that have been contributed towards the patriotic fund, and the general depressing influence of the war.

It is a pleasing feature to find that there was no case of ministerial discipline before the recent assembly, in which respect it contrasts most favourably with these of recent years. This shows us what all other circumstances conspire to prove that for soundness in the faith and for christian character the clergy of the Church of Scotland never stood higher than now. It is also a most gratifying circumstance that although so many new appointments have taken place during the past year, there was but one case of a disputed settlement. This shows us that Lord Aberdeen's bill is working admirably, and that the real end in view of the late ecclesiastical contests has been gained. In the case alluded to the Assembly sustained the objections of the people and rejected the presentee. In connection with this subject we have to notice also another gratifying circumstance, the application of two Free Church Ministers for re-admission to the Church. These are the Rev. W. Strachon late of Gibraltar, and the Rev.

James Dickson, late minister of Marytown, Presbytery of Brechin, in connection with the Free Church. Mr. Dickson stated that he "had undergone a ten years conflict between a sense of duty and a desire for consistency and he had long been reluctant to acknowledge his fault: which, however, he now did." It is instructive and suggestive to read this confession, and we cannot but hope that if there are many more in the same state of mind, that they will throw aside all fear of man, and all desire for consistency in a schismatic course, and return to that body which we cannot but regard as in a special sense the true branch of Christ's visible Church in Scotland.

On account of some informality in the application of one and some enquiries to be made in the case of the other the reception of these two gentlemen has been delayed, but we trust they will ultimately be both received.

We have much pleasure also in calling the attention of our readers to the speech of which we have given extracts of the Rev. Dr. Blakeney, a clergyman of the English Church before the General Assembly, which shows the christian and kind feeling that prevails between the evangelical portion of that church and the Church of Scotland. As in review the whole proceedings of this Assembly, we have much reason for gratitude to God and many encouragements for the future.

[For the Record.]

MR. EDITOR,—I have just been reading a Canadian Paper, containing an account of the meeting of the Synod of our Church in Montreal. Among other business of interest I am delighted to find that the Rev. Dr. Mathieson and Professor George have been appointed corresponding members to our Synod in Halifax, and I look forward with great pleasure to their favouring us with their presence and their counsels. Should they come I am sure they will be most warmly received by all the brethren and by the good people of Halifax. It is stated also that this is but a preliminary step to a movement in favour of the formation of a General Assembly of our Church in these North American Colonies. Indeed, this subject was openly spoken of in the Canadian Synod, and it seems to be most anxiously desired by the ministers of the Scotch Church in that Province. I little thought when a suggestion of this kind was thrown out in a recent number of the Record that it would so soon be taken up in earnest. I confess for my own part that the thought of such a communication being realized delights me. I can conceive of nothing that would tend more to build up and advance our church, and give her her true position in this new world. It would act as a powerful stimulus on all our ministers and people. I feel confident that such an enlargement of our borders would increase our efforts and encourage our hearts. It would tend to create that buoyancy of feel-

ing which with us is often at such a low ebb, and which in a church, like a good flow of animal spirits in the body, is so conducive to energy and activity. The tides of Scotch-church life which are now checked by certain imaginary lines, would then flow freely over the whole of British North America. I believe that such a union would attract the attention of the Church at Home, and be the means of calling out many preachers to fill up our vacancies and take part in building up such a church, while at the same time, it would lead to vigorous measures for obtaining a regular supply of native ministers. Were this union effected and to be followed up by active exertions, might we not hope that our church would soon recover much of the ground that she has lost; and that many who have reluctantly connected themselves with other communions, would return to her time-honored pale. This is the Presbyterian union, which I should like to see realized in the first place; and the question of "re-union" could be an after consideration. I trust that our Synod will heartily sympathise with this movement of their brethren in Canada, and take some steps towards hastening this consummation so devoutly to be wished. Apart from the benefits which would accrue to the Church of Scotland from such a result, we may in this way perhaps be the means of hastening on a movement in favour of the union of these provinces into one British American Nation. And thus our church would not only deserve well of her own children, but of the whole population and of a long posterity.

I am, yours, &c.

Gaelic Deputation.

THAT the christian religion possesses an expansive and aggressive influence and that it is designed by its divine author to pervade all ranks in society and fill the whole earth with its rich blessings, and spiritual fruits, are truths which can neither be gained or denied. It was first published that it might be propagated and wherever it has since been planted it has manifested a tendency to diffuse its pure spirit, and transforming efficacy. That Christian Church does not know its proper vocation or occupy its proper position in society, which does not see the necessity and feel the obligation of employing all the means within its reach, and availing itself of all the opportunities afforded, for the extension of religion and the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom. The end and design of church organization and the principal business of ecclesiastical courts are not merely to preserve order and exercise discipline within the prescribed limits of their different congregations but to carry the glad tidings of salvation far and wide throughout the length and breadth of the land. We cannot consider any religious society as in a healthy and prosperous state unless it is prepared not only to provide for the spiritual necessities of all its adhering

population, but also to take possession of such new fields of usefulness, as may from time to time be opened up for cultivation. What a vast responsibility then devolves upon our church courts, more especially in such Colonies as Nova Scotia, where every institution is only in its infancy, where religious societies are only forming and the population must assume for ages to come, the peculiar features which are impressed upon it at the present day. How much may be gained in a few years by activity and diligence, and how much may be lost by neglect and indifference.

Admitting that our church courts should for a moment neglect their duty, would it not be unkind, would it not be really cruel and uncharitable to refuse to listen to those who in a state of utter helplessness and prostration are lifting up their imploring voice for religious instruction, and sending forth their mournful complaints from the remote settlements, and dense thickets of our beloved land.

When assembled together in a public and deliberative capacity, our ministers are forcibly reminded that the spiritual and immortal interests of thousands and tens of thousands, of their fellow colonists and attached adherents, are to a certain extent entrusted by the Great Head of the Church to their care and guidance, and that upon them and upon their deliberations and decisions it must upon a great measure depend, whether our church in this colony for the present and coming generations shall be prosperous and flourishing, or sinking and decaying. We are well assured from personal knowledge that the office bearers of the church are aware of the responsible situation in which they are placed, and anxious to do all they can for the prosperity of their flocks, they all find themselves entrusted with a solemn and momentous charge, in the centre of extensive spheres of usefulness, surrounded on all sides by numerous preaching stations and vacant districts soliciting their friendly assistance. They are fully convinced that no time should be lost in endeavouring to fill up our old and long established congregations with suitable and fixed pastors.

This is found by bitter experience to be an arduous and difficult work indeed, requiring much energy and activity on the part of our ministers, and much patience and self-denial from the people. But admitting that this object has been fully attained, there are thousands of our adherents scattered over the Province, remaining to be provided for. Believing that it is utterly impossible by the utmost exertions, for a small handful of clergymen to reach one half of the districts which ought to be visited, we think it would be highly expedient for the Synod of Nova Scotia at its ensuing meeting to solicit the colonial committee of the parent church to appoint a Gaelic deputation to spend five or six months in the most necessitous districts of the Province, and draw up a report of its proceedings for the information of the

ensuing general assembly. This appears to be the only method of affording immediate relief to a number of stations which have been too long neglected, and we are inclined to believe that an earnest application from our Synod for the appointment of such a deputation would meet with an immediate and favourable reply, whilst the members would have the inward consciousness, that they have endeavoured to discharge their duty to their church and to their God.

The Revd. Robert McNair, A. M., late of Gourcock, Scotland, and previously minister of St. James, Charlottetown, P. E. I., has been appointed one of the Scotch Chaplains to the army, and by latest intelligence from Scotland had demitted his charge, and had left for the hospital at Scutari. The appointed scene of his labours. Mr. McNair is well known and highly esteemed in these colonies where he sojourned for nearly three years, and now that he has embarked on this new and interesting mission, we doubt not that the prayers and best wishes of many of his old friends will go with him. From his Missionary zeal, his experience, his winning manner—and his great aptitude in suiting himself to circumstances—he is singularly qualified for the post which he now occupies, and we sincerely trust that under the blessing of God, he may be the means of leading many a sick and wounded soldier to a knowledge of the Saviour, and of shedding comfort into many a sorrowful heart.

Mr. McNair's letters to the Home Record, during his labours here were read with great interest. And we hope ere long to have an opportunity of perusing some of his communications from Scutari, which we will gladly transfer to the pages of this periodical. Many of our readers who had before but a general interest in those exposed to the dangers of the war, will now have one personal friend to connect them with the scenes of suffering and contest and to quicken and engage their interest in the eventful movements that have taken place in the East. We beseech their prayers in his behalf, and in behalf of his fellow-labourers among whom we number another very dear friend, that their lives may be spared, and their labours abundantly blessed.

Synod of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia.

This, the highest of our Ecclesiastical Judicatories, met this day, as indicted, for the despatch of business. The place of meeting is St. Matthew's Church in this city. The Rev. Alexander McGillivray, minister of McLennan's Mountain, Pictou County, the Moderator, delivered to an audience composed of the members of Court and a respectable attendance of the laity, an edifying and appropriate discourse from Mark iii. 14, "and he ordained twelve that they should be with him and that he might send them forth to preach." Immediately after Divine Service the Moderator constituted the meeting by prayer and declared the Synod open for the despatch of business. The Clerk, the Rev. W. Snodgrass, produced the roll of numbers, being members of Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synod, which having been called and the Elders present having produced

their commissions from their respective sessions, the following took their places as members of court, viz. Rev. A. McGillivray, Rev. A. W. Herdman, Rev. A. Pollok, Rev. A. McLean, Rev. A. McKay, Rev. W. Snodgrass, Rev. J. Martin, Rev. J. Scott, and Rev. G. W. Spratt; Dr. Avery, Messrs. Little and McKenzie, Elders.

Mr. McGillivray's term of office, as Moderator having expired, the Synod engaged in the election of a successor. The Rev. John Martin of St. Andrew's Church, in this city, was proposed by the Clerk. Several members briefly expressed their approbation and Mr. Martin was unanimously chosen to act as Moderator for the ensuing year. We may find space in our next number for the address delivered by Mr. Martin on taking the chair. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed and tendered by the Moderator, in appropriate terms, to the Rev. Alexander McGillivray, for the urbane and courteous conduct he had uniformly manifested to the members of Synod while occupying the Moderator's chair, and also for the excellent sermon he had this day delivered. Mr. McGillivray suitably replied to this acknowledgment of his services. *While going to press the Synod was engaged in the appointment of the usual committees.*

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

Extract Letter.

Rev. George Harper, Missionary, Wallace, Nova Scotia. *dated April 1855.*

I duly received your letter of 10th February last, enclosing extract Minute of the Colonial Committee, sanctioning the distribution of my labours, in the meantime, as an itinerant missionary between the destitute localities embraced within the bounds of the Presbyteries of Halifax and Pictou. Shortly after I had commenced operations in the extensive and important district which I am now occupying, or towards the middle of February, I addressed a communication to you, containing a full account of what I had been doing since my arrival in this country, in the end of last year. Since the date of my last Report, I have been busily employed in the same district which embraces the villages of Wallace and Pugwash, together with several smaller stations in the more remote parts. Besides preaching twice every sabbath, in one or other of these villages, where we have always a full attendance, I preach at the stations on week-days; endeavouring, at the same time, to visit as many as possible of our adherents at their houses. And I humbly trust that my labours, which, it will thus be seen, are somewhat arduous, are blessed to the spiritual edification and improvement of our people in these destitute localities, which have so long been deprived of the services of a regular pastor. The particulars of my visits to the smaller settlements, I furnish to the *Missionary Record* of our Church in this colony a periodical, conducted by ministers of our Church, which has only lately been started, and which, being already extensively circulated among our people, bids fair to be of very great service to the cause, by bringing prominently into view the real state of our spiritual wants. I need only, therefore, refer you to our organ in the lower colonies, for detailed information regarding the condition and prospects of this district, which is undoubtedly one of the largest and most important in the colony; promising, to all appearance, at no very distant period, to afford

scope for the labours of several missionaries.

I would embrace this opportunity of again bringing under the notice of our young probationers and others who may feel disposed to offer their services for the North American Colonies, that, from all that I have seen and heard of the spiritual destitution in this colony, there is yet a most abundant and promising field to be occupied. For my own part, I must confess that I now regret very much I did not sooner adopt the resolution of coming out here; and I firmly believe that there are those among our licentiates at home, who, if they were only made aware how many spheres of usefulness are open for them here, would not hesitate a moment to offer themselves to the Committee. So far as my own experience goes, I can confidently assure them that, notwithstanding many obstacles, the Church of Scotland is rapidly gaining strength in this colony, and only waits for active and devoted missionaries to attach themselves to her cause, to organise her numerous though scattered adherents, and make her here, as at home, a blessing to the community. In her present crippled condition in this province, with only a handful of labourers, it is but too true that she forms an easy prey to the inroads of sectarianism, many hundreds of her supporters being left for years altogether without the enjoyment of her religious ordinances, and thus becoming exposed to the artifices of incompetent teachers. And this state of matters, however much it is to be deplored, must and will continue until we are in a position to occupy all our waste places, and assume an aggressive attitude, and bring back such as had thus been beguiled from the fold of our beloved Zion. May this much longed-for period soon arrive! In the meantime, it is gratifying to know that, amidst numerous difficulties, she is still prospering in Nova Scotia.

As an evidence of what I have now said, in regard to the prospects of probationers in this colony soon obtaining a *fixed charge*, I may mention that, though I have not yet been four months here I have already received a call from the congregations of Wallace and Pugwash, to become their pastor. At a meeting held in Wallace on the 5th inst., they unanimously came to that resolution; and although, as you are aware, I was originally destined for Prince Edward Island, which I was unable to reach at the time I arrived, in consequence of the closing of the navigation, I think this too important a district to be lost sight of, *more especially as I have every reason to believe that my refusal to comply with the earnest wishes of the people, after so long a period of destitution, would do incalculable mischief to our cause in this quarter.* After due deliberation, and with the cordial and unanimous approbation of my brethren in the ministry, I have therefore agreed to accept the above call. But as the people of Georgetown are anxiously looking for my arrival on the Island in Spring, I think I shall be able, notwithstanding this arrangement, to spend a month or two in visiting them, when I shall endeavour to collect information as to their state, and forward the same to the Committee. At least, it is my own earnest wish to visit them before summer; by which time, it is much to be hoped, there may be more labourers in the field.

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.—We have much pleasure in stating that the Rev. R. W. Fraser of St. John's Edinburgh, author of the recently published work on Turkish history,

entitled "Turkey, Ancient and Modern," has had the honour to receive from the Empress Eugénie a beautiful medal bearing a striking and accurate likeness of her Imperial Majesty. The medal is contained in a scarlet morocco case, having on the exterior the Imperial crown and the letters N and E interwoven. It is accompanied by a kind and complimentary letter on the subject of Mr. Fraser's work, and written at her Imperial Majesty's desire, by Mons. De St Albin, the royal librarian. This elegant and graceful present can hardly fail to increase the popularity of the Rev. gentleman's work, the value of which has been already amply acknowledged by most of the leading journals.

A Pleasing Incident.

The following incident has just been communicated to us, which affords an interesting proof of the deep sympathy which pervades the public mind for our gallant soldiers in the East:—On Friday last the Rev. Mr. McNair, late of Gourcock, was about to take his departure and proceed on his new mission as Chaplain to the Hospitals at Scutari, and secured the services of a street porter from the nearest stand, west end of St. George's Road, to convey his luggage to the railway, who, upon reaching the terminus, begged to inquire whether his employer was Mr. McNair, and on being answered in the affirmative, positively refused to accept of any fee, stating, as his reason, that having heard him preach in St. Matthew's Church on the Sabbath week previous, he knew he was going to the seat of war, and would be very useful to many of his poor suffering countrymen, and was proud of such an opportunity of furthering the object of his mission in the only way he could. Upon being pressed for his name, that the small sum he was entitled to should be placed to his credit on behalf of the hospitals on Mr. McNair's arrival, he still, with the most genuine modesty, declined to give it, and at length requested that a Bible might be purchased with it, and presented to some poor soldier who had none.

The Young Voyager.

Has any one ever stood on a pier, within which some vessel floated which no storm wave had yet tossed? But now it sails forth, its canvass spread, its crew alert, its freight secured, its destination registered. You marked its progress from the harbour to the open sea. It feels the helm, it ploughs the wave, it begins its course. The skies are chequered, the clouds gather, the winds are strong. You take an interest in the voyage which that vessel was to make; you thought of the hazards of the sea, of the perils of her course; you thought of storm and struggle, of possible loss of ship or wreck, or of a sunny and joyous entrance into the distant haven beyond the present flood, where the mariners were to find an expected home; you breathed a prayer that God would be their guide, their guardian, and their friend. And what is each little child, though now inexperienced of life's charms, but such a vessel bound on a long voyage, sailing across a wild sea, exposed to the wild winds and rains, passing by many a reef, and in peril of rocks and breakers? How would the shipwreck of such a vessel? how would its calm arrival on the everlasting shore? We would not pray, that of each such vessel, of each such child, God may be the guardian and the guide—His own eye be upon its course, His own pilotage at its helm!—*Rev. Gerard*

A Pleasant Thought of the Sabbath.

To think that there is one great family called by the name of Jesus—scattered indeed through every nation, and kindred, and people, and tongue, yet keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace; bowing around a thousand hearths, yet before one throne of grace; praying in a thousand tongues, but the language of their hearts breathing one melody; differing in bodily form and feature, but bearing one image and superscription on their souls. To think that on this day especially, their hymns and prayers are all ascending to, be performed with Immanuel's costly incense and to return in showers of blessing. Surely this were enough to enkindle the coldest affections—to elicit a glad answer to the Levite's exhortation, "Mourn not, nor weep." To think that the living stones found on every shore, from the icy mountains of the north to the islands of the southern wave, are being brought together to constitute one glorious temple, invisibly, yet indissolubly cemented by the blood of the Lamb; and that this day has a peculiar part to perform in consolidating the sacred alliance—this were a sufficient reason for an angel's joy.—*James Halley.*

News of the Month.

The intelligence received from the East during the past month, is of the most exciting and cheering character in regard to the progress of the war. The Allies have everywhere been successful. At Sebastopol the siege operations have been carried on with much vigour and attended with very important results, whilst the entire sea of Azoff, with its forts and shipping have been taken possession of by Allied fleets and armies. Such rapid and unexpected conquests have produced a favourable impression on the public mind in Britain and it is to be hoped will lead in a short time to an honorable and permanent peace. The subjoined extracts, will be read with interest as containing brief details of the operations of the Allied forces.

The *Gazette* publishes a despatch from Sir Edmund Lyons, dated 26th May, giving details of the Kerch expedition. It states that the army landed under the guns of the steam-frigates, and immediately ascended the heights without opposition, while the steamers of light draught pushed on towards Kerch and Yenikale. The enemy, apparently taken by surprise, blew up his fortifications on both sides of the straits—mounting not less than 500 guns, new and of heavy calibre—which were taken possession of by the allies, and retired after having destroyed the steamers and several other heavily-armed vessels, as well as large quantities of provisions and stores. The allies sustained no loss whatever.

Advices received from Kerch, dated May 31st, announce, on the refusal of military authorities of Genitchi, situated on the northern extremity of the tongue of land of Arabat, to give up the Government stores, and 90 vessels laden with provisions for the Russian army in the Crimea, the squadron under the orders of Admiral Lyons bombarded the place, drove out the troops, and destroyed all the stores. The enemy has thus lost, in four days, an immense quantity of provisions, 4 war steamers, and 140 vessels employed exclusively in provisioning the troops in the Crimea.

June 6—11 P. M.—At half past six our

signals for assault were given, and one hour afterwards our eagles floated over the Mamelon Vert and over the two redoubts of Careening Bay. The artillery of the enemy fell into our hands. We have taken 400 prisoners. Our legions occupy the conquered works. On their side, our allies, with their usual resolution, carried the works in the quarries, and established themselves there. All the troops showed the most admirable devotion and intrepidity.

SEBASTOPOL, June 7.—The formidable fire of yesterday was kept up to-day with the greatest spirit, and soon after six o'clock this evening the French attacked and carried the White Tower and the Mamelon.

June 8.—Last evening we took possession of sixty two guns in the captured redoubts.—Thirteen officers were made prisoners. Our loss, which has not been accurately ascertained is considerable, as might have been expected from so great a result.

June 9.—The situation is the same as yesterday. All the demonstrations of the enemy against the captured works have been fruitless. They have abandoned the so called battery of the 2d of May; they have also completely abandoned to us the right shore of Careening bay. The vessels in port have sought refuge in Artillery bay, where our large mortars can reach them. We are watching them attentively.

JUNE 11, 11 P. M.—We are consolidating ourselves in the new works. We have been able to fire with the Russian mortars on their ships, which have gone still further up. We are preparing new batteries.

The Conferences at Vienna have at last been brought to a final termination. The Plenipotentiaries met for the last time on Monday. The negotiations have been continued for upwards of three months with no other result than to afford Austria a colourable pretext for keeping out of the war. There is as little probability at the end of the negotiations as there was at the beginning, that Austria will fulfil her obligations to the Western Powers. But the allies are now in circumstances to carry on the struggle successfully without the aid of this treacherous Power. There will be no more halting and indecision.

Intelligence had reached the British Admiralty that the Russians had evacuated Anapa, and are supposed to have crossed the Kuban. The Circassians were in Anapa.

An extensive boat expedition is being fitted out at Portsmouth, for service in the Sea of Azoff.

Admiral Boxer is dead. He is succeeded by Admiral Freemantle.

The French lines are now so far advanced, that the allied cavalry water their horses in the Tchernaya, without molestation.

The Russians do not show in force. Despatches from the Sea of Azoff, state the naval operations against Faganrog, Marianopol and Cheesk, which took place on the 3d, 5th and 6th of June, have perfectly surrendered. The public buildings and numerous government magazines of provisions have been burned.

The season has now become very delightful and the prospects of the coming harvest are most encouraging. The Hay crop will be superabundant and Grain crops and Potatoes are all in a thriving state and promise a plentiful harvest.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADDITION TO STOCK THIS MONTH

W. & C MURDOCH & CO.
 In addition to their former stock of DRY GOODS this Spring, have received a large assortment of
 White Shirts, Umbrellas,
 Grey do White Flannels,
 Striped do Red do.
 Dress Trimmings, VESTINGS,
 Small Wares, Do, Shapes,
 Hosiery, Fancy Trimmings,
 Whalebone, Braces Assorted.
 Kerseys, Hosiery, Printed Oil Cloths, and Covers,
 An assortment of GARMENTS,
 And invite the early attention of Buyers.
 68 Duke Street,
 22 Granville Street. June 22.

CHEAP DRY GOODS.

The subscriber has constantly on hand, every description of British DRY GOODS, consisting of Broad Cloths, Casimeres, Tweeds and Doeskins, Printed, White and grey Cottons, Ginghams, Printed DeLaines, Cashmeres and Desses, Cotton and Worsted Hosiery, Gloves of every description, Blankets, Flannels, Baize and Serge Shawls of various textures, Polka Jackets, Striped and Regatta Shirts, Cotton Bedticks, Osnaburg, Duck, and Linen Towelings, Gros De Naple Silks, Silk and Cotton Veils, Hair Brushes, Pressing Combs, Nail and Tooth Brushes, White Knitted Counterpanes and Marcellite Quilts, Ladies Pelisse cloth, Gait Plaids, Lyons Cloth with every variety of Trimmings, Thread, Needles, &c., Ribbons in Satin and Lutescing, figured and plain, Cotton Warp and Cotton Batting, good Tea, with the usual variety kept in Dry Goods Stores—Country Home-spun and Socks taken in exchange for Goods—the whole above articles can be recommended and will be disposed of at the lowest Cash Prices.

WILLIAM SCOTT
 Halifax, Jan'y 17th, 1855. George Street.

CALEDONIA HOUSE,
 135 Granville Street.

DOULL & MILLER,

Would respectfully inform Wholesale and country buyers that they keep constantly on hand every description of
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