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# MONTHLY RECORD



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, *ib.*

Vol. II.....No. 8.

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## Striking Contrasts

In the Book of Proverbs, so fraught with instruction, Wisdom is represented as crying, and Understanding putting forth her voice in the streets. The counsel of Solomon is not just, for we are too apt, in most instances, to overlook plain facts, and to rest contented with the appearances of things. In nothing is this tendency greater than in matters of religion. Here, judging from the man, man seems peculiarly liable to stumble, neglecting to observe those obvious truths which stare him in the face, while the most outrageous dogmas are greedily swallowed and held with the tenacity of death. Wisdom cries in the streets, but how few listen to her warnings! Understanding putteth forth her voice—how often in vain! But a true philosopher, and let us come shortly to the point. The present is a practical age, and ignores sentiment. The value of everything is tested by its utility. Of most things, at least, the world asks, "What useful purpose does it serve? what good does it accomplish?" May not the same question be asked with regard to Christianity, viewed in its immediate results upon mankind? In the light, its Divine Founder has encouraged us to regard it; for he has said, "you shall know them by their fruits." "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." "Do not gather grapes of thorns, or figs of this tree." Now, to apply these truths, it will readily be denied that in themselves morality, knowledge, and wealth are good things for all mankind; and if religion be the greatest happiness, it will follow that such results as these must naturally be expected to attend in its train. Godliness, the promise of the life that now is, may safely be assumed as the strengthener of morality, the friend of knowledge, and the guardian of wealth. Wherever these exist, they cannot be far off; and where misery, ignorance, and vice are found, there error

Setting out with these plain and undoubted principles, the Rev. Napoleon Roussel, of Paris, has written an interesting work, entitled "Catholic and Protestant nations compared, in their three-fold relations to wealth, knowledge, and morality." We regard his publication as a most important auxiliary to the Romish controversy. We are rather inclined to think that too much has been made of the doctrinal crotchets of Rome, and too little of their practical tendency in retarding human progress by enslaving and numbing the faculties of the soul. It is true, we do not wait until we have examined their effects before we pronounce upon their unscriptural character; but the common mind, to which writers must address themselves, if they desire to do any good, is more fitted to appreciate facts and arguments, appealing to their reason, than to enter into the subtilties of theological discussion. In the prosecution of his plan, Mr. Roussel has compared the condition of Catholic and Protestant States, with respect to their knowledge, their morals, and their prosperity, and by appealing to the published statements and statistics, chiefly of Roman Catholics themselves, he has established, unanswerably, that in these respects the Protestant nations are superior. He has compared contiguous nations, and nations placed in similar circumstances; North America, which is Protestant, is compared with South America, which is Catholic; Prussia is compared with Austria; Holland with Belgium; and the Protestant Cantons of Switzerland with its Catholic Cantons. He has compared different parts of the same empire, when placed under the same laws and in similar circumstances, as Protestant Scotland and Catholic Ireland. He has compared the different states of a nation, which has continued exclusively Catholic, as Spain in the 10th century, with the same country in the 19th. He has examined the effects of the Roman Catholic system in a country, where the Church of Rome is entirely dominant, as in Italy; and its effects in a country, where that Church is depressed, as in Ireland. He has compared the effects of Pro-

testanism under persecution, with those of Romanism under persecution. For example: that of Protestantism in France with that of Romanism in Ireland; and finally, he has compared the effects of Catholic and Protestant missions. All these inquiries guide us to two conclusions. 1st, That Protestantism has given to Protestant nations, knowledge, morality, and prosperity; while Catholicism has left Catholic nations, ignorant, immoral, and poor. 2nd, That Protestantism must be more consonant to the Word of God than Catholicism is. From an interesting chapter, entitled, "The two Americas compared," we shall quote a few extracts. "If climate must be taken into account," says Mr. Roussel, "the advantage is on the side of South America; blessed with a clear sky, a fertile soil, and majestic rivers, the largest in the world. 'In Brazil,' says Rougemont, 'the maritime districts are extremely fertile; the table-land is much less productive, but it is rich in diamonds and metals.' The soil could be easily cultivated and made very productive, like that of Buenos-Ayres, where, when they choose to sow, wheat yields fifty-fold, but the time is not come for agriculture. 'In the provinces of Rio Janeiro,' according to Malte-Brun, 'all the fruits and grains of Europe invariably succeed, but their cultivation is neglected; the grapes yield very good wine, but water in the neighborhood of the rich gold mines is preferred. The horned cattle, obliged to seek their own food, often perish with hunger.' 'Peru and Mexico,' according to Balbi, 'although situated between the tropics, owe to their elevation a perpetual spring.' " On the other side, on the contrary, a cloudy sky, a much less fertile soil, and obstacles of all kinds oppose the establishment of colonists. It is acknowledged that the natural advantages of a country give a right to expect, from the inhabitants, a more rapid and higher civilization. The greater the fertility of the soil, the more guilty are the

people who neglect it; as the original sterility of a land, afterwards covered with abundant harvests, bears witness to the skill of the people who cultivated it. If then, with a fine climate, and in the most advantageous circumstances, we find a people ignorant, lazy, miserable, and immoral, our conclusions against the actuating principle of their conduct would be singularly strengthened.

After some observations, taken chiefly from Catholic writers, on the extraordinary progress of North America; the prodigious development of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, the author triumphantly asks,—“To this sketch of Protestant America in the North, what has Catholic America in the South to oppose?” This is the statement of Roman Catholic authors:—

“In the Republics of South America, which preserve the blood and the indolent pride of the Spaniards, constitutions are destroyed hourly, by the will of some dictator; and the people, after a transient appearance in the career of civilization, fall back into the darkness of barbarism, and are not even conscious that they have been free for a day. Society, in short, stumbles at the first step it attempts to take forward, and falls helpless at the entrance of that path in which modern civilization springs forward, radiant and proud, to the goal. All that is a grievous assemblage of ignorance, disorder, and misery.

In the countries occupied by the descendants of the European colonists, public education is very defective, and private education, in general, neglected. Agriculture, except in some few localities, is in a deplorable state; as to manufactures, they are in their infancy. The natural feelings are on a level with such an education. Scarcely is an individual attacked with leprosy, than he is torn from his family, and thrown into a special hospital; and there, deprived of all external communication, and abandoned to the brutality of an impatient mercenary, the unhappy being sees himself lost without resource, and gives himself up to despair; the disease increases, and he falls a victim to the ignorance and prejudices of his countrymen.

These quotations are made almost at random; and many others might be selected to the same effect, did space permit. The principle value of the work before us, consists in its bringing together into one focus the statements and opinions of different authorities, for the most part from writers animated by a different faith from that of the author, or, at least, from writers who have no religious pre-occupations. Statisticians, geographers, naturalists, travellers, all come forward to furnish, unintentionally, their testimony in this controversy.

As, however, Mr. Roussell's remarks on “Roman Catholic Ireland and Protestant Scotland compared” cannot fail to be the part of his work most interesting to our readers, from it we shall now confine ourselves to a few extracts.

“The Irishman is, first of all, an Irish-

man, a patriot. The Romish clergy have worked on this element of his character until it has become, at present, impossible to say whether religious principles or national pride has most influence over his actions. The dexterous combination of patriotism and religion reveals already the immense power which the Irish clergy must exercise over the people, and it must be added that this power is doubled by the very nature of Catholicism. The priest, in fact, holds a great place in the Romish Church; he is the dispenser of pardon by the confessional; the operator of salvation by the mass; and the infallible interpreter of the Sacred Code; he identifies religion with himself until he ends by becoming himself religion and salvation incarnate! From the double circumstance, then, of the confusion of politics and religion, and that his creed makes him the representative of the deity, the Irish priest, in his domination over the faithful, becomes omnipotent. It is into his domicile that we ought to go to search for the mould into which he is pleased to cast the Irishman. By studying the master, we shall prepare ourselves to understand the pupil; and let us look, then, before anything else, at the Roman Catholic clergy, who are poor, ill educated and full of prejudices. It is astonishing that any clergy, no matter of what creed, should have so little regard for the dignity of her ministry. But a French writer, who is a sincere friend of Catholicism, informs us how this happens to the Roman Catholic clergy of Ireland. ‘The Irish priests,’ says he, ‘are recruited from the lowest classes of society; too poor to have been able to acquire the education necessary for their office, they make up for their deficiency by a blind fanaticism, which they most dangerously communicate to those classes whose religious sentiments, being incapable of enlightenment, they can only inflame.’

“By the side of this clergy, which represents the Romish religion in Ireland, let us place,” says our author, “the Protestant religion in Scotland. M. Custine, a Roman Catholic, is the person who speaks as follows: ‘It may be said almost literally that the whole population of the Scottish towns assemble, morning and evening, to hear, with profound attention, moral and reasonable discourses upon the Gospel; and to listen to the sounds of pious psalms, which dispose the soul to contemplation. These men are wearisome when amusing themselves, but they are affecting in prayer. I am too good a Catholic, by habit and conviction, to be suspected of partiality in the praises which I give to the Presbyterian worship; but I have also too much good faith not to avow the respect which every Christian communion inspires, when its precepts are observed by the whole community. The sentiment of religion does not appear to be less sincere in being protected by the civil power. When I see a Scottish pulpit, I cannot prevent myself from being moved, and I bow with veneration before it, as the source whence have flowed the

virtues<sup>†</sup> have admired in a nation, essentially consequent and conscientious. The Scottish Reformers avoided scrupulously calling to their aid the help of imagination and sentiment; nothing, in their austere doctrines, speaks to the senses, nothing seduces the heart; everything is there to subdue the mind by mind alone; everything is inward worship; conviction is all in all; and the severe language spoken is that of reason.

“Such are, according to Roman Catholic authorities, the source whence, in Scotland and in Ireland, the people derive their morals. Let us see what are the streams which flow from them, and especially let us listen, in regard to the latter country, to what is said by a zealous defender of the Irish Catholics. It would be to contradict well-known facts to deny the vices of the Irish. The Irish man is lazy, false, intemperate, and violent. He has notoriously a sort of invincible aversion for the truth. Even when he is disinterested, between truth and falsehood, it may be calculated that he will prefer falsehood. Every thing he says, he supports with an eagerness. His repugnance for work is not less singular. What he does, he does without taste, care, zeal; and he is more frequently idle.

“On the other hand, there is in the Scotch man something interior, grave, reflective which seems sometimes to resemble respect or pride, but which is rather the firmness of independence and liberty. The lofty air and the severe looks show only that there is in their souls, hidden and powerful principles, noble and profound passions, which, if they were to unchain them, would rise up in combat as the lion, when he is attacked. Christianity has penetrated into them more than any other nation. The Christian sap is grafted in them, not as on the feeble descendants of the Romans, but as on a young, wild, and vigorous stock which grows up finely.

The Scotch are grave but courteous, and they possess, to a great degree, a look of kindness, a demonstration of hospitality, an expression of goodness which is always confirmed by a trial of their dispositions. Theft, plunder, and house-breaking are things unheard of in Scotland; and public security is so great that bolts and locks are considered unnecessary precautions. They do not think of shutting their doors, even during the night. Capital punishments are so rare that there are only once or two executions yearly in the whole kingdom. Every family attend divine service with their servants, and in every house morning and evening devotions are performed while charity to the poor is never forgotten.

We would close these extracts, which might be greatly multiplied in proof of the position of our author, with the expression of a hope, that the descendants in these colonies of such ancestors may continue to value that pure religion which has rendered the forefathers so respected, even by those of opposite creed and a different country. Thus alone can they live worthy of the sires.

## CHURCH AT HOME.

## General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

THURSDAY, MAY 29.

The Assembly met at twelve o'clock—the Moderator presiding.

The Lord High Commissioner was accompanied to the Throne Gallery by the Lord Provost, the Sheriff, the Dean of Faculty, the Solicitor-General, Colonel Macdonald of Powderhall, &c.

## ELECTING JOINT-PROCURATOR.

Mr. CHEYNE, W.S., read the report of the committee appointed to consider the duties of the Procurator.

Dr. BELL then proposed Mr. A. S. Cook, Advocate, as Joint Procurator, and Professor SWINTON seconded the nomination.

Dr. R. LEE and Dr. ROBERTSON supported the motion, and Mr. Cook was unanimously elected.

## DISPENSATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER IN PRIVATE HOUSES.

An overture was read praying the Assembly to allow the celebration of the Lord's Supper in private houses—in the houses of invalids unable to attend public worship, and under the sanction of the minister and members of the kirk session.

Colonel DUNDAS, who now brought forward this overture for the fourth time, intimated his intention on this occasion to take the mind of the Assembly on the subject. He said that the matter had been forced upon his attention from the case of two persons, one bedridden for four ten years, and another for above twenty, who had long desired the consolations of this sacrament, and who at length, in despair of receiving it in connection with the Church to which they were attached, had at length received it from the hands of an Episcopal Clergyman.

Sheriff TAIT supported the overture.

Sheriff BARCLAY did not think there was anything in the circumstances of the times that called for the General Assembly to overthrow what he looked on as one of their fundamental principles.

Mr BRUCE, advocate, was in favour of a motion for the appointment of a committee. He also gave some instances of the desire that had been expressed for the administration of the Sacrament by those who were bedridden.

Mr STEWART, Liberton, seconded the motion of Sheriff Barclay for the dismissal of the overture.

There voted for the appointment of a committee, 35. for the dismissal of the overture, 48.

The Assembly adjourned at seven o'clock the next day at eleven.

FRIDAY, MAY 30.

The Assembly met to-day at eleven o'clock—Dr. Crombie, Moderator.

## MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND

Dr. GRANT made a verbal report as to the Widows' Fund. He stated that the fund exhibited a surplus of £67,000, arising from the contributions of the last twelve years, and that £4000 had been laid aside during the past year.

Dr. Grant also, in the absence of Dr. Paull, Gillespie, made a statement as to the supplementary fund, to the effect that it now exceeded £1500, and was sufficient to carry out the first of the two objects contemplated by it.

However, as many ministers had not subscribed who might be expected to do so, it was desirable that the operation of the fund should yet be suspended.

The reports were approved of, and the thanks of the Assembly conveyed to Doctor Grant.

## LAY ASSOCIATION.

Mr. SMITH, W. S., read the report of the Lay Association.

Dr. ROBERTSON moved that the Assembly receive the report with satisfaction, and return their thanks to the Association for the valuable assistance they had given to the schemes of the Church; and that the Assembly express its sense of the services rendered to the Church by the late justly lamented Professor Menzies, not only as Secretary to the Lay Association, but in multifarious other labours of Christian benevolence.

## REPORT OF COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. MALCOM, W. S., in behalf of Principal Macfarlan, Convener of the Colonial Committee, and in the absence of the Rev. Dr. Smith, Vice-Convener, read the report of the Committee, which was generally of a satisfactory character.

The income of the scheme last year had been £3332, and the total ordinary expenditure £2915.

Dr. BELL moved the approval of the report of the Committee, reserving the question of management, and that the Moderator return the thanks of the House to the venerable Convener and his colleagues for the diligence, fidelity, and zeal with which they had discharged their important duties.

Dr. FOWLER seconded the motion.

After some discussion the motion was agreed to, and the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the House to Principal Macfarlan, briefly noticing the debt of gratitude which was due by the Church towards him in connection with the Colonial Mission and otherwise, and expressing their gratification that he was still spared in sufficient vigour to appear amongst them.

The Assembly then adjourned till the evening.

## EVENING SEDERUNT.

The Assembly met again at eight o'clock.

## THE ASSEMBLY HALL.

Dr. R. LEE moved the approval of the proposed alterations on the Assembly Hall to be submitted to the Board of Works on being approved of by the General Assembly. These alterations have been described on previous occasions.

The motion was agreed to.

Dr. SIMPSON read the draft of an answer to the letter from the Assembly to the Scotch Synod in England; which was approved of.

## PROPOSED PRESBYTERY OF KINROSS.

A report was read from the committee appointed to consider the petition of certain ministers and elders in the county of Kinross, praying that the Assembly should disjoin the parishes in that county from different Presbyteries, and erect them into a Presbytery to be called the Presbytery of Kinross, and to be constituted one of the Presbyteries of the Synod of Fife.

After a discussion of three hours and a half, a vote was taken, when the motion to sustain the prayer of the petition and erect the proposed Presbytery, was carried by a majority of thirty-six to twenty. Mr. Robertson and others dissented.

The Assembly then adjourned at a quarter past one, till next day at eleven o'clock.

SATURDAY, MAY 31.

The Assembly met to-day at eleven o'clock—Dr. Crombie, Moderator.

## CONVENERSHIP OF INDIA MISSION.

Dr. HILL moved the appointment of Doctor Craik, Glasgow, as Convener of the India Mission Committee, in room of Dr. Macfarlane, who had resigned.

The motion was agreed to.

## THE HOME MISSION.

Dr. SIMPSON, Kirknewton, read the report of the Home Mission Committee.

Mr. R. H. MUIR, Dalmeny, after referring to the difficulties the committee had experienced from want of funds, and adverting to the great importance of this scheme to the Church, moved that the Assembly approve of the report, and request the Moderator to convey their thanks to the Convener and the committee for the ability, diligence, and zeal with which they had discharged their trust; and recommend to all the ministers and members of the Church to give this missionary enterprise increased support.

Baron Basilie RITCHIE, in seconding the adoption of the report, said that the Assembly must feel gratified to learn from the report that the ordinary revenue, which had somewhat fallen off, showed during the past year over the preceding year an increase of nearly £400 in the amount of the collections, and of 20 in the number of contributing churches, enabling the committee to expend the sum of £5000 in the different branches to which the funds were applied.

The Moderator then conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to Dr. Simpson, by whose efforts, he said, the churches that had fallen into disuse had been occupied, and the congregations that had been scattered had been gathered again, and many of them had been erected into parish churches, through the nurture received from the Home Mission Scheme.

## EDUCATION SCHEME.

Dr. COOK, Haddington, read the report of the Education Committee. It stated that, irrespective of the two normal seminaries, there were at present 120 schools on the first scheme and 45 on the second, in addition to 13 female schools—in all, 178. The sum paid by the committee in salary to the teachers during the past year have been £2777 6s. 8d.

## CONVENERSHIP OF THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

A letter was read from Principal Macfarlane, Convener of the Colonial Committee, expressing his desire that his name should be withdrawn from the committee.

The Moderator was appointed to answer the letter, and express the veneration and regard of the Assembly for the very reverend Principal, and their regret that he should feel it necessary to withdraw.

## OVERTURE ON EDUCATION.

The Assembly then took up the following overture, signed by Dr. Hill, Principal Tulloch, Dr. Robertson, Professor Mitchell, Dr. Arnot, and others:—

“That whereas it is a constitutional principle of the Church of Scotland, that every parish church should have in connection with it a parish school. That whereas there is no good reason why this principle should not be made applicable to the large towns as well as to the country districts: and that the fact of its not

having been so applied has been the cause of a great part of the educational destitution which at present exists in Scotland. That the Church of Scotland should now take steps, either by means of her Education Scheme, or by such other means as may be thought advisable, to inquire into the extent of this destitution, with a view immediately to supply the same. That her efforts in this direction should be, first, to establish such additional schools in town or country, connected with a parish church, as may be needed; and, secondly, to endow all such schools as may exist, dependant on yearly subscriptions: It is, therefore, humbly overtured to the General Assembly to take this subject into their serious consideration."

Dr. ROBERTSON proposed, as a mode of terminating a discussion on which there was great difference of opinion, that some such motion as the following should be adopted.

What he would propose would be that, with regard to the overture from members of the house in favour of inquiry, the Assembly agree to refer the overture to the Education Committee, and recommend it to their favourable and serious consideration.

#### SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Dr. CRAIK, Glasgow, gave in a report from the Committee on Sabbath Schools, which stated that several of the Synods had made no returns, but that from an abstract made up from those which had done so, it appeared there were 1308 Sabbath schools, 98,685 scholars on the roll, and an attendance of 75,000, with 8337 teachers. Adding to these figures the numbers who might be calculated from former returns to attend school in those parishes from which there were no returns, there would not be fewer on the roll last year than 103,000 at schools in connection with the Church of Scotland, with nearly 8000 teachers.

Dr. PIRIE moved the adoption of the report, and eulogised the valuable services of Dr. Craik in connection with the subject of Sabbath schools.

The Rev. Mr. ANDERSON, Dornoch, seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted; and the thanks of the Assembly were returned, through the Moderator, to Dr. Craik and the committee.

The Assembly then adjourned at half-past five o'clock till Monday at eleven.

MONDAY, JUNE 2.

The Assembly met at eleven o'clock—the Moderator presiding.

#### CONVENERSHIP OF COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. HUGH BRUCE proposed as the successor to the venerable Principal Macfarlan, in the Convenership of the Colonial Committee, the Rev. Dr. Fowler, Ratho, who had long taken great interest in the Scheme, and whose visit to Canada some years ago, as a deputy of the General Assembly, had given him great knowledge of the Church in that Colony, and whose eminent talents, great energy, and sound sense and discretion, as well as urbanity of manners, rendered him a person in every way well qualified to discharge the duties of the office. Mr. Bruce stated that the office of Convenership had been offered to Dr. Arnot, who had discharged the duties with great zeal and ability during the short period he had acted as Convener, but who, however, had respectfully

declined. The name of Dr. Smith, interim Vice-Convener, who had also discharged the duties with great ability for some time, was also mentioned, but the reverend gentleman, being absent in London on the business of the Church, and no one present being able to state if he was likely to accept, the Committee unanimously resolved to nominate Dr. Fowler.

The nomination was cordially agreed to by the Assembly.

#### CONVENERSHIP OF JEWISH COMMITTEE.

Dr. BELL moved the appointment of Professor Mitchell, St. Andrews, to succeed Mr. Tait, Kirkliston, as Convener of the Jewish Mission Committee. That gentleman, he said, was well acquainted with Oriental literature, and could take an active part in the examination of any missionaries the Committee might propose to appoint; he had always taken deep interest in the Jewish Mission, and being unemployed for seven months of the year, he would have an opportunity of visiting the various missionary stations.

This nomination was also approved of.

#### REPORT ON POKERY.

Dr. FOWLER gave in the Report from the Committee on Pokery.

Dr. HILL said he had been requested to move the approval of the report. He moved that the General Assembly approve of the Report; request the Moderator to convey the thanks of the Assembly to the Convener and the Committee, for the prudence, diligence, and zeal with which they had acted; re-appoint the Committee, and instruct them to continue their attention to the training of missionaries, that they may be prepared to extend their operations, whether in the metropolis or in other quarters of this Church, where it may be deemed advisable to take steps to counteract the errors of Pokery; direct them further to adopt such other measures as may appear, after full consideration, to be fitted to oppose the progress of this pernicious system, which the Church had at all times strenuously opposed; and recommend the ministers and members of the Church to aid the Committee in their work, by their contributions and their prayers.

Sheriff Barclay seconded Dr. Hill's motion.

The motion of Dr. Hill was then agreed to, and the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to Dr. Fowler.

#### LETTER TO PRINCIPAL MACFARLAN.

The draft of a letter was read, prepared by the Moderator, expressing the Assembly's warmest veneration and respect for the Very Rev. Principal, and their regret that the infirmities of age, and other reasons, rendered it necessary for him to withdraw from the Colonial Committee, and also expressing the hope that he would be spared yet again to appear amongst them. The letter was approved of, and ordered to be transmitted, and a copy recorded on the minutes.

#### THE ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

Dr. ROBERTSON then read the Report of

the Committee on the Endowment Scheme. Dr. BELL said he was sure every member of the house must have listened with great interest to the very satisfactory and encouraging report now read. He moved that the Assembly approve of the report, re-appoint the committee with the same instructions as formerly, and that the thanks of the Assembly be given to Dr. Robertson and his committee for the zeal and ability with which they had discharged their duty. (Loud applause.)

Mr. MACKENZIE, Urquhart, seconded the motion.

Dr. Bell's motion was then agreed to and the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the house to Dr. Robertson, and referred to the encouraging prospects of the Scheme, which promised so largely to lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes of the Church of Scotland.

#### OVERTURE ON PUBLIC WORSHIP.

The following overture, introduced by Principal Lee and Dr. Hill, was submitted.

"Whereas, it has always been the desire of the Church of Scotland, that in every part of its bounds the people should, as far as practicable, enjoy in an equal degree the benefits of public instruction and the administration of Divine ordinances, it is overtured to this General Assembly that a recommendation or declaratory Act shall be issued for the purpose of reminding all who labour in word and doctrine, that every congregation, at the several diets of public worship, should have access to the advantage of hearing a portion of the Old or New Testament read; and that there should always be included in the service of every Lord's day, not only a sermon, but a lecture on a passage of the holy Scriptures."

Dr. ROBERTSON suggested that, if the matter was left over till the evening, Principal Lee and Dr. Hill might then bring the overture before the house in such a shape as to meet with general concurrence.

After a few words from Principal Lee, who stated that he had a great objection to lengthened discourses, and a still greater objection to ministers interjecting, in the reading of the Scriptures, remarks of their own, the suggestion of Dr. Robertson was acceded to, and the consideration of the overture deferred.

#### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Dr. HILL, in the absence of Dr. Muir, read the Report from the Sabbath Observance Committee.

Dr. Hill added that the report which they had just heard, laid them under a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Muir, whose services had been so great in this matter. He proposed as the deliverance of the Assembly, the following motion:—That the Assembly approve of the diligence of the Committee, approve of the note, and agree to the recommendation it contains; in particular, the Assembly resolve to renew the solemn declaration the anxious concern of the Church of Scotland on account of the endeavors made for

time to time to weaken in the public mind a sense of the sanctity of the Sabbath; the Assembly have learned with high satisfaction the success which, through Divine Providence, has recently followed the means employed to prevent the sanctioning, by Parliament, of the flagrant violation of the Lord's Day, and in the view of the determined efforts making of having Sunday amusements practised on a wider scale and in a more enlarged form, resolve to send a petition to Parliament, praying for its protection and sanction to the due keeping of the Lord's Day; and again call on office-bearers and members of the Church to take every opportunity, by all competent methods, of promoting reverence for the Sabbath, and the religious observance of it. The motion also proposed the re-appointment of the committee, with thanks to Dr. Muir and the committee for their unwearied attention to the subject.

Mr. W. COOK seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

DEPUTATION TO TURKEY.

Mr. WILSON, Paisley, brought this subject again before the notice of the Assembly. He stated the reasons which rendered the collection of information from the East at present a matter of great importance to the Jewish Committee. The Rev. Messrs. McLeod and Macduff, of Glasgow, were certainly eminently qualified to undertake the task, and they had offered in the handsomest manner not to put the Church to the smallest expense if they were sent as a deputation from the Assembly.

Dr. PIRIE concurred in the objection of Mr. Lee, which he thought a very serious one. He did not approve of the matter being taken out of the hands of the Presbytery of Glasgow, who, he thought, were the most suitable parties to have it before them. He was disposed to move that the matter be referred to the consideration of the Jewish Committee, with instructions to correspond with the Presbytery of Glasgow.

The motion of Dr. Pirie was then agreed to, and the Assembly adjourned till the evening.

EVENING SEDERUNT.

The Assembly resumed at eight o'clock—the Moderator presiding.

CONVENERSHIP OF POPERY COMMITTEE.

Dr. FOWLER intimated that the Popery Committee had met that afternoon, and had chosen as Convener in room of himself, he having accepted the Convenership of the Colonial Committee, the Rev. W. Robertson, of New Greyfriars, Edinburgh.

ADMISSION OF DISSENTING MINISTERS.

Dr. RUNCIMAN gave in a report from the committee appointed at a previous diet to consider the application of Messrs. Dickson, Strachan, and Home, for admission to the Church. All the parties named had been connected with the Free Church, and the committee, after giving a brief narrative of

the circumstances in each of the cases, recommended that Mr. Dickson should be admitted to the position of probationer, and the cases of Mr. Strachan and Mr. Home to the favorable consideration of the assembly.

With reference to the application of Mr. Strachan a motion by Professor Swinton, that that gentleman be admitted as a probationer of the Church, was agreed to without discussion.

On the motion of Mr. Irvine, Arbroath, Mr. Home was also admitted a probationer without a vote.

DEBTS ON CHAPELS.

Professor SWINTON reported that, during the past year, the Committee had been able to release six chapels from debt, besides assisting others.

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

Principal LEE read a proposed declaratory Act on this subject, approving of the overture that had been submitted, and enjoining all ministers of the Church to observe the recommendations contained in it respecting the reading of the Holy Scriptures at each diet of public worship, and calling their attention to the regulations of the Church on that subject, as set forth in the Directory for Public Worship.

The proposed Act was approved of.

ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

Dr. ROBERTSON stated that the revenue of this Scheme for the year was now £44,261, 18s. 11d. He had that day received several contributions, including £400 from the Earl Selkirk, being £20 for each of the twenty chapels in one of the provincial groups. (Applause.)

The Commission, which consists of all the members of the Assembly, with Dr. Simpson added, was then appointed to meet on Tuesday at twelve o'clock.

Glasgow Mission to Scutari Hospital.

[Mr. McNair's Journal.]

October—As the time absorbed by the care of the sick has diminished, greater attention has been paid to the men on duty, and steps are being taken for their mental and moral, as well as for their spiritual improvement. For some time past, schools have been conducted by teachers who have undergone a regular system of training in Normal Schools at home, and have been sent here on purpose. More recently, Evening Lectures have been set on foot twice a-week, which are numerous attended by the soldiers. Such questions as "Who live in the Crimea?" "Who was Mahomet?" "The Cross and the Crescent." "Plain facts and experiments in Chemistry." "Facts in Anatomy," &c., &c., have been the subjects of lectures already delivered by chaplains and medical officers. The spectacle may now be seen of men who have met with Russians, Turks, Tartars, and others, listening to disquisitions upon the origin and habits of those with whom they have measured swords, or upon the contrast between their own religious belief, and that of their allies, their respective founders and books. The sight may now be witnessed of men to whom the explo-

sions of charcoal, sulphur and saltpetre have been familiar as the day, and who have themselves been active agents in rendering the air not only with the thunder of artillery, but also with the bursting of huge and deadly shells, intent upon explanations of the rationale of combustion, the nature and properties of substances, elementary and compound. Men who have narrowly escaped dislocations and fractures, many of whom have been witnesses to amputations and dressings of wounds, may now be seen drinking in lectures upon the structure of those bodies which are so fearfully and wonderfully made. And as the lecturers do not ignore the agency of a great First cause, but lead the thoughts of the men to Him who maketh wars, and causeth them to cease, who is at once the God of nature, and the God of grace, let us hope that the manners which war is too prone to form may be softened, and that those who have drawn the sword, may be equally ready to sheathe it, when an amicable adjustment has been made.

November.—During the early part of this month the wards were very empty, and the number of Presbyterian patients had considerably diminished, so much so that I considered this the most favorable time to apply for leave of absence, and having arranged with Mr. Cannan (who was rapidly becoming convalescent) and Mr. Johnston (Kuluhi) in regard to the conducting of the Sabbath services, I applied for, and obtained leave to visit Smyrna. The "Calcutta," a steam transport, being about to sail for England, to call *en route* at Smyrna, I took my passage in her, on the 10th, and having a Sabbath to spend on board, and being the only chaplain, I not only had an opportunity of seeing the invalids, and distributing among them some books and tracts brought for the purpose, but also conducted service, first in the saloon, with the crew and cabin-passengers, consisting principally of sick officers, and afterwards in one of the sick-wards, with the soldiers.

Being unable to learn beforehand the state of the Hospital at Smyrna, and remembering the expressed wish of the committee that something should be done for this as well as for Scutari, I made up a box of Bibles, Testaments, and other books and tracts before starting, and took this with me, as well as another box entrusted to my care, to be delivered to the English Chaplain. These were safely landed on the morning of the 13th. From the brief and somewhat hurried visit which I was enabled to pay to the Hospital, every thing seemed to be in good order; and great expense and care had been taken to fit it up for the convenience of patients. But at this time every one seemed uncertain as to the length of time during which the building might be occupied as an Hospital, and whether it might not in a few days be handed over to the Swiss Legion. When I left on the 15th, it was generally understood that all the patients, somewhere about 300 in number, were to be removed to the new Hospital at Renkioi.

This Hospital (Renkioi), situated on the Asiatic side of the Dardanelles, and very near their western extremity, I had also an opportunity of visiting. It is beautifully situated on a little tongue of land stretching out into the straits, and abundantly supplied with water brought in pipes from the neighboring heights. For occupation in summer, a more advantageous spot could scarcely have been selected, as the northern exposure secures an almost perpetual cooling breeze, which very much modifies the temperature of the otherwise scorching atmosphere. The buildings being all new,



and fitted up under the direction of British engineers, have also a look of cleanliness and comfort which is by no means universal in Turkey. It remains to be seen whether these, with all their conveniences, will form as comfortable winter quarters for invalids, as the more substantial, solid, and admirably contrived stone and lime buildings at Scutari, Kululi, and Smyrna. When I visited Renkioi, there were between 100 and 200 patients in Hospital, but on the day I left, 133 arrived from Smyrna, and another detachment was to be sent a few days later. There is accommodation at present for 700, to be increased so as to accommodate 1500, or upwards.

On my return to Scutari on the 24th, I found that cholera had broken out, and carried off many victims in the course of a few days. The number of deaths in the Barrack Hospital, had risen in a single day from 1 or 2 to 8, next day to 16, next to 25, and then gradually diminished. Separate wards had been set apart for the cholera patients. Some had been carried off after a few hours' illness; and several of the medical men in attendance had been among the victims. The mortality had been greatest in the German Legion and the (British) Osmanli Horse Artillery. Those who were on the spot all along tell me it was a truly solemn time, a time which ought to make men pause and consider. But, as one chaplain said to me, how little, after all, can we do on such occasions. In the first stage of the disease, the subject of it is in intense agony, and indisposed to listen to any spiritual counsel. In its second stage, collapse and exhaustion render him unfit to profit by it. But this just shows how much greater need there is for improving the day of comparative health and strength.

Since returning to Smyrna, and in the course of several visits, I have found between 50 and 60 Presbyterians in Hospital. Many of these belong to the cavalry regiments, and of these the greater proportion will probably consist in future, as Scutari is now being made the principal cavalry depot for the winter months.

One of the most interesting cases with which I have met for some time, is that of a young Englishman, with whom I have had several conversations. His friends belong to the Calvinistic Baptists. On one occasion he heard a clergyman speak slightly of them, and of Calvinists generally, and he was tempted to think the Bible a delusion altogether, when it could be so variously construed. Besides conversing with him, I have put several books in his way, among others James's *Anxious Inquirer*, which he has read with evident attention, and I trust with some degree of profit. He confesses that he sees his error, and is, I trust, seeking for guidance from Him who is able to impart it. Oh! for a larger number of instances such as this, inspiring a chaplain to feel that he is speaking to men who are alive to what is said, and interested in the welfare of their souls.

The Journal of a chaplain is perhaps not the place to dilate upon the purely natural features of a country. But a visit to the two above-mentioned Hospitals (Smyrna and Renkioi) having brought me into contact with scenes possessing so many classical, ecclesiastical, and biblical associations, a passing remark or two may be permitted. Half-an-hour's climb, or little more, from the former, brings you to the top of mount Pagus, from which a most perfect diorama is beheld; or rather, in passing a few yards from one side to the other, a most diversified succession of pictures, equal to any series of dissolving views, presents itself to the eye.

On the summit of the hill there are extensive remains of the walls of an old castle, and taking your stand within these, every object beyond is shut out, and you seem brought into contact only with the past. Here is the Stadium, where Polycarp was martyred. An opening at one place leads to a vault, conducting into a subterranean building, in which it is supposed the wild beasts may have been kept before being brought out to the amphitheatre. Of this building, the pillars, supporting at least thirty domes, remain entire. Coming out again to the fresh air, and advancing to one side, Smyrna (*Ismir*, the Queen of Anatolia), the Paris of the East, stretches at your feet, its further side washed by the beautiful basin or gulf, affording ample and excellent shelter for any number of ships, and whose edges, all round, are graced by gently sloping and finely wooded hills. You cross the woods and take your stand a few yards further back, and it is almost as if you had passed from life to death. The busy mart of Ismir is exchanged for the barren and uncultivated wild of a far-stretching valley. There are links to connect with the past in that solitary arch spanning the Meles, the supposed river of Homer, (blind Meltesigenes), which sweeps round the foot of the hill, and that solitary cypress which marks the spot where stood the church of Polycarp, the disciple of the beloved apostle. There are links to connect with the present in that solitary house which, in the distance, rises to view, and that solitary string of camels, which is seen winding its way through the valley. But as far as appears, you might imagine yourself fifty miles in the interior, and as far from any considerable town, instead of being within a stone's throw of the spot from which you look down upon a city peopled by 150,000 souls, and a bay visited by ships from whose mast-heads float the flags of almost every nation that owns a fleet.

The land in the neighborhood of Renkioi has the appearance of a succession of terraces rising like a flight of steps, as though the water had at successive intervals retired, and left its old seamarks dry, finding time after time a narrower and lower channel in which to flow. From the hospital, an easy morning's ride conducts to the plains of Troy, and the supposed site of the ancient and far-famed city of the same name. Here and there, as at Sheblac and Halil Elly, you light upon whole fields, having in the distance the appearance of grave-yards, but which a nearer inspection shows to be covered with the ruins of what once, no doubt, were splendid buildings. Fragments of columns, some cylindrical and some beautifully fluted, some of solid marble, and some of harder granite; fragments consisting of single stones, measuring from four to six feet and upwards in length, lie strewn upon these fields, while here and there stray stones, which may once have held their place in some gorgeous temple, have, from their greater proximity to human dwellings, been put to meaner uses. I was particularly struck with observing, in passing through Halil Elly, a section of one of these fluted columns, standing in an open space with a basin-shaped cavity hollowed out of the top, and seemingly intended to serve the purpose of a temporary manger. On the tops of several of the hills skirting the plain, conical-shaped heights, which one might denominate *carrius* on a large scale, are pointed out as the *tumuli* of Ajax, Agamemnon, Hector, and others. Hector's I climbed. It commands an extensive view, but with nothing particularly attractive in the prospect, apart from the feeling that on this plain "Troy was." But in passing at the

further side of this eminence to the next ridge, you come all at once upon a most refreshing view of the Mendere, supposed to be the ancient Simois, wending its way through a most beautiful valley,—that valley, like so many others in Turkey, not surrounded by gently-sloping banks, communicating with the higher grounds on either side, and making it impossible to say where is the boundary-line between hill and dale, but itself a dead level, upon which you look down over a steep and precipitous crag. Not far from this spot are the hot springs, the sources of the river Bounarbache, which is generally identified with the ancient Scamander. Here I had the satisfaction not only of tasting these waters, but of doing so from a gourd carried by a descendant of the prophet, as his green turban indicated, and who was passing at the time with his ass. What a satire does all this seem to read of human greatness and earth-born fame! The scene of deeds so long celebrated in the immortal strains of the Grecian bard, now become common to the savage Turk and the barbarous Briton,—a descendant of Mahomet serving a Christian dog from a heathen river, at least a river celebrated as pointing out the site of that renowned city which was supposed to have witnessed so many contests of the gods on behalf of their respective proteges!

The country, in another direction from Renkioi, is not without its points of interest. Some twelve or thirteen miles further up the Dardanelles is Abydos, where is still pointed out Byron's house, and also that of the Bride of Abydos, now occupied as quarters by our British officers stationed here. Behind this is Xerxes' Hill, commanding a magnificent view extending from one extremity of the Dardanelles to the other, and embracing the openings of the sea of Marmora on the one hand and the Mediterranean on the other. From the top of this hill the Persian monarch is said to have viewed his vast army, reaching from one continent to another across the straits, and to have wept at the thought of the ravages which time would make in it. And it is scarce possible now to feast the eye on the beauties of nature in this quarter without reflecting that the waters which are now ploughed by the fleets of Britain and France, have borne on their bosoms other fleets and other armies, which have not only themselves long since perished, but which represented dynasties and empires that are now numbered among the things that were. May our countrymen not be found trusting in an arm of flesh, but making the Lord their stay! May their visit to these Eastern waters be the prelude of happier times, because times more pervaded by Gospel light, to these lands for which the great ones of earth have so often struggled! Physically and spiritually may that cultivation speedily be given which alone seems necessary that this region may become fruitful as the garden of the Lord!

PARISH OF URRAY—INDUCTION OF THE REV. WILLIAM MACDONALD.—On Thursday last the Presbytery of Dingwall inducted Mr. Macdonald minister of the parish of Urray. Impressive discourses were delivered on the occasions by the Rev. Messrs. Morrison of Ainess, and Sutherland of Dingwall—the latter gentleman giving the charge and thereafter addressing the congregation, whom he congratulated on getting a minister of good report, and who, he trusted, would rightly divide the Word of Life among them. Several clergymen from other Presbyteries were present. There were also several lay gentlemen pre-

sent, among whom were Mr. Peter, factor for Lord Lovat, and Mr. Duncan Robertson, factor for Chisholm. The settlement being over, the new incumbent of Urray entertained a number of his friends to a dinner in the manse.

LORD DOUGLAS has presented the Rev. David Ramsay, minister of the South Parish of Quoad Sacra Church, to the Parish Church, vacant by the demise of the late Rev. Thos. Easton, D. D.

Mr. GRANT, the parish minister of Cromdale, took ill on Thursday night of cholera, and in seven hours after, inflammation having supervened, as a natural consequence, he died.

THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

Meeting of the Synod of Canada at Kingston.

Wednesday, 28th May, 1856.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland met in St. Andrews Church, Kingston, according to appointment, on Wednesday the 28th day of May last, at the hour of 11 o'clock in the afternoon. The Rev. Mr. McKid, the Moderator for last year, occupied the Chair, and the meeting was opened with reading the Scriptures, praise and prayer. Thereafter Mr. McKid thanked the Synod for the honour which had been conferred upon him, and, after stating that by arrangement, and to enable the people to attend, the usual sermon would be preached at 7 o'clock in the evening, called upon the Synod to proceed to the election of a Moderator, when upon motion of Dr. George, seconded by Mr. Urquhart, the Rev. Alex. Mann, A. M., of Pakenham, was proposed and unanimously elected. Mr. Mann took the chair, and, expressing his sense of the honorable position in which he was placed, said that he would strive in all his conduct to promote the good of the Church and the glory of her Great Head.

The Synod Roll was called over.

CORRESPONDENT MEMBER.

The commission from the Synod of the Church of Scotland in New Brunswick, in favour of the Rev. John Brooke, D.D., Minister of Fredericton, was handed in and read. When Mr. McKid introduced him to the Moderator and the Synod, stating that he felt painfully, that one of our deputation to New Brunswick, on whom the duty would more fully have fallen, had passed away to his rest.

The Moderator expressed a hope that, the exercise, thus auspiciously commenced would prove of much service to the Church, and it was understood that at a later period of the session the Reports of our delegates should be read, and the delegates from the Lower Provinces invited to address the Court.

The minutes of the proceedings of Synod, as presented, were approved, as also those of the Commission of Synod.

The answer to the Synod's address to the Queen was handed in and read.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

A letter was read from Hew Ramsay, Esq., the Synod's Treasurer to this effect, enclosing correspondence in relation thereto, as also

an extract of the proceedings of the Committee of the Parent Church, and a statement of the total contributions, amounting in all to £506 12s. 8d. currency.

A very general expression of opinion, ensued, on the part of members of the Synod that this by no means represented the amount of the contributions of our Church but was only supplementary, as almost every congregation had besides, contributed to the local or municipal contributions to the Fund.

The Moderator appointed a Committee on bills and overtures to meet at 3 o'clock.

SERMON.

The Synod then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock, at which hour the previous Moderator, the Rev. A. McKid, preached an appropriate and forcible sermon from the text, Ezekiel, ix, 11. After sermon the Synod proceeded to business, and re-elected the Reverends Dr. Mathieson, and Messrs. Muir and McMormie, as Queen's College Trustees, and the retiring members, viz. Hew Ramsay, and John Smith, Esqrs., as Clergy Reserve Commissioners.

Committees to draft the addresses to the Queen and the Governor General, and to revise the records of Presbyteries, were then appointed.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

The Report of the Church Property Committee, was then given in and read by the convenor, Alex. Morris, Esq. It set forth that the Committee had issued a circular containing various queries, and had received 48 replies thereto, that they had prepared a Register of Church Property, and hoped in another year to be able to present a full statement which would show that much real substantial progress had been quietly and unostentatiously made in the works of Manse and Church erection.

Mr. Burnett explained the action of the Presbytery of Hamilton in regard to this matter, and the result of their inquiries.

Whereupon the thanks of the Synod were given to the Committee, who were re-appointed, and Presbyteries instructed to co-operate with them by the appointment of Presbyterial Committees.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Dr. GEORGE thought it his duty to call the notice of the Synod to the Day of Thanksgiving named by the Proclamation of the Governor General and which interfered with the session, The Synod required to decide on their course, and must do one of two things, either keep the day, and in order to do so, hurry through their business or leave it undone; or, 2ndly, appoint a special service on a Sabbath, to obey the spirit of the proclamation. He did not think it would be becoming for the Church Court to break up its Synodical Meeting, convened duly by appointment from last year, even though it were at the injunction of the Sovereign. But, if we did not do so, no lack of loyalty could be attributed to us, for the meeting was appointed when it was impossible to have known this.

At a subsequent diet the following minute was adopted on this subject.

The attention of the Synod having been called to the circumstance that Wednesday the Fourth Day of June has been appointed by the Governor General as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the peace which has been concluded, the Synod while acknowledging the duty of observing days of public fasting or thanksgiving appointed by public authority, yet find it impossible, under present cir-

cumstances, to comply with this arrangement as could be wished, inasmuch as the Synod will still be in session at that time,—the appointment of the time for holding the present meeting of Synod having been made last year. But in order to carry out the intention of the Government, as far as this can be done, the Synod agree that the Ministers and Elders met in Kingston shall, in their Synodical capacity, observe the Day of Thanksgiving on Wednesday the Fourth Day of June, and appoint Rev. Robert Burnett to preach the Thanksgiving Sermon;—and further the Synod enjoin each Minister to improve the dispensation of God's Providence, in reference to the war and the peace now concluded, in his own congregation on the earliest occasion, and in the way he may deem most for the glory of God and the edification of the people of his charge.

The Synod then adjourned after the benediction had been pronounced by the Moderator

Thursday, 29th May, 1856.

The Synod met and was opened with praise reading of the Scriptures and prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Landsay.

THE MODERATOR'S SERMON.

It was then, on motion of Mr. Robb, Resolved: That the cordial thanks of the Synod be given to the Rev. Mr. McKid for his appropriate sermon, and that he be requested to publish the same in the *Presbyterian*.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

As agreed, this Report was then taken up, and read.

Mr. URQUHART thought the Committee had acted with prudence and great faithfulness, and he therefore moved that the Report be adopted, and the thanks of the Synod given to the Board for their diligence and zeal. This motion was agreed to, and a Committee appointed to report to the Synod a method of improving the efficiency of the Scheme. The Synod then elected the Rev. Wm. Simpson, and John Greenshields, and James Mitchell, Esqrs. to fill vacancies in the Board of Management.

JEWISH AND FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The Treasurer reported that £56 6s 5d. had been equally divided between the Jewish and Foreign Schemes and transmitted to Edinburgh.

MISSIONARY AND DEVOTIONAL MEETING.

Dr. George brought up the consideration of an overture on this subject, when it was unanimously agreed that the Synod should adjourn on Monday afternoon, meet again at 7 o'clock for the purpose of holding a Missionary and Devotional Meeting.

THE DEATH OF DR. MCGILL.

Mr. URQUHART said, that when the roll was called, he felt deeply the omission of a name which for long years was familiar to them. Since our last meeting Dr. McGill had been called from earth. That name must awaken mournful and yet pleasing recollections, for it was impossible to forget his appearances in that Synod since its first meeting, or his efforts for the good of the Church. It was due to his memory, to his great worth, his abilities, and his piety, as well as to ourselves, that a record should be made, commemorating our sense of his worth, and our deep regret at his removal from our midst. It was not for him to pass



a eulogy on our departed friend, that had been done already by an able pen, and all our hearts sympathized with what he had written. Drs. Cook and George were then appointed to draw up an appropriate minute. The following was afterwards adopted

The Synod cannot permit the present occasion to pass, without giving expression to the sentiments of grief felt by every member of this Court at the bereavement which has been sustained by the Church, in the death of the late Rev. Dr. McGill, of Montreal,—and at the same time expressing sincere condolence with the widow and children of their late brother. Dr. McGill was not only one of the fathers of this Church, but was from the first one of its most noble and efficient ministers. Possessed of great activity of mind, and much zeal for the interest of the Church, he was not only constant in his attendance on its Courts, but ever took a lively interest in all the measures that came before them.—and, as he was also a prudent, faithful and diligent Pastor, his loss to his own congregation, as well as to the Church at large, cannot but be deeply felt.—But, while the Synod would put on record their sentiments of esteem and sorrow for their late brother, they feel that it behooves them, with solemn consideration, to regard this and similar dispensations of the Lord, as loud calls to all who are yet in the vineyard “to work while it is day, for the night cometh.”

#### OVERTURES AS TO INACCURACIES IN THE CENSUS.

An overture from the Presbytery of Montreal on this subject was read and supported by Mr. Alexander Morris, who said he would require to say but little to secure the adoption of the overture, the necessity for it would be so apparent. The Religious Census, as published by the Province as it regarded the Presbyterian community, was very defective. There are in Canada three large bodies, our own Church, the Free Church, and the United Presbyterian, but the last was ignored altogether, while the greatest injustice is done our body as he would show. According to the census of 1851 the total population of Western Canada was 952,004. The leading denominations are, the Anglican Church 223,190; the Church of Rome 167,695, the Wesleyan Methodists 96,610, the Church of Scotland is set down at only 57,512 but injustice is done her, the Free Church is allotted 65,807, and other Presbyterians the large number of 80,894. Thus collectively, the Presbyterian body numbers, even on the showing of the Census, 201,148. As regards our body, we number many more, and the Census is quite unreliable. For instance in Hamilton, where our people have just erected a large church, we are assigned no people, in London the return is the same, in Bytown, but 198, in the County of York, none, though there are said to be 9159 other Presbyterians. He particularized various other instances, and then referred to Lower Canada, where the Census was ridiculously faulty. There the total population is set down at 790,621, and the distribution thus Church of Rome, 746,866, Church of England, 48,402; Church of Scotland with 16 settled ministers, but 4017; the Free Church only 267 in all Lower Canada, and other Presbyterians 29,221. It was useless to criticize this return; it was sufficient to say that in Montreal we are assigned no adherents though in that city we have two large congregations, and in Quebec and Montreal we have more people than are assigned to us in all Lower Canada. In Gaspe we are assigned but 10.

In Huntingdon none, and so elsewhere. In fact the whole Census is erroneous, as regards the Presbyterian bodies. It ought to be remedied, and he would propose that a remonstrance should be prepared and presented to the executive and that it should also be suggested that distinct headings should be assigned to each of the three bodies he had named, and instructions given to the enumerators to assign Presbyterians to the proper heading. He believed that the frequent answer would be I am a Presbyterian and thence a portion of the inaccuracies may have arisen. Still an effort should be made to remedy the evil, and he would therefore move that

An Address of the Synod be forthwith prepared and transmitted to the Governor in Council, representing the said injustice, particularizing instances of the same, and suggesting that, in the future Census and Schedules, three columns should be assigned to the three leading Presbyterian Churches in this Province by name, and special instructions given to the Enumerator, with regard to the proper distribution therein of persons describing themselves as Presbyterians.

The motion was adopted and a committee appointed to prepare a remonstrance to the Executive.

#### LAY ASSOCIATION.

An address was presented from this body and suggesting the formation of a Provincial Church Society for the purpose of Church extension and Home Missions, &c., and bringing under the notice of the Synod the publication of the *Juvenile Presbyterian*.

Dr. GEORGE thought the Lay Association deserved credit, it had done much good. The *Presbyterian* had been of much service to the Church. No religious body can now-a-days keep its position without the aid of the press. The *Presbyterian* had done good service, and he could not but express the thanks of the College for its steady aid. We need the assistance of efficient laymen. If we had a body of wise, earnest, pious laymen, in each of our cities, the whole aspect of our Church might be changed.

On motion of Mr. McKid, seconded by Mr. Robb, the thanks of the Synod were given to the Association for its past exertions and present suggestions for the good of the Church, and the publication of the *Juvenile Presbyterian* was cordially approved.

#### DELEGATE FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

Mr. SNODGRASS, of Charlottetown Prince Edward Island, appeared and took his seat. On being introduced to the Moderator, he said, Fathers and brethren, I am truly grateful for the opportunity of meeting so many of my brethren in the ministry. I shall take part in the deliberations to the best of my ability.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR SABBATH.

Dr Brooke, Morning Service  
Mr. Snodgrass, Afternoon,  
Mr. James Bain, Evening,

Were severally appointed to preach in St. Andrew's Church, Kingston.

Friday, 30th May, 1856.

The Synod was opened with reading of the Scriptures, praise and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Thompson.

The Report of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners was read.

72 congregations, it appeared from it, had availed themselves of the Manse and Glebe Fund 14 had not yet done so, though 4 of these

had arranged to do so. A balance of £1100 remained in their hands, with regard to which they sought advice.

The Report of the Commutation Commissioners was also given in and read, detailing their exertions, and exhibiting the state of the Fund. But, unless it was supplemented, they would be unable to pay the present salaries. They recommended that an appeal should be made to the people, and that the balance in the hands of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners should be added to the Fund.

A long and interesting debate ensued with regard to the matter, which we regret that owing to the indisposition of the reporter at the time, we are unable to report. But the result was a recommendation from the Synod that the balance in the hands of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners should be added to the Commutation Fund, henceforth to be known as “the Temporalities Fund,”—and that an appeal should be made to the Laity for its support and the extension of the Fund, to enable it to afford a salary to new ministers, which to the extent of £100 per annum it was resolved should be done.

It was also moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Neilson, and agreed to, that the Rev. Hugh Urquhart, Cornwall, John Young, Esq., Hamilton, John Cameron Esq., Toronto, Francis W. Harper, Esq., Kingston, and Thomas Paton, Esq., Montreal be added to the present Board of Commutation Commissioners and that the Board shall be designated “the Board for the management of the Temporalities Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.”

[Concluded in our next.]

#### Report of Colonial Committee to the General Assembly.

“Canada.—The accounts from Queen's College, Kingston, continue to be very satisfactory. In consequence of a purchase made by the trustees, of buildings and adjoining ground, extending to about six acres, on an elevated and healthy situation, they incurred a debt of £6000 currency, to be paid by annual instalments. During the summer of 1854, the Professors in Queen's College visited most of the congregations connected with the Church throughout the province, to explain to them the nature and working of the Institution, and to solicit subscriptions to meet the instalments as they fall due. Since this appeal was made, the sum of £1740 has been transmitted in aid of the Building Fund. More than £20000 was still required in order to liquidate the debt, but the trustees entertained the confident hope that the necessary sum would, ere long, be contributed. From the annual statement received by the committee from the trustees, it appears that there has been an increase in the number of matriculated students in the faculties of art and theology. The whole number in these departments is 40, of whom 10 are in the Divinity Hall, and in all 23 are studying for the ministry. Last year a medical faculty had been established in connection with the college, and there were attending it 23 students, a greater number than had attended any other medical school in the province, during its first session, and during the past session, the number of medical students had increased to 47. In the preparatory or College School, there were 66 pupils, making the whole number receiving instruction in connection with Queen's College 153, and showing a very considerable increase over any previous year.

“In regard to the vexed question of clergy

receives, the trustees say it is now completely and for ever set at rest, and though the Church has been deprived of her just rights, yet such a provision has been made by the commutation money, that for some time at least, all ministers settled will obtain the same and from the funds of the Church as before. The trustees entertain the hope that, by the blessing of God, the college may prosper, and the number of juvenile students greatly increase, though they do not expect to supply the wants of a population increasing so rapidly, and they earnestly solicit the attention of your Committee to the great scarcity of ministers for the vacant congregations in the province.

The Committee have continued the benefit of bursaries to two students of £10 each, and to another of £15, to enable them to prosecute their studies for the ministry.

The Committee had sent out the Rev. J. Ogilvie to Montreal. Mr. Ogilvie having caught fever on the passage, died before the vessel reached Quebec.

The Committee also sent out to Montreal the Rev. Peter McVicar, who has received a call from the members of the church at Martintown, in the Presbytery of Glengarry, and his ordination was fixed to take place on the 23d April.

The Committee also sent out the Rev. Alexander Buchanan, and have since learned that his services have been of great value to the Presby.

The Committee adverted to the loss sustained by the removal of several ministers by death in the Presbytery of Glengarry and other districts. As yet, the Committee have been unable to send out any to supply the vacancies, several of whom are in Gaelic congregations.

*New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Cape Breton.*—The demands of missionaries and ministers have been great.

The missionary was sent out in autumn to the congregation worshipping at Moncton, in the Presbytery of Miramichi, viz., the Rev. William Murray, who was well received, and the Committee have received very satisfactory accounts from the Presbytery of the manner in which he has discharged his duties.

From Prince Edward Island very urgent applications have been repeatedly received during the year for an additional supply of missionaries and ministers. The population in Prince Edward Island alone, adhering to the Church of Scotland, according to the last census, numbers upwards of 10,000.

The Rev. Mr. Spiott of Halifax, visited the University seats, and addressed the divinity students, with the view of enabling some of them at least to consider whether they would devote themselves, after receiving license, to the missionary work in the colonies. Mr. Spiott accordingly did so, and the Committee are reason to think that, ere long, the best results may be expected, by a number of divinity students coming forward to undertake the work. The Committee have appointed the Rev. Thos. Duane as a missionary to Prince Edward Island, giving him the usual guarantee of £150 for three years, with a grant for out-of-pocket passage-money.

The Committee have much pleasure in stating that the Presbytery of Pictou have sent a remittance of £25 towards the expense of the young men sent to this country to be educated for the ministry. The Presbytery of St. John, New Brunswick, also transmitted £60 towards the expense of educating the young men at the University of Edinburgh sent from that quarter.

The Committee had granted £60 to the

McLennan's Mountain, and £100 to St. Andrew's Church, Halifax.

The Committee had also brought under their notice an overture and appeal from the Synod of Nova Scotia for a deputation of Gaelic ministers, in consequence of the great want of spiritual labourers, there being no fewer than ten large congregations vacant in the county of Pictou, besides great multitudes in Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island, firmly attached to the Church of Scotland, but wholly destitute of religious ordinances. The Committee left the subject to the determination of the General Assembly.

*British Guiana.*—The Committee regret to announce the death of the Rev. Francis Forbes, of St. Luke's, Demerara, which happened a short time ago. They are taking steps for the appointment of another.

The Committee reported last year that the Rev. Dr. Struthers was in this country on leave of absence, and that his duties were performed by the Rev. A. D. Murray. Dr. Struthers is still here in bad health.

The Committee continue to receive from Mr. McKinnison, Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Bell, and others, satisfactory accounts of their labors.

*New Zealand.*—The Committee have nothing of any interest to report in regard to Mr. Kirton's services, but continue to receive of them favorable accounts.

*Jamaica.*—The committee had obtained the services of Mr. Milne, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Aberdeen, to undertake the academic department at Jamaica, and to act as Mr. Radcliffe's assis. Mr. Milne was ordained by the Presbytery of Aberdeen before he left; and since his arrival in the colony, has relieved Mr. Radcliffe of some of the duties which devolved upon him.

*Grenada.*—The Committee have received from Mr. Beaton very satisfactory accounts of his proceedings.

*Ceylon.*—The Committee continue to receive the most favorable accounts of the ministrations of the Rev. J. McBean, and of his active service in the cause of the Church. Mr. McBean had communicated to the Committee the circumstances connected with the Scotch Church at Kandy, which led them at one time to fear that an attempt would be made to appoint a minister not belonging to the Church of Scotland to that station. This difficulty had, however, been obviated, and the Rev. H. Smith, of Melville Church, Montrose, having been appointed, on the recommendation of the Committee, by the Secretary of State. The salary given is £150 a year, with a house, and an allowance as outfit and passage money, of £150.

*Mauritius.*—The Rev. P. Beaton still continues to labour here. The Building Committee of the Church at the Mauritius having made an urgent application for a further grant towards the expense of finishing the same, Captain Ireland, a zealous friend of the Church, has subscribed £150 towards the building, and given, in addition, a bell, the expense of which was about £90. The Committee made a grant of £400. It appears that the Indian population in the Mauritius number 130,000, and no provision has ever been made, either by the Government or otherwise, to convey to the children the elements of education, although the subject has been repeatedly brought under the notice of the local government. The children under fourteen years of age, according to the census of 1851, number 10,500, and there numbers now exceed 13,000, without any prospect whatever of their obtaining education. Your Committee were asked to give an annual

grant of £400 for religious and educational purposes to the Indians in the Mauritius, but did not consider themselves warranted in making any grant.

*Australia.*—Reference was made, in the Report of last year, to a contemplated union among the different Presbyterian bodies for the establishment of an Independent Presbyterian Church in Australia, having no denominational connection with any Church in the United Kingdom. The Committee throughout the whole of the past year, have experienced much painful anxiety on this subject. Reports appeared in the newspapers transmitted to this country of a nature calculated to increase that anxiety, and not having any authentic information either way, the Committee resolved that they would not be justified in sending out additional ministers, until they should receive satisfactory intelligence of the real state of matters. From a communication made to your Committee a few days ago, by the Rev. W. K. Smythe who had laboured long and successfully as a minister of the Church in Australia, and who is at present in this country on leave of absence, your Committee have been relieved of their anxiety. They have great pleasure in reporting that the Synod of New South Wales are firmly attached to the Church of Scotland, and that at a late meeting of that body, they adopted a resolution to the effect, that while they would always be happy to maintain friendly relations with other Christian bodies, they did not feel called upon to move farther on the subject of a union.

There are excellent openings at Stroud, Dungog, Maxwellbrook, and Paterson, for ministers. The foundation stone of a church has been recently laid at Stroud, and a similar erection is about to be commenced at Dungog.

The accounts of the Fund showed the following results—Collections and contributions from 860 parishes and chapels, £2624, 10s. 6d.; associations, £146, 10s. 3d.; from individuals, £60, 1s. 11d.; legacies, £81, 7s. 8d.; lay associations, £220, 19s.; interest, £199, 9s. 5d. Total, £3332, 18s. 9d. There were, besides, £8236, 7s. 14d. at the credit of the Committee.

### Ordination and Induction at Martintown.

The readers of this periodical, in common with the members of our Church throughout the Province, sympathized deeply with the people of Glengarry, when they were called upon to endure so many visitations of Providence as one after another of their ministers were called to their rest. We rejoice when we hear that any of these vacancies are being filled, and we therefore regret that no one connected with the Presbytery of Glengarry had informed us that a watchman had been set over the flock at Martintown. We avail ourselves of the opportunity, now afforded, of calling upon Clerks of Presbyteries and others to furnish us from time to time with notices of inductions, &c. Such matters interest the whole Church, and we should not be left to glean our information as best we can. If this paper is deemed of service to the Church, we should be aided in our labours, for it has ere now been found a hard task "to make bricks without straw." Trusting that these remarks will serve the end we design to effect by them, we have pleasure in stating that we have learned on inquiry that on the 23rd day of April last the Presbytery of Glengarry met at Martintown for the purpose of proceeding to the ordination and induction

of the Rev. Peter McVicar to the pastoral charge there. The services were opened by the Rev. A. Matheson, D D., of Montreal, at the request of the Presbytery, with reading of the Scriptures and prayer. Thereafter the moderator, the Rev. Hugh Urquhart, of Cornwall, preached a faithful and an appropriate discourse, and after the conclusion of the sermon, and the usual questions having been put and satisfactorily answered, the Presbytery proceeded to the ordination and thereafter to the induction of Mr. McVicar. Dr. Matheson addressed the pastor and the Rev. Mr. Dobie, of Osnabruck, the people. The religious services of the day were concluded in Gaelic with prayer and the benediction by the Rev. Mr. McPherson, of Lancaster. The attendance was large, and the whole of the solemn services attending this interesting event were conducted with much impressiveness and earnestness. The newly settled pastor received from his people a cordial greeting, and we trust that the connection, now so happily formed, may long subsist and result in much spiritual good. We are glad to learn that there is every prospect that others of the vacancies among our attached congregations in Glengarry will soon be filled, and we are sure that the whole Church will rejoice with them at the prospect, and still more at its realization.

#### Congregation of London, C. W.

At a Meeting of the Presbyterian Congregation in connection with the Church of Scotland, London, C. W., held 21st April, the Rev. James McEwan, A. M., was presented with a very handsome light Carriage, fitted for either one or two horses, in view of services rendered to the Congregation since becoming vacant by the translation of the Rev. John Skinner, D D., to the united charge of Nelson and Waterdown. An address was read, suitable to the occasion and expressive of the Congregation's friendship and esteem.

Mr. McEwan in reply made a few appropriate remarks, expressing his heartfelt gratitude and readiness to contribute whatever services he might be able to afford while the congregation remained in its present circumstances, and concluded by calling on the people to pray the Lord of the harvest that He would send a labourer into this corner of His vineyard.—*Comm.*

#### Congregation of Toronto.

☞ We understand that the Congregation of St. Andrew's Church in this city have, as a mark of their esteem, presented the Rev. Dr. Barclay; their minister, with a purse containing one-hundred pounds, on the occasion of his departure on a voyage to Scotland, his native country, for the benefit of his health, which, we regret to learn, has for some time past been much impaired.—*Toronto Paper.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS

##### The Earthly and Heavenly Parent.

When God calls himself a Father, and desires—as the very sum and substance of religion—that we should be to Him as “sons

and daughters,” “children of God,” He thereby intends us to learn something of the nature of the relationship subsisting between ourselves and our children. And so, upon the other hand, He would have parents learn how they should educate their children for heaven, by knowing how He educates themselves. Thus the true idea of Home Education is, to be in all things to our children as like as possible to what God is to us,—to be reflections of Him in the family,—to be living witnesses for Him,—to be, in one word *godly* or *godlike* parents.

In some respects a parent cannot help being like God. He is so by nature, for what is so vivid a picture of God the Creator, Preserver, Provider, Comforter of His family, than the earthly parent, to whom the child owes its being, who upholds and guides its tottering steps in infancy; supplies its daily returning wants, dries its tears, and yearns over it with a love which the child cannot fathom, and, for a time, but feebly comprehend, and very imperfectly return. Yet this may be called involuntary on the part of the parent, or at least, *instinctive*, inasmuch as he does not in all this necessarily think of God at all, or desire to please Him, or to be like Him; but reflects His image as unconsciously as the beasts that perish, in their love for their young, reflect the glory of Him who created them with instincts so tender and beautiful. But when a parent *knows* God,—when he is himself a true child, in whose heart the spirit of adoption has kindled the holy flame of confidence and love, by which he can look up, saying: “Abba, Father!”—when he is “acquainted” with the *character* of that God, and the way in which He is educating himself for eternity,—when he has truly apprehended in some measure, the chief lessons which God imparts in His school by precept and promise, by warning and encouragement, by tender mercies and severe chastisements, by long-suffering patience or sudden inflictions,—and all to “train” himself up in the way he should go,—then has he so far discovered the true secret of the education which he should give his own child. The nearer he approaches that model of heavenly perfection, the more perfect will his home education in the family become, for the children will thus naturally rise from knowing the earthly to knowing the heavenly parent. The one will be a reflection of the other, comparatively dim, no doubt, but still one of the truest on earth! The parent is a ladder, many a step of which will be broken, but still by it the child is enabled to climb upward. The parent is the earthly pole around which it twines its early affections, and fastens its weak tendrils, and though it is perishing, and of itself unfit to be a permanent support, it may nevertheless lead the young plant towards heaven, and be its strength and stay until it firmly reaches, and for ever clings to the “Rock of Ages!”—*MacLeod's Home School.*

##### A Good Example.

MUNIFICENT PRESENT TO REV. MR. JENNINGS.

On Tuesday even last, the United Presbyterian Congregation under the charge of the Rev. John Jennings, met together for the purpose of formally presenting their pastor the deed of a house which they have lately purchased for him. Mr. Robertson, senior elder, occupied the chair. Letters of apology for absence were read from Rev. Dr. Burns, Rev. Mr. Reid, Rev. Professor Young, Rev. Mr.

Marling, and others. The chief speakers were the Rev. Dr. Willis, Rev. Dr. Lillie, Rev. Dr. Barclay, Rev. Mr. Geikie, and Rev. Mr. Barras, all of whom made very appropriate reference to the munificence which the congregation had shown to their much esteemed minister.

The house, thus handsomely given is situated on Jarvis street, below Shuter street. It is large and commodious, and very elegantly finished. It was bought a bargain at £2000 and presented without encumbrance as a free gift to Mr. Jennings. Such munificence is rare among congregations anywhere, and its presentation is alike creditable to the donors and to the reverend gentleman who has drawn forth so remarkable an expression of esteem.—*Toronto Colonist.*

## THE MONTHLY RECORD.

AUGUST, 1856.

### Increasing Liberality of the Church

ONE of the most hopeful signs of the times and most encouraging prospects for the future prosperity of the Church, is the increasing liberality of her members. Forty or fifty or even twenty years ago the contributions of wealthy and pious persons, compared with their ability, were on the most scanty and niggardly scale: a few shillings, perhaps a pound, to assist our largest National Societies. Now it is no uncommon occurrence to find ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred pounds subscribed by the same individuals or their descendants to these self-same Institutions. From the annual reports of the Bible and principal Missionary Societies in England for the present year, we learn the very gratifying fact that their incomes, large as they formerly were, have all been greatly increased, in some societies £7000 to £8000, and in the London Missionary Society more than £22000. This result is the more remarkable and encouraging, when we recollect that the past year found the nation engaged in a bloody and expensive war, and loaded with a heavy burden of taxation.

We are happy also to find our own National church participating largely in this increased liberality. We have the annual general extracts of the contributions, collections, donations, &c. to the different schemes of the Church for the last six years, now before us, showing a steady and latterly a very rapid increase in all her educational and Missionary contributions. The gross sums collected for 1851 and 1852, were only a little more than £25,000; for 1853, £24,700; for 1854, £40,000; for 1855, £64,000. This year we learn from the July number of the Home and Foreign Record, that the voluntary offerings of the friends of the Church of Scotland, amount to £76,777 11s. 10d. Of this liberal sum £17,148 8s. has been collected in the Parish Churches; £2,975 5s. 3d. by Associations; £53,097 7s. 4d. in individual subscriptions and donations; and £620 5s. in legacies. Examining the amount of funds at the disposal of the different committees for carrying out their beneficent operations for the past year, we find that the Education committee

had a Revenue of £9,659 6s. 3d.; the India Mission committee £7153 12s. 9d.; the Home Mission committee £8,892 10s. 2d.; the Colonial committee £11,569 5s. 10d.; the Jews Conversion committee £5,995 15s. 1d.; and the Endowment committee £14,403 17s. 6d. We record these important facts attested by the General Auditor and Accountant for the Church, not certainly in a vainglorious and arrogant spirit, but with sincere and ardent gratitude to the giver of all good. Much as has already been done, and is now doing by our beloved Church for the intellectual and spiritual improvement of her people at home, in the Colonies, and in foreign countries, much yet remains to be accomplished. A beginning has been made for evangelizing the world in our own and other churches; may the work be successfully carried on till all nations call the Saviour blessed.

Meeting of the Synod of Nova Scotia.

The Synod of our Church commenced its meetings this year in St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, on Thursday the third day of last month. Divine service was conducted by the Rev. John Martin, of St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, the retiring Moderator, who preached a very suitable discourse from Exh. ch. iii, v. 5, "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ."

The meeting having been constituted, the clerk produced the roll of all the ministers bearing charges within the bounds of the Synod, which was read. The elders present produced their commissions from their respective sessions. Correspondents from other Synods having been called there was produced a commission from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, in favour of the Rev. Professor George, D. D. of Queen's College, Kingston, and a commission from the Synod of New Brunswick in connection with the Church of Scotland, in favour of the Rev. Wm. Henderson, A.M. of St. James' Church, Newcastle, Miramichi, each having been read were sustained. The following sat down as members of Court—

Rev. William Snodgrass, Rev. Alexander Mackay, Rev. John Martin, Rev. Alexander Macgillivray, Rev. Andrew W. Herdman, Rev. Allan Pollok, Rev. Alexander Maclean, Rev. James George, D. D. and Rev. Thomas Henderson, Ministers; Messrs. James Thomson, William Macdonald, William Gordon, Robert Cullen and Roderick Maclellan, Elders.

A letter of apology from the Rev. John Martin, Halifax, for absence from this meeting was read and sustained. The clerk was directed to write the Rev. Francis Nicol on his continued non-attendance.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR.

The Rev. Andrew W. Herdman was unanimously chosen Moderator for the en-

uing year. Mr. Martin, before vacating the chair, said, he felt that the Synod had conferred upon him a very high honor when they elected him Moderator for the second time. During his occupancy of this position, for the last year, he had endeavoured to discharge his duty to the best of his ability and he now craved the indulgence of the Court towards his imperfections. He referred to certain cheering and encouraging tokens, which convinced him that the Church of Scotland is now thoroughly aroused and alive to the interests of these Colonies. He alluded more especially to the appointment of Dr. Fowler to the Conventership of the General Assembly's Committee on Colonial Churches. He was sure that gentleman would discharge his duty with fidelity; and he had this decided advantage, that he had travelled in these Provinces and knew every vacancy within our bounds. Hoping that the God of Jacob, who had been with us so long would not now leave us or forsake us, he retired from the chair.

Mr. Herdman, on taking the chair spoke as follows:—

*Fathers and Brethren*.—Your indulgence has placed me in this chair, and I have to request that you would extend it to my conduct in this comparatively new and untried position. This is the third session of our Synod, but that is not all its history. Twenty years ago this court consisted of four Presbyteries and upwards of twenty ministers, some of whom were men of first-rate ability and influence. Our day of small things yet continues, and since last meeting we have to deplore the withdrawal of one efficient member, and the absence, at this meeting, of another—great losses in a small body. Still their want is temporarily supplied by delegates from Canada and New Brunswick, who will interest and instruct our meetings.

Fathers and brethren,—Important business is to come before us: let no time be lost in making speeches. I trust that mutual forbearance and love will characterize our proceedings. We are asked to unite with others, but what is the value of such union compared with that of the brethren? "It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that run down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments: as the dew of Hermon and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion." May its spirit be largely diffused among the members, and remember that the talents of ministers are for the service of the Church. Whosoever is greatest among you therefore, let him be your minister, for so has the Lord commanded. May this session be none of the least interesting and useful, and may the blessing of God overrule all our proceedings for the good of his Son's Church and the glory of his name.

The moderator, on motion made by Mr. Pollok and unanimously agreed to, reniered to the ex-moderator, the thanks of the Synod

for his able conduct in the chair and the excellent sermon delivered by him this day—which was suitably acknowledged by Mr. Martin.

COMMITTEES.

The following Committees were then appointed with instructions as to place and time of meeting:—

Messrs. Martin, Mackay, Maclean and Gordon, a committee to revise the Records of the Presbyteries of Pictou and Prince Edward Island which were laid on the table.

Dr. George, Messrs. Macgillivray and Thomson, with the moderator and clerk, ex-officio, a committee on Overtures.

Messrs. Henderson, Pollok and Macdonald, a committee on Bills, References and Appeals.

The members of the Presbytery of Pictou, a committee to make arrangements for the supply of pulpits on Sabbath first and to report the same to the Synod at half-past three. At half-past three this committee reported the following arrangements:

The Rev. Prof. George to preach at Maclean's Mountain	
Rev. Wm. Henderson, "	St. Michaels
Rev. Alex. Mackay, "	Boyershall
Rev. Wm. Snodgrass, "	New Glasgow
Rev. John Martin, "	Pictou
Rev. Allan Pollok, "	West Branch, P. E.
Rev. Andrew Herdman, "	Cape John

It was understood that Mr. Macgillivray and Mr. Maclean were to preach in Gaelic to their own congregations.

The minutes of the closing sederunt of last year were read, approved of, and ordered to be engrossed; and the Synod then entered upon matters in the minutes of last annual meeting.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER PRESBYTERIAN BODIES.

A letter from the Rev. John Scott was read, intimating that, in consequence of not being able to obtain a full meeting of the Committee on Co-operation, he had no report to submit to the Synod from the said Committee, and enclosing (1st) a letter from the Rev. James Ross, Convener of the Committee of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, and (2nd) an attested copy of the minutes of the joint meeting of the Committees on Co-operation. These documents having been read, it was moved by Mr. Mackay, seconded by Dr. George, and unanimously agreed to,—that the Synod commend the diligence of their Committee, and re-appoint the same, adding the Moderator, substituting Mr. Gordon for Dr. Avery, who is not a member of court this year, and appointing the Moderator to be Convener for the sake of convenience.

CLAIMS ON SYNOD FUND.

Messrs. Maclean, Martin, Mackay, and Gordon were appointed a committee to receive and report on all claims upon the Synod Fund—and all claims were required to be lodged in the hands of this committee as soon as possible.

## APPEAL TO STUDENTS OF DIVINITY.

From statements made by several members of the Committee appointed last year to draw up and despatch an appeal to Students of Divinity in the several Universities of Scotland, with the view of directing their attention to the destitute state of these Colonies and of ultimately securing the services of some of them, it appeared that some misunderstanding as to the Convener-ship of said committee prevailed among the members, and that this prevented the instructions of the Synod from being carried out. The following committee was named, with instructions to attend to the matter this year,—Messrs. Maclean, Pollok, Macgillivray, and Cullen—Mr. Maclean to be Convener.

## VACANCIES.

The clerk reported that he fulfilled the instructions of the Synod as contained in their deliverance on the Overture *ancient vacancies*.

## SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS—ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, HALIFAX.

The clerk read correspondence on the appointment of Mr. Martin to be superintendent of Missions and a deliverance of the Colonial Committee on the application made for a salary in connection with the office. This deliverance was to the effect that the Colonial Committee were prepared to guarantee one hundred pounds sterling yearly out of their funds as collected from year to year, to the Rev. John Martin as Superintendent, and in consideration of the valuable services rendered by him, throughout a period of thirty-four years, to the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia. These papers having been read and the matter fully discussed, it was moved by Dr. George, seconded by Mr. Mackay, and unanimously agreed to—That the Synod highly approve of the conduct of the clerk in the whole of this matter, order a meeting of the Presbytery of Halifax, with the Rev. Allan Pollok as an associate member, to be held in St. Matthew's Church, Halifax, on Wednesday the 16th inst. at 11 o'clock, a. m. and instruct the said Presbytery to proceed in this matter according to the rules and practice of the Church. Detailed instructions as to the course to be pursued were given to Mr. Pollok and ordered to be kept *in retentis*.

## APPOINTMENTS FOR TO-MORROW.

The Presbytery of Pictou was, on application permitted to meet in St. Andrew's Church, to-morrow at 2 o'clock, p. m.

The Synod having learned that the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia had appointed a deputation to meet this Synod, and that it would be accommodating said deputation if the court would receive them to-morrow forenoon—it was agreed to accordingly.

Dr. George and Mr. Macgillivray were appointed to conduct the devotional exercises to-morrow morning.

The Synod then adjourned to meet in this

place, to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, a. m. of which public intimation was made and this sederunt closed with prayer.

FRIDAY 4th JULY, 1856.

The Synod met this morning according to adjournment of yesterday, after devotional exercises conducted by Dr. George and Mr. McGillivray, and was constituted by the Moderator. The roll was called. Sederunt as before. Messrs. Henderson and Pollok were appointed to conduct the devotional exercises tomorrow morning. The minutes of last Sederunt were read and, after corrections, sustained.

## PUBLIC MEETING.

The propriety of holding a public meeting of the friends of the Church in Pictou, early next week, having been agreed to, the Presbytery of Pictou was instructed to make arrangements for the same at their meeting to be held to day, and to report to the Synod to-morrow morning.

The minutes of last year were then resumed.

## GAELIC DEPUTATION.

Mr. Herdman, Convener of the Committee on Gaelic Deputations, reported that he fulfilled the instructions of the Synod in reference to this matter. It was known to the Court, that the appeal drawn up by the Committee and despatched to the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland had reached its destination, and had been published in the Home and Foreign Missionary Record. The clerk produced and read an extract minute of the proceedings of the Colonial Committee, containing a deliverance on this subject, to the effect that the Committee delayed in the meantime, taking any step with a view to sending out a deputation, but gave instructions to the Secretary to make renewed efforts by advertising in seven Scottish Newspapers, and communicating with the Professors of divinity in Glasgow and Aberdeen and with Dr. McLeod of Glasgow, with a view to securing the services of Licentiate and Probationers, who might be willing to come to these Provinces.

The Synod having had before them the deliverance of the Colonial Committee on the application made to them for security of salary to Mr. Martin, guaranteeing the sum of one hundred pounds sterling out of their funds as collected from year to year, to be enjoyed by him as superintendent of missions, and in consideration of his past services to the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, and also their deliverance on the application of the Synod for a Gaelic deputation, the following minute was agreed to. The Synod receives with extreme satisfaction and deep gratitude these two deliverances of the Colonial Committee, and accepts them as a proof of the zeal and interest which the Committee are disposed to manifest in the affairs of the church in this quarter, and the bountiful aid they are willing to afford

for the promotion of our prosperity. The clerk was instructed to transmit an extract of this minute to the Secretary of the Colonial Committee, with the request that it be laid before the said Committee without delay.

## HOME MISSION FUND.

The subject of the Home Mission Fund was next taken up and, no statement having been transmitted to the Synod by either the Treasurer of the Synod Fund or the Treasurer of the Home Mission Fund the Synod ordered a telegraphic despatch to be sent to each of the Treasurers requesting them to send statements by the mail to-morrow morning. The message was immediately despatched.

## DEPUTATION FROM THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.

A deputation from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia was announced to be in waiting, and was immediately introduced to the court. The deputation consisted of the Rev. James Ross, and the Rev. James Bayne. They delivered addresses of great interest and expressed the most kindly and Christian feelings towards the court. A cordial reception was given them and many members reciprocated these sentiments in the strongest terms. A vote of thanks was, on motion, passed unanimously, tendered by the deputation to the Moderator, and by them suitably acknowledged. Mr. Martin was called upon to engage in prayer before the deputation withdrew. We will endeavour in our next number to give a full account of this most interesting and profitable interview.

DISSENT FROM DELIVERANCE OF SYNOD *in re* MACAULEY.

The deliverance to which the Synod came last year in this case having been read, Mr. Herdman intimated that he had a petition to submit to the Court, praying that a dissent which he understood himself to have lodged, but which, from some cause or other did not appear in the minutes, might be recorded. It was moved by Mr. Snodgrass and seconded by Mr. Cullen—That the petition of Mr. Herdman be referred to the committee on bills, references, and appeals. It was moved, in amendment, by Mr. Pollok and seconded by Mr. Henderson—That Mr. Herdman's petition be read and entered upon now. The vote was taken and the amendment declared to be carried by a majority of ten to two. The petition was then read and entered upon, and, after explanations by Mr. Herdman and Mr. Snodgrass, the matter was disposed of *in nem. con.* The Court having heard the petition of Mr. Herdman, setting forth that a dissent which he understood himself have taken last year from the deliverance in the case of Macauley, was through some mistake not recorded in the minutes, in consideration of the scruples of conscience by Mr. Herdman in this matter, dissenting that, without throwing any blame upon



clerk, it be recorded in the Minutes of Synod that such intended dissent was virtually made, and it is hereby recorded accordingly.

The clerk read a statement attested by the Rev. Alexander Mackid, of the result of his interview with Miss E. Macauley, setting forth that he was under the necessity of terminating the interview, without being able to effect any favorable impression upon her mind. The document was ordered to be kept *in retentis*.

**MISSIONARY VISIT TO CAPE BRETON.**

Mr. Pollok reported that the Presbytery of Pictou sent Mr. McLean to visit Cape Breton last Autumn, in accordance with the instructions of the Synod. Mr. McLean reported that he proceeded to Cape Breton, in the month of October last; that he visited the localities in which, he was led to understand, are most of the adherents of the Church, that he preached several times and dispensed the ordinance of baptism; that in consequence of the shortness of his visit—being only two Sabbaths on the Island—he could not fully ascertain the state of matters in connection with the Church; that he believed, however, that there was a possibility of forming two or three congregations, should ministers be at the disposal of the Church and funds to aid in supporting them for a number of years. The Synod having heard the report left the matter in the hands of the Presbytery of Pictou, with power to send one of their number to visit the Island again, should they find their circumstances to admit of such a visit being made.

**ST. JAMES' CHURCH, DARTMOUTH.**

The clerk reported that he fulfilled the instructions of the Synod, contained in the deliberance on the reference ancient St. James' Church, Dartmouth. Mr. Martin reported that nothing had been done in the matter by the Presbytery of Halifax. The Synod enjoined the Presbytery of Halifax to fill that part of the instructions of last year, which requires them to grant permission to the Free Church congregation, under present circumstances, to occupy the church for the worship of God at all such times as it is not required by this church.

**RECORDS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.**

Mr. Martin reported that the Presbytery of Halifax is now in possession of a certified copy of the Records of the Presbytery from its constitution down to the period of the secession of 1843.

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH SYNOD OF CANADA.**

Mr. Snodgrass reported by certificate from the clerk of the Synod of Canada and verbally, that he had fulfilled his appointment as correspondent with the said Synod and addressed the Court at some length on his mission. After which the Synod adjourned to meet this place to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, which public intimation was made and this sederunt was closed with prayer.

SATURDAY, 5th July, 1856.

The Synod met this day pursuant to ad

journalment of yesterday, after devotional exercises conducted by Messrs. Henderson and Pollok, and was constituted by the moderator. The roll was called. Sederunt as before. The minutes of last sederunt were read and, after corrections, sustained. Messrs. McLean and McKay were appointed to conduct the devotional exercises. The minutes of last year's meeting were resumed.

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE SYNOD OF NEW BRUNSWICK.**

Mr. Martin reported and Mr. Henderson certified that Mr. Sprott fulfilled his appointment as correspondent with the Synod of New Brunswick in connection with the Church of Scotland. Mr. Henderson spoke in high terms of the value and advantage of Mr. Sprott's correspondence, and said that a strong and earnest desire was left upon the minds of the members of the Synod of New Brunswick that the correspondence should be continued from year to year.

**ADDRESS TO THE LIET. GOVERNOR.**

Mr. Snodgrass reported that the deputation appointed to wait upon His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, with the address of the Synod agreed upon last year, fulfilled their appointment shortly after the closing of the Synod and were graciously received. The reply of his excellency was read and ordered to be engrossed.

The minutes of the special meeting of Synod held at Pictou on the 7th of May last were then read, sustained, and ordered to be engrossed. Mr. Snodgrass reported that he fulfilled the instructions contained therein.

**PUBLIC MEETING.**

Mr. Pollok reported that the Presbytery of Pictou had met and agreed that the public meeting, for which they were instructed to make arrangements, should be held in St. Andrew's Church on Monday, at 2 o'clock—that hour being fixed to suit the friends of the Church in the surrounding country. A draft programme of proceedings was read and agreed to, and all clergymen officiating to-morrow were enjoined to give intimation of the same.

**OVERTURES.**

Mr. Herdman reported that the Committee on Overtures met as instructed and that the following Overtures were received, which they agreed to submit:—

1st. Overture on the extension of the Young Men's Scheme, submitted by Mr. Pollok, 2nd. Overture on the connection of Churches with the Synod and on the duties and powers of Trustees or Managers— from the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island.

Leave of absence was, on request, granted Mr. Cullen, from the remaining sederunts of Synod.

After which the Synod adjourned to meet in this place on Monday forenoon, at 11 o'clock, of which public intimation was made and this sederunt was closed with prayer.

(To be continued in our next)

**Presbytery of Halifax**

A meeting of the Presbytery of Halifax, in connection with the Church of Scotland was held in St. Matthew's Church on Wednesday the 10th ult. The meeting was constituted by Mr. Martin, the moderator. The instruc-

tions of the Synod appointing this meeting to be held were produced and read, as also the Synod's authority for the Rev. Allan Pollok, Minister at New Glasgow, acting as an associate member at this meeting. Sederunt, Rev. John Martin, Rev. John Scott, Rev. Allan Pollok; Messrs. Allison and Thomson, Elders.

The Rev. John Scott was appointed moderator for the ensuing year and the Rev. Wm Snodgrass, being present, was appointed clerk of this meeting.

Mr. Thomas Duncan, a probationer of the Church of Scotland, lately arrived from Scotland, was introduced to the Court by the Rev. Allan Pollok. Mr. Duncan produced the following documents—an extract of his license by the Presbytery of Perth; a Presbyterial certificate from the Presbytery of Perth, within whose bounds he resided for the last year; and his appointment by the General Assembly's Colonial Committee as a Missionary to Prince Edward Island—all which were found to be highly satisfactory, and he was thereupon welcomed by the Court, as a probationer within the bounds, and recommended to proceed to Prince Edward Island with as little delay as possible.

A letter from the Rev. John Martin was read, resigning the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, which he had held for thirty five years, and which he now demitted in consequence of an arrangement of the Synod by which he is to be appointed Superintendent of Missions. On motion of Mr. Pollok seconded by Mr. Allison the Court unanimously agreed to accept of Mr. Martin's resignation. The Rev. John Scott was appointed to preach in St. Andrew's Church on the forenoon of Sabbath next and declare the pulpit of the said Church vacant. Mr. Martin was appointed to supply the pulpit of St. Andrew's in the meantime. The Presbytery, agreeably to the instructions of the Synod, formally appointed Mr. Martin to be Superintendent of Missions, and Mr. Snodgrass was instructed to notify the same to the Colonial Committee. The Presbytery then adjourned till the first Wednesday of October next.



[The Monthly Record]

**Examination of Pictou Academy.**

A liberal and enlightened system of education may well be regarded as one of the greatest blessings which any country can enjoy. At the present day, throughout Great Britain, the cause seems everywhere to be making great progress; and, by the advancing spirit of the age, the character of the training now received at the common schools, is, admittedly, superior to that of the instruction imparted even in the higher Academies, only a few years ago. In no department, perhaps, has greater improvement taken place than in the art of teaching, which is every day approaching nearer to its proper and legitimate rank as a profession. Nor are some of our colonies, though, at present, necessarily laboring under considerable disadvantages, very much behind the Mother Country in this respect. As an example of this, we would point to the condition of the



Pictou Academy, where, under its present able and efficient management, it is not too much to say that as sound, thorough, and complete a course of education may be received as in institutions of a like kind in any part of the United Kingdom. We consider that our friends in Pictou have every reason to congratulate themselves on possessing the services of two such excellent teachers as Messrs. Costley & Jack, the present masters of the institution. Both in the prime of life, with great experience in the work of teaching, as well as the highest qualifications for their respective departments, they cannot fail to advance the interests of the Academy to the highest pitch of perfection, and to exert a very favorable influence upon the standard of education in that quarter of the colony.

Friday the 27th of June being the day fixed for the yearly public examination of the Academy, the following gentlemen, among others, were present on the occasion, viz:—The Rev. Messrs. Elliott, Herdman, and Harper; A. P. Ross, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Management; P. Crerar, J. D. B. Fraser, D. Dickson, W. Gordon, and W. Mathieson, Esqrs. and J. McDonald. The examination in both departments was conducted simultaneously. The total number in attendance during the term was found to be about 120; the number in the English department, under Mr. Jack, being 80, and that in the classical and mathematical department, under Mr. Costley, 40. In the latter section, it may be proper to state, that the pupils receive instruction in Greek, Latin, French, Geometry, Trigonometry, Practical Mathematics, and the use of the Globes; and in the former, besides the more elementary branches, they are taught History, English Composition, Geography, and Arithmetic.

In all the above subjects, as the result of the examination clearly evinced, the scholars showed great proficiency. The readiness with which they answered questions in the different branches of study, clearly manifested the thorough training they had received from their respective teachers. In the classical department, the highest class read and translated with fluency a passage from the first Book of Virgil's *Aeneid*, which they also parsed and scanned very accurately, showing altogether the great care which had been taken in drilling them to a sound knowledge of the language. They also exhibited some acquaintance with the elements of Greek. In French, the pupils appear to be very well grounded, and to possess a correct pronunciation. In mathematics, the appearance was most creditable to the exertions of Mr. Costley; the boys acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of competent judges, who admired the promptness with which the different propositions were solved. In the English department again, the progress made by the various classes taught by Mr. Jack, was equally satisfactory, and well sustained the reputation which that gentleman has already won as an able, zealous, and

successful teacher of youth. In point of discipline and organization, the Academy appeared to the examiners to be in the highest state of efficiency. At the conclusion of the examination, Messrs. Ross and Mathieson spoke in the highest terms of commendation of both the masters of the Academy, whom they considered as having well and ably discharged their public duties, declaring that on no previous occasion had they ever witnessed a more creditable examination.

It would appear that it is not customary to distribute prizes at the annual examination of the Academy. But we would take the liberty to suggest, that a practice so widely prevalent, and which seems to have a decidedly beneficial effect in promoting emulation among youth, might be successfully introduced.

### St. James' Church, Charlottetown.

THE following documents, which have been transmitted to us for publication, speak for themselves, and need no comment from us. They express the mingled conflicting and excited emotions of the congregation of St. James' Church, Charlottetown, and their pastor, on the sudden and unexpected separation which has lately taken place. We sincerely trust that this congregation will be sustained by the goodness of God under this renewed bereavement which they have experienced, and that our brethren in the ministry will render them all the assistance in their power.

### JOINT ADDRESS OF THE KIRK SESSION AND TRUSTEES OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH, CHARLOTTETOWN.

TO THE REV. WILLIAM SNOODGRASS,—  
Rev. and Dear Sir,—The sacred tie which so lately bound us together, having been so recently formed, we naturally cherished the hope that it would have subsisted between us for many years to come; it was, therefore, with feelings of no ordinary regret, that we received the announcement that your pastoral connexion with the congregation of St. James' Church, had now terminated.

The circumstances under which you were led to form such a determination, as explained by you, we are very willing to believe, were of such a nature as to render your leaving us a matter of conscientious duty on your part.

Permit us, Rev. and Dear Sir, to assure you that it affords us much pleasure in bearing testimony to your unwearied zeal in the discharge of the duties of your high and honorable calling, as a Minister of Christ, from the time you undertook our spiritual superintendence until now, a period extending over three years and a-half, during which, it is but due to you to state, that you have at all times exerted yourself to the utmost to advance the prosperity of St. James' Church, and the spiritual welfare of its adherents.

We cannot allow you to depart without our earnest prayers for your welfare, both here and hereafter—in which all who have had the pleasure of your acquaintance will, we have good reason to believe, most cordially concur. And we flatter ourselves that, in the more extended sphere of usefulness which you are henceforth to occupy, you will sometimes think of those who loved you and wished you so well; and if it ever should be in your power, in the good providence of God, to re-visit this, the scene of your first ministerial connexion, we need scarcely tell you, that you will be re-

ceived with the same respect and kindly regard which, it is consolatory to reflect, have so uniformly characterized our intercourse. We now bid you, Rev. and Dear Sir, an affectionate and final farewell, and commend you to the God whom you serve.

J. MACKIESON,

On behalf of the Kirk Session.

H. D. MORPETH, Chairman,

On behalf of the Trustees.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., 1st July, 1856.

### MR. SNOODGRASS' REPLY.

TO THE ELDERS AND TRUSTEES OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH, CHARLOTTETOWN.

Gentlemen,—I thank you from my heart. I attach the highest value to your present consideration of me, as manifested in this parting token of your affectionate regard. The extreme pain which I feel in leaving this, my first charge, is greatly soothed by the testimony you now bear concerning my labours among you, and the assurance you now give that your earnest prayers and best wishes will follow me. While reciprocating all your kindly desires, I beg you to accept my word, that I shall ever take the warmest interest in your welfare. It will do me good to hear, from time to time, of your prosperity. "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."  
W. SNOODGRASS

### Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

#### MEETING OF THE SYNOD.

This Court met at New Glasgow on the 24th inst, and was opened by a sermon by Rev. John Cameron, Moderator, from Exodus xiv. 15, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward."

Rev. George Walker was unanimously chosen Moderator, and having briefly addressed the Synod, took the chair accordingly.

During the session of Synod 33 ministers and 18 elders were in attendance, the whole number of ministers on the Roll being 40. The records of Presbyteries showed that, during the past year, the Rev. James Melan had been transferred from the congregation of Mabou to that of Gay's River, and that Messrs. J. W. Matheson and Alexander Cameron had been licensed as preachers. The concluding part of the first sederunt was occupied in the appointment of committees and other routine business.

3 o'clock.—A part of this sederunt was spent in devotional exercises, the Moderator being followed by Rev Messrs Miller and Smith. Presbytery of Truro announced that Mr. Samuel Johnston had been ordained by them to the pastoral charge of the congregation of Harvey. From the Report of the committee on Colportage it appeared that during the past year 12,060 volumes had been circulated, and during the past four years 35,579 volumes, for which £2,956 had been paid, and that the work is going on with diminished efficiency. The Synod expressed gratitude to the Board of Publication at Philadelphia for their generous assistance in furnishing books, and agreed to recommend that our congregations make some pecuniary acknowledgement for the benefit received.

The Synod re-appointed the committee of co-operation with other Presbyterian bodies, giving them full power to treat with the G

members of Dalhousie College so far as to express to them the Synod's views and to receive theirs in return, and to report at next meeting of Synod.

The committee on co-operation were directed to act in concert with the movements of the Free Church in reference to education so far as our views harmonize. They were appointed a Deputation to wait on the Synod of the Church of Scotland during the present week, and should the Synod of the Free Church meet previous to our next session, they were directed to meet that body also if practicable.

**Presbytery of Pictou.**

NEW GLASGOW, 2nd July, 1856, Wh. n day the Presbytery of Pictou met, and was duly constituted with prayer. There were present, the Rev. A. W. Herdman, Moderator; Alex. Maclean and Allan Pollock, Ministers; Robt. Cullen and Wm. Macdonald, Elders. The Rev. Professor George, of Queen's College, Canada, being present, was invited to take a part in the deliberations of the Court. The Presbytery appointed an examination to be held into the state of Maclean's Mountain Congregation, at their meeting, on the first Tuesday of October; that notice of the same be given to the Rev. Alex. McGillivray, with a request that he intimate the same on the Sabbath previous. The lists of queries called for by the Synod, were presented, and the Clerk was ordered to draw these up in a condensed form, and lay them on the table, at the meeting of the Court, to be held during the meeting of Synod. Registers were produced belonging to the Sessions of New Glasgow and Pictou, and were examined. Mr. Maclean stated that, on account of peculiar circumstances in his congregation, he could not produce, at this time, all the Registers required. His apology was sustained, and he is ordered to use his utmost endeavor to form a Session, and produce all the records necessary before another year. The Presbytery approved of the registers kept by the Session of St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, and ordered them to be attested. The same was done with the records of the Session of St. Andrew's Church, New Glasgow; but this Session is ordered to procure a register of deaths, in addition to those already kept. A statement was received from James Fraser, Esq. relating to the Presbyterial Fund, the Young Men's Scheme, and the Bible Society; examined and ordered to be published in the Record.

ALLAN POLLOCK, Pres. Clerk.

**Presbytery of Pictou.**

I have been enjoined by the Presbytery of Pictou to transmit the following statements for publication in the Monthly Record.

ALLAN POLLOCK, Clerk.

*Collections for the Bible Society.*

1855.	East Branch, E. R.	£5 6 6
30.	"	6 16 9
Aug 15.	Garloch,	8 19 5
	West River,	7 7 6
23.	Maclean's Mountain,	10 0 9
1856.		
Mar. 19.	New Glasgow,	8 4 1
21.	East Branch, E. R	4 18 1
25.	West Branch,	5 17 3
		£57 10 6
29.	Remitted to Col. Com..	47 5 0
2.	Balance in hand,	£11 4 10

JAMES FRASER, Treasurer,  
New Glasgow.

*Received for Missionary Services, performed by the Presbytery of Pictou.*

1855.		
Mar. 12.	Balance in hand,	£16 12 6
20.	Barney's River Congregation,	4 0 0
		£20 12 6
Mar. 12.	Stationery,	0 1 2
Aug. 18.	Synod expenses of Revd. A. Herdman,	3 2 8
20.	Synod and Presbytery expenses of Rev. A. Pollok,	5 1 9
23.	For an account book,	0 1 3
Sept. 4.	Synod expenses of Rev. A. Macgillivray,	4 0 0
		£12 6 10
July 2.	Balance in hand,	8 5 8

JAMES FRASER, Treasurer.

*Young Men's Scheme.*

1855.		
Mar. 12.	Balance,	£1 14 5
May 7.	Lochaber,	10 2 6
Dec. 19.	East Branch, East River,	6 1 0
1856.		
Jan. 19.	Garloch,	6 17 10
Feb. 25.	Cash from Wm. Gordon, Pictou,	15 0 0
April 2.	Maclean's Mountain,	16 15 7
26.	Upper Barney's River,	0 15 0
28.	Althon Mines,	9 16 1
29.	Upper Barney's River,	1 3 1
29.	Lower Barney's River,	2 18 1
June 7.	Upper Barney's River,	1 0 0
Feb. 27.	Remitted to Col. Committee,	31 5 0
	Balance in hand 2 July, 1856	13 18 9

JAMES FRASER, Treasurer.

*Bible Society.*

Saltsprings Congregation	£6 0 0
Wm. Gordon, Treasurer.	

*To the Colonial Committee for the Missionary Services of Rev. A. Mackay.*

1856.		
Jan 3.	Earlton Congregation,	£13 0 0
Feb 9.	Rogershill Congregation,	30 0 0
Ap. 1.	West Branch Congregation,	16 18 7
Ap. 8.	Wallace Congregation,	11 13 9
		79 12 1

Wm. Gordon, Treasurer.

*Young Men's Scheme.*

1856.		
April 1.	West Branch Congregation,	£8 18 3
April 1.	Earlton,	6 9 1
May 5.	St. John's Church, Belfast,	22 4 3
7.	Rogershill,	8 11 6
22.	Cape John Congregation,	5 4 7
June 11	Saltsprings,	8 10 0
	Balance in hand	59 17 9

Wm. Gordon, Treasurer.

*For the Students in Canada.*

1856.		
April	Earlton,	£5 0 0
April	Scotch Hill,	2 5 0
May	Cash enclosed to Messrs. Ross and Livingstone	7 5 0
	Wm. Gordon, Treasurer.	

*Home Mission Fund.*

1855.		
Aug. 12	At St. James' Church, Charlottetown, Sabbath School, Anonymous, through Rev. J. Scott,	1 0 0
Feb. 12	St. Andrew's Church, Pictou,	7 7 6
20	St. Andrew's Church, Halifax,	7 2 6
26	St. Matthew's, Church, Hx.	24 6 6
Mar. 9	New Glasgow,	5 10 0
	St David's, Georgetown,	4 10 0
	St. James', Charlottetown,	8 3 9
	St. Peter's Road,	3 11 1
	Brackley Point Road,	1 4 3
	Donation from Hon J H. Grey.	2 10 0
	St Andrew's Ch. St. John's Nfld.	7 0 7
		70 0 1

Difference P. E. I. Currency, £3 6 7  
DAVID ALISON, Treasurer.

**Arrival of Missionaries.**

THE Colonial Committee having appointed the Rev. Thomas Duncan, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Perth, missionary for Prince Edward Island, he left Liverpool in the Cunard steamer and arrived at Halifax in the middle of last month. After preaching with much acceptance in our churches in this city, he proceeded, last week, for Pictou, to enter on his mission in Prince Edward Island. We learn that the Rev. A. Lochhead, also a missionary for the Island, who sailed about the same time as Mr. Duncan, from Liverpool, arrived at Pictou last week, and preached there last Lord's Day.

ACCORDING to appointment of the Presbytery of Pictou, the Rev. Mr. Harper will preach at Upper Barney's River, on the 10th of August; at Lochaber, on the 17th; at St. Mary's, on the 24th, and at Cape John, on the 31st. On the 7th of September, he will preach at West Branch, River John, and at Earlton on the 11th.

**Synod of New Brunswick.**

THE Synod of New Brunswick in connection with the church of Scotland, meets this year at Chatham, Miramichi, on the third Thursday, being the 21st day of the present month of August.

The publication of several important communications, lately received, has been unavoidably postponed for want of space till next month.

**Home Mission Fund**

Cr.		
By balance on hand 30th June,		£70 0 1
Collection at Belfast, P. E. I., per Rev. A. McKay,		2 15 9
July. Collection from Rev. Mr. McGillivray's congregation,		1 0 0
		76 15 1
Dr.		
July 9. To paid Rev. Mr. McLean by order Synod,		5 0 0
To paid Rev. Mr. Martin by order Synod		2 10 0
Expenses for Cape Breton Mission		7 10 0
Balance in hand 25th July.		£69 5 1

DAVID ALISON, Treasurer.

**Synod Fund.**

DR		
July 10	Paul Mr. McDonald's expenses attending Synod,	£0 11 3
	Do. Robert Cullen's,	0 11 3
	Do. Wm. Snodgrass as clerk,	12 10 0
	Do. Delegate to the Synod of Canada,	15 0 0
17	Do. Rodk. Campbell, Synod expenses,	1 5 0
	Do. Alex. McKay, do. do.	1 5 0
		£31 2 6

CR

By Amount formerly rec'd		22 6 8
June 10. Collection from St. Andrew's, Ch. Pictou, per W. Gordon,		6 10 0
July 16. Collection from Maclean's Mountain Congregation, by Rev. Alex. McGillivray,		2 1 6
Collection from St. Andrew's Ch. New Glasgow, Rev. A. Pollok,		3 6 6
		£34 4 8

Balance in hand, £3 2 2

JAMES F. AVERY, Treasurer.

Halifax, 6th Aug. 1856.

Agents for The Monthly Record.

Wm Grant, Esq Stationer	Halifax.
J. E. Lawlor, Esq.	Dartmouth.
Wm. Gordon, Esq.	Pictou.
John McKay, Esq.	New Glasgow.
Robert Sutherland, Esq.	Easttown.
Robert Ross, Esq.	River John.
Isidorel Fraser, Esq.	Village River John.
Donald McKay, Esq.	Rogers Hill
Peter Grant, Esq Elder	Cape John.
John Gray, Esq.	Hopewell, W.B. E.R. Pictou.
Duncan McDonald, Esq.	East Branch, E. R. Pictou.
Angus McLeod, Esq.	Mill Brook, Pictou.
Hugh H. Ross, Esq.	West River, Pictou.
Rev. Alex. McMillivray	McLellan's Brook, Pictou.
William McDougall, Esq.	Piedmont, Merigonish.
James W. DeLauncy, Esq.	Amherst.
Wm. McNab, Esq. Merchant	Wallace.
D. B. Munro, Schoolmaster	Stake Road, Ridge, Wallace.
D. Macaulay, Esq.	Fox Harbor
Wm. Cooper, Esq.	Pugwash.
John Ross, Esq.	Truro
John Smith, Esq.	Baddeck, C. B.
T. W. Harris, Esq.	River Inhabitants, C. B.
J. Edwards, Esq.	Kentville.
Alex. Balloch, Esq.	St John, N. B.
James Miller, Esq.	Chatham, Miramichi.
Rev. James Murray,	Bathurst, N. B.
William McLean, Esq.	St. Andrew's, N. B.
D. B. Haddock, Esq.	Kingston, Richibucto.
Atlan A. Davidson, Esq.	Newcastle, Miramichi
Rev. Wm. Murray,	Moncton, N. B.
John W. Morrison, Esq.	Charlottetown, P. E. I.
Emley McNeill, Esq.	Georgetown, P. E. I.
Rev. A. McKay,	Belfast, P. E. I.
Rev. Donald McDonald,	For congregations under his
Mr. Morrison,	charge, P. E. Island.
T. A. Gibson, Esq.	St. John's, Newfoundland.
Alex. Davison, Esq.	Montreal, Canada East.
John Paton, Esq.	Toronto, Canada West.
	Kingston, "

ADVERTISEMENTS.

SILK AND COTTON GOODS.  
RECEIVED THIS MONTH.

W & C Menouch have on hand 209 Bales and Cases in Silk, Cotton, Woollen and Fancy Goods of Foreign and British Manufacture, for the Season, and invite the attention of buyers.

— ALSO, ON HAND —

Boots and Shoes, Starch, Indigo, Pepper, Congou Tea, Plain and Fancy Soaps, Stationery, Tobacco Pipes, and Tobacco.

68 Duke Street.  
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6m

Halifax, 6th May.

RELIGION IN COMMON LIFE

A SERMON, Preached before the Queen and Prince Albert, by the Rev. John Cand, M. A. Minister of Essex. Just received and for sale by

WM. GRANT, Jr.,  
39 George St.

May 5

CALEDONIA HOUSE,  
135 Granville Street.

DOULL & MILLER,

Would respectfully inform Wholesale and country buyers that they keep constantly on hand every description of BRITISH, FRENCH AND GERMAN DRY GOODS

PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY,  
OF HARTFORD, CONN.

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The Subscriber having been appointed Agent of this Company, is prepared to issue Policies against loss or damage by fire, on Dwellings, Furniture, Stores, Merchandise, Vessels in port, or buildings on the Stocks, on as favorable terms as the nature of the risk will admit.

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January, 1856.

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With other publications of Messrs. Bagster and Sons, London, supplied by the undersigned at publishers prices. Catalogues of Bagsters' Biblical works furnished on application. The Subscribers are also agents for the supply of several British Newspapers and periodicals on the best terms, viz. *Illustrated London Notes—Picture Times—News of the World—Illustrated Times—Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper—Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper—Weekly Times—Punch—Comic Times* and others. Also, Sole Agents for Baxters' Patented Prints, Gravels, Landscape views and Studies from nature—Collins Maps of the Seat of War—Illustrated School Books, and other Pictorial publications, wholesale or retail.

Medical Warehouse, 39 Granville Street.  
G. E. MORTON & CO

January, 1856.

STATEMENT OF THE AETNA INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.—1ST MAY, 1856.

Published for the information of persons insured in this Company, through the Nova Scotia Agency.

Gross premiums received for the year ending 1st May,	\$1,524,508 32
Income on investments,	59,705 56
Losses paid during the year,	881,944 04
Losses paid by the Company since its commencement,	9,423,014 90
Net profits for the past year,	409,425 29
Capital Stock paid up, \$500,000 00	} 1,000,733 60
Surplus balance of profit and loss, 500,733 60	

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No. 30 Bedford Row.

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MILLINER,

IMPORTER OF LONDON AND PARIS MILLINERY, RIBBONS, BLONDES, LACES, SILKS & SATINS, MORNING AND EVENING DRESSES, HOSIERY, GLOVES, &c.

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In division of profits in 1852, £10,000 was added to the sums assured under whole term of Life.

This Company ranks amongst the largest and most wealthy in England.

The Annual reports to 10th August 1855, of the Company's state and progress, rates of premium, and form of application obtained of

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Agent.

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