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ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE SYNOD OF

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IN CONNECTION WITH THE

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December



1872.

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THE PRESBYTERIAN

DECEMBER, 1872.

JOTTINGS FROM OLD SCOTIA.

TO THE KIRK OF CRATHIE.

The rapid survey of Aberdeen, Old | and New, imperfectly delineated in my last letter, occupied less time than was taken in the description of it. We had not been twenty-four hours in the place when it became necessary to decide promptly and definitely as to our future move-It was Saturday afternoon. We were two miles from the railway station. The last train for Ballater was to leave at five o'clock. Shall we go to Crathie? or, yielding to the entreaties of kind friends. shall we remain here over Sunday? There! was a time when I could not have conceived hesitation on such a point possible. Had I not years ago cherished the hope! that one day I should see for myself beautiful Balmoral, the loved Highland home of Taylor, the Minister of Crathie. arise noir when possible? First, and because Principal Snodgrass had made between the cup and the lip."! certain arrangements with friends in the auarter to five, and no machine.

thou goest I will go, and where thou lodgest I will lodge." Our companionship had been more than pleasant, to me it was profitable. If it be now dissolved, who will be my instructor by the way? And even as to minor details, who like him will take the pains to unravel the mysteries of Murray's guide book, or supply the historical associations without which one travels in this old land as it were in the dark, or, who will interpret the meaning of words hard to be understood that everywhere meet the eye, and which not to understand deprives one of half the enjoyments he otherwise should have? On mentioning my difficulty to Dr. Milligan he at once, with truest hospitality, resolved my doubts, and not only bid me so but offered to furnish me with a letter of introduction to his friend Dr. our Sovereign, and, above all, enjoy the strength of this I mustered resolution, privilege of joining in the services of the and ordered "a machine" (they don't Sanctuary with the dear Queen in the old speak of cabs in Scotland, for half-past parish church of Crathie! Let those who four. The appointed hour came, but no choose to call this a romantic sentiment machine. The weather during the day But why should the question | had been of the kind familiarly known as the accomplishment "Scotch mist," but now the rain descended chiefly, in torrents. Ah, " there's many a slip neighbourhood of Aberdeen which pre | minutes more, and the agony is over. But cluded the possibility of his accompanying | we have only ten minutes to do two miles. me, and it became a matter of serious Now we are off at full gallop over the consideration whether an instance of such granite causeway, cleared of every obstrucunparalleled self-denial on the part of an tion by reason of the pelting rain; the old and tried friend could be adequately very policemen had disappeared, else, it recognized otherwise than by addressing might have fared ill with us. Just in him in the language of Ruth, "whither time to catch the Dee-side train! The

time occupied, including numerous stop-| symptoms of what some would call indepages, is two hours and a half. I was cent haste. I certainly did not allow the for some time too much absorbed in reflect grass to grow beneath my feet, for I was ing on my recent escapade to be very closely pursued by three stalwart highlandobservant of the fine scenery through ers in kilts, either of whom would have which we were passing. This valley of been more than a match for me but that the Dee has long been a favoured resort of they carried far heavier weight. tourists, and, the main avenue if not was I reached the hostelry before them, indeed the only approach from this side but it was already "quite full." After to the grand mountain scenery that lies beyond in the heart of the North. river itself, swollen by countless tributary torrents, is a broad and rapid stream with many windings. On either side it is bordered \ for a considerable distance with a rolling country, finely interspersed with wood and conveyance of some sort for next morning parks, affording sweetest pasturage to to take us on to Crathie, ten miles. herds of those sleek, jet-black, polled-Angus cattle, for which this region is celebrated. The railway follows the course of the river, passing by the picturesque and interesting old towns of Banchory and Aboyne, and other places of lesser note. Then there are so many castles and mansions, old and new, and all so beautifully situated as to make this apparently one of the most desirable inland places of residence in all Scotland. For eight or ten miles we traversed the estate of a single proprietor - the Marquis of Huntleyone of whose fine seats is Aboyne Castle. But even that extensive estate is small site, and others I found had come there becompared to the next adjoining, Invercauld the property of Colonel Farquharson, and which, with the one exception of Balmoral, is the most beautiful property The railway terminates at on Dee-side. Ballater, a small, very quiet, and prettily situated village, whose population was considerably augmented by the arrival of our There is but one train at half-past seven. hotel in the place, a very nice looking one, "the Invercauld Arms." "It may be half a mile or so from the railway station. I have not a word to say against Highland Inns, but I had learned from experience that their capacity is limited, and considering that here was a whole trainful of tourists, each hopeful of getting a comfor-

distance to Ballater is 431 miles, and the hotel, I may possibly have exhibited a good deal of parleying however, it was discovered that "the sma weenie bit atticie" was unoccupied: I could have that, and a cleaner, tidier little room, weary traveller never slept in. Another important matter of arrangement was to secure a that could be effected in this direction was to take our chance of a seat on top of the coach that was to leave at nine o'clock. and which was certain to be crowded. was early astir, and shall not soon forget the stillness of that Sabbath morning at Ballater. Everything was so much in keeping with the associations of the sacred day of rest. The sun was not yet visible, though his rays were gilding the mountain tops. There was not a breath of air stirring, not a sound to disturb the peaceful hours but the rippling of the Dec. view presented from the bridge was exquifore me to hold admiring converse with the beautiful. One attracted my special notice -an elderly gentleman of prepossessing appearance, whose courteous response to my salutation led to an interesting conversation, I had almost said to an intimate acquaintanceship. He had travelled much, and had recently been in Canada. was a citizen of Aberdeen and chairman of the Dec-side Railway, spending his holiday time here with his family. I chanced to ask him if he knew any of the name of R--- in Aberdeen. "Oh yes, very well indeed; there are some members of the family in Canada I think." By a singular coincidence, one of that name was, at the time we were speaking, crossing the table lodgment for the night, I will not bridge, though unnoticed by either of us. deny that, in my endeavours to reach that | As we were preparing to mount the coach

for Crathie, this gentleman very politely hand, on the hill side, within a stone asked if I had mentioned the name of throw of the road, and imbedded in a R--- to Mr. Duncan, with whom I was grove of spruce and pine trees, is a very conversing on the bridge this morning. I humble looking church—such a looking said I had done so. "That is my name," church as may be found in the back-woods said he. "And have you a brother in settlements of Canada. It is the parish Montreal?" "I have," he replied, with church of Crathie. From this point you get more than ordinary emphasis, "do you a fine view of Bulmoral, not more than a mile know him?" When I mentioned to him off We found a large number of carriages that his brother and I were Elders of the and a crowd of people congregated in front same church, and that "Little Jessie" of the church, though it was an hour before was one of my Sabbath School scholars, the service would commence. the interest which we both attached to a certainly be a rush when that church door meeting so unexpected may be imagined. How true it is—a touch of sympathy makes all the world akin. Without entering into minute details, a word or two may be said about the beautiful drive from Ballater to Crathie. This road is par excellence the Queen's highway, for it has been graded and is kept in the most perfect order for Her Majesty's especial use. It is broad and smooth, and passes through c mery, which, though you may not call it grand, yet, for diversity and interest, is hardly to be surpassed. It is lined with particularly neat telegraph appointments, and, unlike other lines of wire, this has no "connections." It is the Queen's private means of communication from Windsor Castle to Balmoral. You cannot help noticing the Highland just then leaving for church—with instone huts, precisely after the pattern of structions to give me a seat in the ministhat already described at Fort William- ter's pew or any other that I should prehumble abodes, some of which the Queen fer. "Sandy" had seen many a crowd of England has often visited on errands of at Crathie Kirk, but not often so large a love and mercy. All eyes are now strained gathering as this; it was "juist awfu'," in across the Dec. you notice the turrets of a entrance in front, he motioned me to follow water's edge, and you see what looks like a spider's thread, though it is a six inch! cable, stretched across the river, the farther end fastened to the branch of a great time had the church all to myself. it. It used to be called the Duchess of gate, the flood poured in.

is opened! My chances are perhaps as good as anothers', but I don't like to enter the House of God thus. Besides, I have a desire to see Dr. Taylor, whom I already know by reputation as one of the most polished and scholarly ministers of the It may serve a double purpose to present my credentials now. pretty close upon the hour of worship, but he is not going to preach. I proceeded at once to the manse, distant perhaps half a mile. Dr. Taylor himself answered the door-bell, and, having glanced at the introductory note, received me cordially. pressed me to return to the manse at the close of the service, and, in the meantime, gave me in charge to the beadle who was to get the first peep at the towers of Bal-this estimation. But he was equal to the Eight miles from Pallater, looking occasion, and, instead of attempting an quaint old castle rising above the trees. In him to a small door in the rear opening front of it a lawn stretches down to the into the vestry, which, when we had quietly entered, was made fast. soon seated in the gallery immediately opposite Her Majesty's pew, and for some spreading oak, and that nearer, to a rustic quarter before twelve the doors were support, and there's a basket dangling from opened, and, as on the lifting of a sluice-Kent's cradle, and that rope brilge leads should have been some disorder, and even to Abergeldie Castle-the shooting lodge some pretty loud vociferating, as parties of His Royal Highness the Prince of got separated in the struggle for the best Wales. A little further on, on the right seats, was inevitable; but it was only

momentary. seats in the gallery returned to the body of the church below, and in a very short dom, and French, in all of which the time there was perfect stillness. twelve o'clock the bell ceased to toll. this time the front seats in the gallery had been occupied by the leading gentry of the neighbourhood, and that immediately behind the Royal pew by the Balmoral than his mother, who, observing that he gillies--plendid looking fellows in full highland costume-among whom it was easy to distinguish the burley form of John Brown, Her Majesty's faithful and it for him and handing him the book, constant attendant.

Softly, as when one enters church a little late, and finds the minister in the own family, the Princess Alice, the Duke tion of the saints. a becoming act of reverence not always charlain Dr. Norman McLeod. observed by Presbyterians, though in officiating clergyman was the Rev. Don-Scotland it is becoming more general—ald McLeod of the Park Church, Glaswhen she took her seat, and, after a com-gow, a brother of the late minister of the posed glance round the church, shewed her Barony, and in whose stead he had been familiarity with the Presbyterian form of appointed one of her Majesty's chaplains worship by reaching forth for her psulm for Scotland, and also the Editor of Good book even before the minister had uttered Words. The subject was, the eternal the words "Let us worship God by singing home of God's believing people. There to his praise and glory the hundreth psalm." | was something exceptional too in the con-It may be stated here that the whole order gregation itself, gathered here from the of service was in accordance with the old four winds of heaven. I did not recognise style and form practised in the Church of in Mr. McLeod the slightest resemblance singing, and stood at prayer. If there was style of his preaching I can imagine any departure from the strictest use and was equally dissimilar, but it was earnest, wont it went no farther than that the col-affectionate, and effective preaching. His lection was taken up by the Elders pass- utterances appeared to come from an ing the ladles through the pews, and that; honest and good heart, and were of a kind anthem was sung while the collection likely to reach the hearts of others. His was being taken. Hymnal was not used. The singing was text was taken from the 14th Chapter of led by a choir of half a dozen young men St. John, "I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE and women, farmers' sons and daughters For you." Without attempting to give and bona fide members of the congregation, a connected synopsis of this sermon prearanged in front of the precentor's desk, ched before the Queen, and which will

Those who could not find There was no instrumental music. tunes sung were Old Hundred, Martyrwhole congregation joined with heart and voice, and none more heartily than the Queen. The Duke of Edinburgh, though by repute a professed musician, appeared to be less familiar with Scottish psalmody had some difficulty in finding the place either in the tune-book or among the paraphrases, came to his assistance by finding and this without ceasing to sing herself. The portions of Scripture read were the 15th Psalm, "Lord, who shall abide in pulpit, so Queen Victoria entered, and thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy proceeded to her own pew in the old parish holy Hill? &c.," and the 15th chapter kirk as though no eye but God's was then of 1 Corinthians, beginning at the 35th looking upon her. She was simply dressed, verse, where St. Paul enters upon that and unattended save by members of her wonderful argument on the resurrec-The occasion was of Edinburgh, Prince Leopold, and Lady altogether one of exceeding interest. The Waterpark, one of Her Majesty's ladies in sermon about to be delivered was the first waiting. For a moment or two Her preached in her Majesty's hearing in Majesty's head bent in silent prayer— Scotland since the death of her friend and The congregation sat while to his late illustrious brother, and the Even the Scottish delivery was fluent and ex-tempore. The

Words," it may not be out of place to recall one or two of the leading thoughts:

What constitutes the highest enjoyment of mankind if it is not the personal interchange of the second personal advent of Christ raised him to a position that dwarfed all earthly consider-For him to live was Christ, for him to die was great and unspeakable gain. He was ever ready and willing to depart and be with Christ, "which is far better." Do we so look for Christ? Who is there, even amon; good recople, that will not confess to a great timidity of futurity?—of taking the step from Time into Eternity? Who have not ever present with them a lurking dread of that mysterious passage from the familiar to the unknown? What does this fear spring from? Undoubtedly it is chiefly because the nature of the life beyond the grave Here we see through a glass, is unknown. So little revealed, so much left to larkly. imagination! Saving here and there a few hints, the Bible observes almost a studied silence on the subject. What is Heaven? Where is the subject Heaven? Is it a place, or only a condition of existence? We cannot tell. What is the condition of the spirits of the departed? Is there an intermediate state, or, do the souls of believers at death immediately pass into glory? What of those with whom we have taken sweet counsel in this life? Shall we know each other in Heaven? God's word answers few of these A second reason why we dread the questions. great change is that we love this present life. It is so sweet. We have so many ties in it. The world itself is lovely, and has such associations as we cannot conceive any other world can have for us. There is a charm about these. To take the last look at this fair world! To let go the grasp of the friend who is going-not to the grave-but into that dim land, we know where! What shall reconcile or comfort rs? Jesus says something—perhaps as much as we are capable of understanding, "I go to prepare a place for you." Should not this satisfy us, that He who has gone to prepare that place, is the same who made this place for us. this has been a place prepared for the use and enjoyment of man. If the Bible had not said so it is plain of itself. Those mines of gold and silver and coal and iron, were they not prepared by Him long ago? Was it not He who opened up the valleys and hollowed out the channels of the rivers, and spread out the sea from pole to pole? And, when we look at the fitness of the material universe for man's occupation we begin to realize the kind purposes and infinite If we are loath to wisdom of the Creator. leave this world we can at least say. He gave

no doubt in due time appear in "Good are merely for our earliest childhood in an eternal existence. We are everywhere taught this. And we may be sure that as we have found all so suitable and congenial to our nature here, so surely shall we find that Jesus will prepare for us a grander, holier place than this for our future abode. His Father's House is to be our love and friendship. And what but the hope of a personal meeting with Christ inspired the early Church? If ever a man exhibited "the we shall enjoy the variety we crave, enthusiasm of hemanity" it was St. Paul. He still, this, after all, suggests only indefinite freeze of death. The thought of the strength of the str good. If every thing is to be so new. shall we like it? The Uneness of the Creator, as well as analogy, teaches us to expect that every thing there will be adapted to our new state of being, and will be enjoyed by us in a degree commensurate with the difference that exists between Time and Eternity. He who has given us the thirst for knowledge will not quench this spirit. Impossible that the mother who loved her child here can cease to love it yonder! Every thing that is good here will have its analogy in the bright world above.

The one great lesson we learn every day in searching into the secrets of nature is the lesson of progress. And it may be that elements of present joy will then assume new forms and developments, may pass into conditions of being now slumbering, but which the first touch of Eternity may reveal to us. Let us never forget, however, the condition upon which all this depends—Personal Character. Our tastes here will be our tastes forever. Self-indulgence, impurity, every thing that is contrary to the ideal of our humanity. If these things become our affinities, we cannot hope to enter into the kingdom of God.

We may well rejoice to think of those who have gone where Christ is. They who trusted God in dark ways, while passing from the known into the unknown, are enjoying eternal satisfac-Think, how near to every one of us this unseen world is! and let us seek to live for this life that is to come, followers of them who, through faith and patience, inherit the promises. Let us go to God as children to a father, in simple faith, believing that He who has given us all good here will perfect that which concernethus hereafter, and will receive us into His own gracious Presence, where there is fullness of joy, and pleasures for evermore.

This plain but admirable discourse was: listened to with deepest interest, as indeed it could not fail to be, by every one within sound of the preacher's voice, and by none more so than by that widowed Lady whose thoughts it carried back to her happiest days on earth, when, within these walls, and with her illustrious Consort by her side, she had listened to the message of salvation from one whom she loved and homoured, but whose voice she us all that makes it dear to us. Father, mother, sister, brother, wife, husband, friend, are not these dear names all His gift? But all these Although no direct allusion was made to

many of her subjects deplored, we all felt that the words to which we had listened constituted a touching and appropriate The service was confuneral sermon. cluded in the usual manner. The Queen stood with the congregation when they stood, she kept her seat when they did. She turned over the leaves of the Bible when all others did—and oh what a rustling of leaves there is in a Scotch Church! —and she dropped her contribution into the ladle, just like the rest of us. collection was announced to be for the Funds of the Church of Scotland in England.

pronounced, Her Majesty left the Church cart, and the driver said that some one as quietly as she had entered it, and, going to Braemar, he knew not who, without any demonstration on the part of "had wired for this trap." The person in the on-lookers, drove off in a carriage and question proved to be a gentleman of the pair to her loved Highland home. I have first water, whom I accosted, and was at said that the Queen was simply dressed, once relieved from further embarrassment Had you met her on the road you would by his offer to give me a seat. We had not in all probability have taken her for a got half way to Braemar before we were decent farmer's wife; so stout, yet, good-I fast friends. But it was some time before I looking, and with an countenance shrewd and sensible. You wing of no less a personage than the Lord would have felt that had you accosted Provost of Dundee-a most intelligent, her with a familiar salutation, no offence polite man, at the same time a self-taught, would have been taken. I had not seen self-made man, who began life a shepherd Her Majesty since 1841. Then I saw her boy, rose to be ploughman, then clerk. going to the opening of Parliament in the by-and-by did a little stroke of business Royal State carriage drawn by eight cream- on his own account, "stuck to it," till coloured horses—a young bride with her now, at fifty, he finds himself a man of husband making their first public appear- fame and fortune-of whom more anon. ance in the capital, saluted by the roar of This road far exceeds in grandeur that cannon and the plaudits of a million of peo- which we had traversed in the morning. ple. There was a difference—a marked The mountains are loftier. To begin with, contrast-betwixt now and then. This Sun-there is Lochnagar, close by, 3777 feet day morning at Crathie Church Her Majes- i high, and at its foot, right in front of us, ty wore a plain black silk gown and a close. Bulmoral Castle, a splendid pile of buildly-fitting bonnet, as plain—a real bonnet—lings in the Scottish baronial style of archwith just one little white resette. The litecture, situate on a bend of the River Princess Beatrice, who is taller than her Dee. mother, though not the least pretty, is a to heighten the natural beauty of landmodest looking girl with a pleasing cast scape has been done, but not overdone, of countenance. the young ladies of Canada I may state taste of the good Prince whose creation it that she was dressed in a plain white was, and to whose memory we can see muslin frack, shall I call it? a little bit quite distinctly a colossal bronze statue in of pink ribbon round her neck, fastened one of the parks. Every hill-top in the

the less which the Queen equally with by a small gold broach, and wore a white straw hat with a single feather. two were the plainest dressed women I saw in the church of Crathie. Matronly and maidenly examples to the nation. God bless them!

The next thing was to get away from Crathie. To see any more of the minister was impossible. It had commenced to rain. and I must go on to Braemar, nine miles beyond, on foot, unless some good Samaritan give me a lift, for, there is not a single hotel nearer to Balmoral. I had been fortunate ere this in making the acquaintance of strangers but never more so than now. One carriage after another had left, fully Infinediately that the blessing was laden, until there remained but one dogexpression of made the discovery that I was under the

Here every thing that Art can do For the information of and the whole testifies to the admirable

place." It had Royal builders, for, when each of Her Majesty's family and household had placed a stone upon it, the Prince Consort climbed to the top of it and placed! the last stone. That other cairn marks the spot where the bon-fire blazed forth on the news reaching Balmoral of the fall of Sebastopol—the bon-fire that had stood there ready to be lighted for nearly two years, while the destinies of Europe trembled in the balance. The massive pyramid up yonder was erected in memory of Prince Albert, and bears the inscription borrowed from the Apochrypha, respecting which some of Her Majesty's spiritual advisers took occusion to remonstrate, rather too officiously, as Her Majesty hinted to them at the time. Even from this comparatively distant point of view we can understand how the Queen came to write of Balmeral as she did in 1856, "Every year my heart becomes more fixed in this dear Paradise, and so much more so now that all has become my dearest Albert's own creation." are now on the magnificent estate of Invercauld covering an area of thirty-five miles in length and ten miles in width, and which includes the ancient forests of Mar and Ballochbui, abounding in red deer, grouse, partridge and other game. And such ant hills! The size and number of them is wonderful, in shape reminding one of those lacustrine abodes of pre-historic man that geologists discourse about. If there is any power in numbers it cannot be said of these indefatigable creatures, as was said of their kind in Palestine, by the profoundest of savans, "the ants are a people not strong."

Here is the old Castle of Braemar, formerly the seat of the Earls of Mar, in fine preservation, though seldom tenanted now save when the Queen and her nobles come here to witness the athletic sports at have had an opportunity of recording his

neighbourhood, too, is crowned with cairn the annual gatherings of the Clans. Both or monument to commemorate some event inns at the Castleton of Braemar were full of special interest to the Royal family. to overflowing, not room even for the This one, on Craiggowan, was built in Provost of Dundee, and we were coolly 1852, as the Queen herself tells us in her told that we must either return to the LIFE IN THE HIGHLANDS, "to commem- place whence we had come, Bal'ater, to orate our taking possession of this dear wit, twenty miles off, or, pass on to the "Spital of Glenshee," fifteen miles ahead -a pretty long Sabbath-day's journey! But there was no other alternative, so, choosing the lesser of two evils, we engaged a conveyance for a party of six, and after a romantic drive reached the Hospital, as it was no doubt originally called, about eight o'clock, thankful for shelter from the present rain and for the warm fire and comfortable accommodations which there awaited us. Among all my reminiscences of travel I can recal none that have left such an indelible impression on my mind as the recollection of the Sabbath evening spent in this solitary Highland glen. Though not to be described, imagination can picture to itself our little group, strangers to each other this morning-now drawing our chairs around the cheerful hearthfeeling our way towards each other's thoughts, if paradventure they may have sympathies in common! Was all this that we had seen and heard a reality, or only a very pleasant dream?

> If this survey of so small a portion of God's Creation has so impressed us, how shall we be affected when eternity shall reveal to us all His works, and greater than these? If to see our dear earthly Sovereign, as we have seen her to-day, is so great a privilege, what will it be to see the King of Kings in his beauty, and to dwell with him FOR EVER in that place which he has gone to prepare for all his pelieving followers?

> If any account is to be given of what was subsequently seen in St. Andrew's, the place of all others dear to every student of Scottish ecclesiastical history, or, of the Martyr-land of Galloway and the South, it must be reserved until another who has large claims on the columns of the Presbytcrian and who is well able to interest and instruct its readers, shall

Queen's Dominions

Note.—On behalf of the printer we have to apologize for the mistake made in setting these jottings in large tyle, instead of in "Minion," as formerly. However "good for sore eyes" it may be, we regret the consequent exclusion of other valuable matter.—ED.

NORMAN MACLEOD.

A. Reminiscence, II.

Norman MacLeod was at his late home frame before me was shaken to its founin Bath Street, Glasgow. He had pressed dation. He seemed much weaker and me to spend with him there, during my more shattered than when I saw him in brief visit to Scotland, as much time as my the Assembly Hall, five or six days before. other engagements and duties would allow. The exciten nt and exertion of delivering As soon as the business of the General his great speech had, too clearly, told upon Assembly was wound up, as, from time an already weakened constitution. immemorial, the business of General As- opinion has been since expressed that that semblies has been wont to be, by "the occasion, and the effort which it involved, Moderator's Dinner," I made arrange- hastened his death; I do not doubt its ments to proceed to Glasgow, having pre-correctness. Yet, he was full of vivacity viously written to Dr. MacLeod, stating on this occasion, and talked with great the day and the hour of my expected arri-sprightliness on a variety of subjects:val, and stating also that, to my great Methodism, its great Church activity, its regret, I had but a day at my disposal for value; some of its leading men were named, the Scottish Commercial metropolis. he especially spoke of William Arthur;

was opened by the Barony Church Beadle British Missionary Societies should set who, by the Doctor's wise arrangement, before them, that of founding in India, attended daily at the Manse for two or not a Church of Scotland, or of England; pose of receiving messages and visitors, Baptist, or a Congregational communion; selves at the door.

doctor, evidently looking out for my arri- were of a very high order. prospect of a visit to this side of the strength and flow, yet kindly. me, was taken, and all their plans laid for amongst conversationalists. leaving in August. Mr. and Mrs. James freely and lovingly of Balmoral and its

expriences in a different part of the Arthur and one or two other friends were to be their compagnons de voyage. sured them of a hearty welcome from the Clergymen and laity of our Church in Canada, as well as from men of all ranks and creeds: offered them hospitality, and pressed upon the doctor the further clerical hospitality of the pulpit of St. Paul's Church. "In regard to work," he replied, "I must leave that matter to be determined by the state of my health, which you see," he continued, " is none of the My second and only other sight of best." I did see, truly, that the massive On my arrival at the house, the door \—Indian missions and the great alm which three hours in the morning, for the pur-inot a free Church, or a Wesleyan; not a and of conveying the Minister's behests; --so perpetuating British ecclesiastical as to his accessibleness or otherwise, to dissension,—but a great, comprehensive, the numerous callers who presented them. Christian Church for the Indian empire. He spoke kindly words in this connection I had but to announce my name to gain respecting Dr. Herdman, his successor in admittance, and was soon led up to the the Convenership of the Indian mission. drawing room, in which was seated the Dr. MacLeod's conversational powers He had large val, and prepared to give me the day, knowledge of general subjects; he knew Mrs. MacLeod and two daughters were what he was saying, and could express with him. They soon put me at my ease, himself with ease and tersely, often with entering at once into conversation about great force; he had his own opinions, Canada, and expressing great joy at the and could maintain them with singular Atlantic which the doctor and his wife had specimen which I had during this too long projected. Their passage, they told short visit, he must have been a prince

royal inmates, of the condescension and invited me to go with him to his "den," kindness of Her Majesty and the royal a study which he had had constructed by true friendliness. From time to time he pleasant associations, and live over again seemed, so at least I thought, to turn a the joy of that delightful visit." That he was a tender father and husband, and experiences, and tread the steps which I could not doubt. The table was amply years ago I trod." How true to a true hospitable, and the whole arrangement, nature! both for simplicity and gentility, such as One felt as he sat and talked with would have been suitable to any Scottish Norman MacLeod that he was in the commanse. Dinner over, (it was, sad to say, his pany of a large-hearted, broad, Christian

children, and showed me several cartes de for himself out of a loft over a wash house, visite which from time to time he had re- at the back of the yard of the house. This ceived as souvenirs, these gifts having involved a descent to the kitchen basement, been made especially valuable by royal a run across the flagged yard, for it was autographs on the back of the cards, cor- raining, and a climb up a narrow "stair" responding severally with the offigies to the "den." aforesaid. It was in fact his which the sun had imprinted on the other workshop. Here he wrote his sermons; here side. A German Bible was produced overlooked the manuscripts and corrected which the Princes and Princesses had pur- the proofs for "Good Words;" here devised chased for him during one of their visits plans and methods for working his parish; to Germany. This Bible was inscribed here wrote his letters, as Convener, to the to their "dear friend Norman MacLeod, Church's missionaries in India; and here, D.D.," and, after most touching words no doubt, away from the bustle of a busy which I may not reproduce, was signed in home, and the interruption of large social detail by a "string" of royal names, the demands, poured out in prayer to his first being, "Alfred" With true modesty Father in heaven, the secrets and desires yet with commendable pride, he pointed of his great and earnest soul. As soon as out the affecting inscription. I felt, as we had seated ourselves, one on each side I sat and talked with him, that the honour the fire-place, the fire in which was not of this exalted friend-hip was mutual; bright enough to please him, he took a pipe for that this Scottish minister and Court from the mantel-piece, filled it, lit it, and Chaplain was a right royal man, worthy smoked away. Then, he talked as few to mingle with princes, worthy also to men talk: exchanged confidences, gave his instruct them in those high matters which have an interest alike for kings and of others who were the property of the In the midst of these pleasant public; he spoke of wrongs, and of blessconversations, lunch was announced, so we ings; of differences and controversies; of descended to the dining-room. There, the state of the Church, and his hopes and were assembled the doctor's seven daugh- fears respecting it. He reverted to the ters, the youngest, a little cherub faced girl subject of his proposed visit to Canada, of about three years of age, whom I first and inquired how he could accomplish took to be a grand-child. This meal was landing first at Halifax on his way to Monto the young people their dinner. I was treal. Said he, "When in the year 1845 seated at his side, he carved the joint I visited America, Halifax was the first before him, keeping up the conversation land on which I set foot. My impressions in a most charming manner, with one and of the hospitable reception that I received another; Canada, the Assembly, his there are so vivid, and my thankfulness speech, his work, his health, each came in for the kindness the people showed me is for its share. His demeanour was marked so deep, that I would like to renew these loving eye upon the "olive branches" which revealed the simple child-like nature of the God had planted round about his table, man: "Let me again enjoy the old scenes

last dinner with his family!) Dr. MacLeod man, who had largely survived the preju-

dices of early training and association, it he ever had any; who was human in his sympathies, generous for the most part, in his utterances respecting others; who was, moreover, well up with the progressive thought of the age, and alive to the rapid intellectual and religious transitions; through which it is passing; a man who saw and seized the good wherever it was to be found, and who detested meanness and wrong, as devils incarnate, which they pretty much are. Of his Christianity, his sincere faith in Jesus, and his daily communion with the Father of his spirit, no one who knew him could be in doubt. Two days before the visit which I now chronicle, a young barrister whom he had several times previously met, spent an hour or more with him in his "den." gentleman is a man of letters, as well as of the law, and besides largely mingles in political life. Sitting with him at breakfast on the morning after the day of Dr., MacLeod's death, the daily paper lay on the table and was opened by my host. With deep emotion he conveyed to me the sad intelligence on which his startled. Then he told me of his visit to eye fell. Bath Street, and of his pleasure in making it, adding " he talked to me nearly all the time about the atonement of Christ." Not of literature, not of politics, or of social economics, though these would have been the themes on which conversation between two such men would naturally? turn, but of Christ, and Christ's loving work for mankind.

My visit came to a speedy end. I had to take the afternoop train for the South, and he was to drive out for an airing with one of his many "Barony" triends. I accompanied him to the pavement, shook him by the hand, "we shall meet in Canada," said I, as I followed him to the door of the carriage, which, by the way, he entered with difficulty; another look! a wave of the hand! and, he was gone!

Our Own Church.

Presbyteries and Parisher.

It must gratify the members of the Church generally, and the friends of Queen's College in particular, to know that certain parties are making a hopeful effort to increase the advantages already enjoyed by students for the ministry. that the services of the distinguished elocutionist, A. Melville Bell, Esq , have been secured, and that it is proposed to provide for two extra courses of lectures, to be given by elergymen during the present session in the theological department. The estimated expense is \$750, which will be obtained, it is expected, without drawing upon the funds of the College. This project is worthy of a fair trial, and we trust it will be adequately supported. ment has been made in the Parent Church in the same direction, some liberal laymen having supplied a permanent endowment for the purpose. It certainly would be good news to hear of similar gifts in this country, say endowments of two lectureships at \$4000 or \$5000 each. We make the suggestion, and do not despair of its being acted upon.

An esteemed correspondent, "Rrs-TICES," has favoured us with a communication on the increased equipment of our city churches for pulpit and pastoral work. We quite agree with him as to the unreasonable amount of work expected from city ministers in general, and ministers of the Presbyterian churches in particular. Rusticus points out the only two remedies which can be brought to bear, namely, that of hiving off, building new churches, and forming additional congregations; or else, providing assistants for the or r-taxed ministers,—which he considers preferable. If it came to be a matter efepinien, we might argue in favour of "the little farm well tilled," but as large congregations in point of fact exist, we 'cord ally agree with him that every miniter of such a congregation should be so asesisted in his work as to ensure that work being thoroughly dene. Rostices also lays some stress on the point that assistant-

J.

ships would become a valuable training to the greater part of which has already been the better class of Divinity students, subscribed and paid in. Were it not for an accumulation of matter (in type, which will not improve by keeping, THURLOW, lately presented their minister, we had gladly inserted the letter in full; the Rev. James M. Grey, with a seasonbut in the meantime, we thank our correstable expression of their regard for him. pondent for the hint, and trust that those. After a sumptuous repast, graced by the more immediately interested in the quest presence of the ladies, and prepared no tion will think over it, and act upon it.

informs us that at a meeting of the con- with an abundant supply of good cheer. gregation of that name, recently held. a The congregation of CALEDON and MONO deputation was appointed to wait on the is vacant by the translation of the Rev. Rev. James Carmichael for the purpose of Peter Lindsay to Sherbrooke. expressing their esteem for him, and their Alex. McLennan, of Uxbridge, intends satisfaction that the change to Kingston, resuming his work very shortly, if he has lately contemplated, had not taken place, not already done so. His health is much The deputation, which consisted of the improved. Elders of the Church, along with other members, accordingly presented their passional, we may mention,-for we know that tor with an affectionate address, accom- many will be interested in the announcepondent gives good accounts as to the state Temporalities Board, and Secretary of the from time to time. During the past year one of the West India Islands. of Collingwood, where services are now ago, and is still an invalid; but we trust that conducted by the Rev. Alexander Macdon- in the delightful climate to which he has ald in a school-house. One will have to gone he may pass a pleasant winter, and be built at Duntroon also, unless the Union be restored to his numerous friends, and take place and save us the trouble and ex- to the Church of which he is an elder of pense. There are four students from this many years standing, with renewed health congregation attending Queen's College and strength. this session, with a view of studying for more preparing to go the same way."

Sunday School. It will cost about \$2500, were delivered by the Rev. Mesors. Black

The members of St. Andrew's Church, doubt by them, a well-filled purse was pre-A good friend, writing from West King, sented, and the manse larder was stored The Rev.

Before passing from these matters perpanied by a purse containing \$200, which ment — that Mr. WILLIAM R. CROIL, called forth a feeling and suitable reply who was for a number of years the active from Mr. Carmichael. Another corres- and efficient Secretary-Treasurer of the and prospects of the Church at Nottawa- Lay Association of Montreal, sailed last SAGA WEST. "We are getting on in the month from New York for Nassau, the usual way, making a few improvements chief town of the Island of New Providence, we erected commodious sheds at the West. Croil has been in delicate health since the Probably the next work we time that he resigned the responsible office undertake will be a church in the township referred to, now some four or five years

The Annual Meeting of the ST. the ministry; and we have two or three GABRIEL Church, Montreal, Missionary Association was held on the evening of the From the "Hamilton Spect-dor" we 16th of October last; the Rev. Robert learn that the new church in course of Campbell, M. A., presiding. The report construction for the Rev. Robert Burnet, read showed that the lady collectors had is now so well advanced that it is expected raised during the year the sum of \$307.95 to be ready for occupation by New Year's which was devoted to the following Day. The total length of the building is objects. To the Minister's Widow's and \$5 feet, and the width 40 feet. It will Orphan's Fund \$53.70: the Sustentation be a testeful structure, with an airy and Fund \$147.85; the French Mission \$75.08 well lighted basement for the use of the and the Busary Fund \$22.41. Addresses

and Doudiet, and by the Church Agent, Messrs. William Darling, A. B. Stewart, Bertram, Patton and others. A similar meeting of the Missionary Association of St. Mark's Church, Griffintown, was also held about the same time, when a highly satisfactory report of the past year's work done by this young but vigourous Congregation was submitted and commented upon by the speakers who were present. At the last observance of the Sacrament in the Church there were present 104 communicants, largly exceeding the attendance upon any previous occasion. The congregation of St. Matthew's, Point St. Charles, held their Annual Soiree on the evening of the 11th November. attendance was unusually large, the Church being crowded to its utmost capacity. The abundant supply of refreshments, the eleborateness of the decorations, and the heartiness of the whole proceedings, all testified to the warm welcome extended by the people to their deservedly popular minister, Mr. Doudiet. Encouraging words were spoken by the Revs. Messrs. Campbell, Laing, and the neighbouring Wesleyan Methodist Minister, as well as by influential laymen. We hope soon to hear of a new and much larger church being erected in this quarter of the city that is rapidly increasing in population.

The Young Men's Associations of the city have all commenced their regular meetings for the winter, with symptoms of life and activity that are refreshing and The inaugural lecture delivered before the Young Men's Association of ST. PAUL'S Church, was given by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, the President, and was largely attended by members of the congregation. It took the form of a familiar account of Dr. Jenkins' recent visit to Britain and. more particularly of his mission to Edinburg as the accredited representative of the Canadian Church at the last General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The lecture was interesting and the promise was given that leaves from the same note-book should furnish the theme of a future address. The Rev. Gavin Lang opened the session of the Young Men's Association of

ST. Andrew's Church with an able address on Ecclesiastical Union—a subject of deepest interest at the present moment to Christians of all Churches. Professor Murray's Sabbath afternoon lectures have, since our last notice of them, been opened alike to old and young, male and female; the very large attendance at these lectures is sufficient evidence of appreciation on the part of those for whose benefit they have been prepared.

Reports of the PROCEEDINGS of PRES-BYTERIES have reached us from the Presbyteries of Montreal, Victoria, and Glengarry. That which we had expected from Toronto may have miscarried.

The Montreal Presbytery held its stated Quarterly Meeting on the 5th November. The attendance of members, lay and clerical, from the country, was small. There was, however, a good deal of business transacted, which, from the number of onlookers and reporters present, seemed to be of an unusually interesting kind. Certainly not the least important was a resolution introduced by the Rev. Donald Ross of Dundee, respecting the salaries received by ministers, and which Mr. Ross supported at some length in an ablespeech. We shall make the whole matter sufficiently intelligible by simply recording the motion that was ultimately adopted.

"That in the altered circumstances of the country, and its great prosperity, and consequent rise in the cost of living, this Presbytery deem it right and proper to request the congregations generally within its bounds to augment the stipends of their respective ministers at a rate commensurate with the advances made in all other callings and employments of life; and all other callings and employments of life; and that a Committee be appointed, consisting of the Moderator, the clerk, Revs. Dr. Jenkins and Donald Ross, Messrs Croil and Morris, to prepare a scheme for approaching the congregations in this regard and for submitting to them the importance of this subject."

Our earnest hope is that every Presbytery in the Church will take action in this direction. We wonder that there has not been "a strike" among the ministers long ago. Mr. Campbell gave in the Report of the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee, which was read and approved, and the zeal and diligence of Mr. Archibald

Ross, the missionary who had been labour- to it for a number of years," do hereby ing in the augmentation of Grenville, instruct the clerk to remind the managers during the summer months, were duly of the aforesaid Congregations of their acknowledged. And in view of his special delinquency in the premises, and strongly adaptation for missionary work it was to impress upon them the propriet, agreed to request the Synod to shorten his their contributing liberally to this very remaining curriculum of study in Divinity. important scheme of the Church, and the Mr John L. Morris, on behalf of St. carnest desire of this Court that all arrears Andrew's congregation presented a petition due thereto be paid at the earliest date praying for the use of St John's Church, possible, and that henceforth the contribuwas supported by the Rev. Gavin Lang.

After a long debate the Presbytery, by a majority of three decided in the negative: against this decision Mr. Lang protested. craved extracts, and appealed to the Synod. for reasons to be given in. The Rev C. Glass, from Woodstock, N. B., made application to be received by the Presbytery. and his application was referred to a congregations,

The quarterly meeting of the Presny TERY OF VICTORIA was held in St. Andrew's Church, Lindsay, on Tuesday, 5th ultimo.

There was read a communication from the Rev. R. Campbell respecting arrears due from certain Congregations within the bounds of the Presiytery to the Ministers. Widows' and Orphans' Fund, requesting, that suitable action be taken in the matter.

Whereupon it was unanimously resolved gregations was reported and adopted. that this Presbytery having learned with some of them having contributed nothing in behalf of the Manitoba Mission.

Dorchester Street, as the centre of a city tions to said Fund be promptly raised and mission field. The prayer of the petition forwarded at the time specified by act of Synod thereanent.

A discussion, upon the usual investigation of the manner in which the churches had discharged their duty respecting the contributions due to the Schemes of the Synod maturing since the last ordinary meeting, resulted in the following deliver-

Whereas it has became evident upon Committee. Mr Glass is a licentiate of inquiry that a few of our Congregations feel the Church of Scotland, and an ordained at liberty to exhaust their liberality upon minister of the Free Church, who has certain favourite Schemes of the Church to been for some years the principal of an the prejudice and neglect of others which Educational institution at Woodstock. they inconsiderately deem of no impor-The Rev. C. A. Tanner, lately of Sher-tance: therefore Resolved: That the membrooke, and now Principal of the Institute, bers and adherents of our Congregations be of the French Canadian Missionary So and hereby are earnestly and affectionately ciety, at Point aux Tremble, also applied recommended to acquaint themselves with to be received as a missionaay within the the many strong and reasonable claims bounds, which was agreed to. Arrange- which every one of the Synod's Schemes ments were then made for supplying has upon their support, that henceforth vacant charges, and for holding the usual they may cheerfully acquiesce in the Synoannual Missionary meetings in the several dical injunctions anent the same, and with Christian liberality and promptness contribute to each and all of said Schemes without exception. And further that the clerk is instructed to transmit an extract of this deliverance to all the Moderators of the Kirk Sessions within the oversight of this Presbytery, and enjoin them to take suitable action thereen.

> - A very excellent Schedule of Missionary Meetings to be held in the various Con-

The I'resbytery recommended, that in deep regret that certain of their Congrega- cases where arrangements had not been tions, " disregarding the reiterated injune- made that might conflict therewith, advantion of the Synod, are in arrears to the tage be taken of the General Thanksgiving Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund. | day, 14th Nev., for taking up a collection

The Committee appointed for the which they are connected convince us they object reported in favour of utilizing the should attain. Synod's Schedule of Statistics for Presbyterial purposes, and recommended that an in having all its Congregations well filled. analysis thereof be printed and published Not a vacancy remains within its bounds. so as to furnish the desired imformation to It looks forward to new fields ready for every person connected with the Church cultivation which are opening up for its within the bounds of the Presbytery.

On Wednesday, 6th Nov., the Presby- occupy. tery met, according to appointment, in St. Andrew's Church, Eldon, for the induction town is appointed Clerk of the Presbytery

Lochiel, to the aforesaid charge.

The minute appointing this meeting was read, after which public intimation was made of the Presbytery's intention to proceed with the induction of Mr. Mackay! to the charge of Eldon, and no objection having been offered, Rev. J. Allister! Murray, by appointment, proceeded to the pulpit and preached from Matt. xiii. (3-8). Presbytery's missionary at Indian Lands after which Mr. Currie, Moderator pro tem: narrated the steps taken to fill the vacancy, and put the prescribed questions to Mr. Mackay, who gave satisfactory answers thereto.

The Presbytery thereafter did. with solemn prayer, and in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only head of the Church, induct him to the pastoral charge of the Church and Congregation of Eldon, and admit him to all the rights and privileges thereto pertaining. The Rev. Mr. Paul suitably addressed the Intrant, after on the duties of their new justoral relationship by Messrs. Currie and MacLennan, respectively in the Gaelic and English languages. We congratulate the Congrefollowing him to his new sphere of holy meet with a hearty and liberal response. work. It is confidently expected that under his able and energetic ministra-

The Presbytery of Victoria now rejoices operations, and which it soon hopes to

The Rev. John S. Burnet of Martinof the Rev. Alexander Mackay, late of of Glengarry, in room of the Rev. Alex. McKay, who has been translated to Eldon. We trust that the congregations of Lochiel and Dalhousie Mills may speedily secure the services of a Gælic speaking minister. or ministers, for Lochiel is of itself a very large parish, with a splendid Church clear of debt, a snug glebe, and a comfortable new brick manse. Mr. McEachern, the and Roxboro, sent in a satisfactory report of his labours, and mentioned that, in addition to liberal contributions towards his salary, the people had presented him on leaving with a purse of \$87.

> The annual meeting of the Missionary Association of Queen's College was held in the Theological Hall on Saturday, the 16th inst., when the officers were appointed for the current year.

The prospects of the Society are brighter this session than they have been for some years past. Naxt summer it is expected that the Society will which the Congregation were admonished the able to furnish some fifteen students for missionary work. It is to be regretted that the treasury is in a state of almost total depletion. The general purpose to which the funds are devoted is to supplement the salaries of missionary students who may be labouring in desti uto gation of Eldon in the happy choice they have made. Mr. Mackay begins the oversight of that important charge with the ripe experience of many years' successful labour in his Master's service and with the love and esteem of his late Congregations and should the appeal to the various congregations of the Church in supplying vacant charges, and mission stations during the summer months; and should the appeal be made, we trust it will need with a hearty and liberal response.

William John Menzies, Esq., W.S., the tions the charge of Eldon will make rapid I we'l known Agent of the Church of Scotadvances, and soon take that position land, after an extensive tour on this side among our most flourishing Congregations the Atlantic, passed through Montreal last which its numbers, wealth and warm month en route for New York and Liverattachment to the dear old Church with pool. Of course he visited our office where

Agent met Agent. Mr. Menzies has nothing to do with the management of the schemes of the Scotch Church, his duties being entirely of a professional character. but his services are indispensable to the Assembly, which besides has its procurator, Mr. Lee, as well as its Parliamentary Solicitor, Mr. Graham. The Agent is one of the Rev. John Marshall Lang's active working Elders in the Parish of Morning-By the way, we notice that the idea of a general Agent for the schemes of the Church of Scotland has been revived. The India Mission Committee have taken the matter up in earnest, and we have even understood that they have advertised for their man, offering a minimum salary of £500 a year. Their idea is to get "a clergyman if pos ible," but, with all due respect, we think that in this they make a decided mistake.

During the last few months there has been an unusual number of deaths among the ministers of the Established Church. Dr. Bisset of Bourtrie and Dr. Brenner of Banff, who have lately been called away, were both scholarly, learned men, and authors of books. The late Dr. Runciman of St. Andrew's Parish, Glasgow. Dr. Maitland of Kells, and Dr. Tannoch of Glamis, in Fortarshire, were each eminent in their profession. We observe that a monument is to be erected in the mave of the Cathedral in memory of Dr. McLeod, towards which £700 has already been subscribed. It may not be generally known that the citizens of Glasgow shortly after Dr. McLeod's death, contributed the handsome amount of nearly £19,000, to be presented to Mrs. McLeod. The Rev. Mr. Johnson of Loch Ryan has been inducted to the Parish and Church of Port of Monteith. The vev. James S. Douglas, formerly of Peterboro, Ontario. is doing double duty as an ordained Missionary and medical practitioner in the Parish of Harray and Birsay, a rather celebrated parish, of which Dr. Traill, of the University of Aberdeen, was for a long time minister. It is the largest l'arish m Orkney, having a population of about 1600 souls, divided by hills and behs into seven situated in the centre of the city,

sections, each large enough to be a parish. Mr. Douglas acknowledges subscriptions towards the erection of the Birsay Mission. into a parish, quoad sucra, and would not refuse a mite from any of his Canadian friends.

The Presbytery of Edinburgh has been again considerably exercised over the "Cramond Harmonium Case." At its last meeting arrangements were made for a public meeting to hear the Revs. Dr. Robertson, J. M. Lang, and Dr. Milligan, in reference to their respective missions to the continents of Europe and America. It was also agreed that ministers should call the attention of their congregations to the blessings conferred through the instrumentality of John Knox, as the most fitting way of observing the Ter-Centenary of his death-Sunday the 24th November.

The Nova Scotian Church RECORD, November, acknowledges receipt of the Rev. Geo. M. Grant. How the Church has managed to get on without him ail summer, we are at a loss to understand. Along with authentic details of the murder of the Rev. D. J. Gordon of Erromanga, who, like Bishop Patteson, has fallen a victim to cruel suspicion on part of the natives, the RECORD contains an interesting account of the departure of Mr. Annand and his wife, who have gone to the New Hebrides as missionaries to heathen, from the Presbyterian the Churches of the Lower Provinces, to share the labours and the dangers of Dr. Geddie and Mr. Goodwill, sent thither years ago by the same little Church which thus has become an example to us all.

The Schemes.

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

In accordance with the unanimous resolution of Synod, the Editorial Committee of THE PRESBYTERIAN have taken the initiative in providing an OFFICE for the transaction of all business connected with the issue and management of this Magazine The premises are conveniently

It may be stated that out of the profits of the first year of the new series of THE PRESBYTERIAN, the Committee have been enabled to furnish this office with every requisite, even to a commodious fire-proof safe.

This step has been taken in concert; with the Conveners of other schemes of the Church, and it is confidently anticipated that whatever outlay may be involved in its maintenance will be more than repaid by the increased facilities which have finances of the Church.

and the United States, which visitors may i till 4 p.m.

NO. 210 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL | made use of our advertising columns, and hope that their continued patronage may prove alike beneficial to them and to us.

> Unless notified to the contrary by the 15th of this month, we shall continue to despatch the Presbuterian to the same addresses, and in like numbers as during the year now drawing to a close.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS FUND.

As in former years the annual congrebeen thus provided for managing the gational collection, appointed by the Synod on behalf of this Fund, falls to be taken Through the kindness of contempora-iupon the first Sabbath of the new year, ries, the office will be supplied regularly; the 5th January, 1873. No season could with the leading secular and religious be more suitable than the one fixed for journals published in the Dominion, as aiding this truly Christ-like object, It is well as the periodical records of the Pres- fit that, at a time when tamily reunions byterian Churches of Scotland, Ireland, take place, those whose domestic circles remain unbroken should generously reinspect during "office hours," from 10 a.m. member the households that have been rendered cheerless and lonely by the With this number of the Presbyterian, absence forever therefrom of husbands and we close the first volume of the New fathers. The widow and the orphan are Series. Notwithstanding certain disad-specially dear to the Lord, and they ought vantages, and, conscious of many imper- also to be dear to all that love Him. The fections, we yet close the labours of the widow and orphan are meet objects of year, thankful for the large and encourage compassion even when left well provided ing support we have received. The for; but ministers, as a class, have no circulation of the magazine has increased farms or profitable business to bequeath from 1400 to 9500! and not only this: to their families like other parents, so that backed up as we have been by congre- when they, the stay of their households, gations in their corporate capacity, we are removed, the event is, to those they have enjoyed an absolute immunity from leave behind, generally not only one of bad debts, and have consequently been sadness, but of serious embarrassment. It enabled to meet every obligation. Thus shows how self-sacrificing and unsparing encouraged we shall continue our best of their strength, our ministers have been endeavours to make the Presbyterian a that the number of widows now receiving vet more welcome visitor in every house- aid from the Fund is thirty-three, an hold, and still more useful to the Church, extraordinarily large number considering Large as our circulation now is, we do the size of the Church, while the orphans not despair of seeing it considerably and other beneficiaries number forty-one. augmented during the ensuing year. A The Board, at the instance of the Synod, very little reflection will convince Kirk have increased the allowances to annuitants Sessions that, whether they receive a re-, during the past year, a step which the turn in the shape of subscriptions to the enhanced cost of living rendered most Magazine or no, it will pay them over and desirable; and it remains for our prople over again to put it into the hands of to show that the Board have only inter-every member of their congregations. preted their feelings fairly in counting We owe thanks also to these who have upon increased liberality to this Fund, with special favour among the schemes of the Church.

> ROBERT CAMPBELL. Chairman of the Board.

THE FRENCH MISSION

We regret that, in the announcement i which appeared in last month's Presbyterian regarding this Mission, no allusion was made to the fact that, in resolving that the time for amalgamation had not yet come with the French Canadian Missionary Society, the Synod's Committee was not unanimous. From this resolution, the Convener, Rev. Gavin Langt dissented, and both he and Mr. John L. Morris, who has acted, for many years, a, Secretary to the French Mission, have resigned their respective positions and withdrawn from the Committee. Although the omission in the November number, touching the course taken by these esteemed friends, has been partly rectified by the contents of the circular issued by the Rev. W. M. Black, the Interim Convener. to the Clergy of the Church, and copy of which is elsewhere given, we deem it only fair to Mr. Lang, who had given in reasons of dissent against the finding of the majority of his Committee, to make these known to all the readers of the Presbyterian, both Clerical and Lay. These reasons are as follow:-

- 1 Because it was the distinct understanding at the Conference held in St. Paul's Church on the 2nd September, that the final deliverance, of each of the negotiating Committees would be come to previous to the Joint Meeting of both, at which the report of the said Conference was to be submitted.
- 2. Because the argument, that it was right to consult the French Congregation of St. John's Church, was no valid argument, inasmuch as the French Mission Committee, which always held sole jurisdiction over the said Congregation, subject to the review of the Synod alone, had received from the Synod full powers to enter into the proposed Amalgamation, in the way that seemed to them best, if such an Amalramation should be found practicable, and further, because, even though the argument were a valid one, the time in the deliberations of the Committee had passed in which it was competent to arrest the negotiations between the two Missions for any other reason than the

- which has hitherto been marked by them rejection of the Terms of Amalgamation agreed upon at the Conference between the two Sub-Committees in St. Paul's Church on the 2nd September-terms which had been unanimously approved by the Synod's Committee at their meeting of the 9th September.
 - 3. Because the argument, allud d to in the preceding Reason was evidently offered, and insisted upon, with the view of hindering the accomplishment of the Amalgamation, to the principle of which the Synod, without eventa division, agreed, and the steps toward which, with the exception of the mere formal consummation, had all been completed.
 - 4. Because it was clearly indicated that measures were in contemplation, by which it was sought to continue, in a modified form, the work of the Synod's French Mission, and so frustrate the object which the Synod had in view in instructing, if practicable, the Amalga-mation of their Mission with the French Ganadian Missionary Society.
 - 5. Because another argument advanced, having reference to the future intentions of the Canada Presbyterian Church, was, especially at that stage of deliberation, inadmissible in considering the question of Amalgamation with a Society, whose Constitution recognises no Churches as such.
 - 6. Because the Protester, believing that there was no reason why the Amalgamation, approved in principle by the Synod, should not have been carried out immediately after the meeting of Synod, desires to protect himself against all necuniary abilities arising from the grievous delay which, against his carnest, repeated individual remonstrances, has been interposed, and which, in view of the Synod's having made no provision for the continuance of the French Mission, he has, all along, declared that he will not be answerable for in any way.

With reference to the last, the 6th Reason, it ought to be explained that one of the articles in the Basis of Amalgamation, drawn up at the Conference of the two Sub-Committees in St. Paul's Church on 2nd September, provided 'that the Church of Scotland's French Mission Committee was to enter the Union with all its debts, which were, including the \$500 due to the Ladies Auxiliary Committee, to rank along with the liabilities of the French Canadian Missionary Society.' Mr. Lang, in view of this provision. and holding, otherwise, strong views on the desirableness of the Amalgamation itself, protested against bearing any share in the payment of any arrears or current expenses resting, owing, or which might yet be incurred, by the remanent Synod's French Mission Committee.

The following is the Convener's Circular alluded to in our last, and to which we now earnestly invite the attention of the office-bearers of the Church.

MONTREAL, 12th November, 1872.

REV. AND DEAR SIR.

As already intimated to you through the pages of the November number of the Presbyterian, the French Mission Scheme of our Church is to be continued. The Committee appointed by the Synod at its meeting in the month of June, to carry out the amalgamation of that Scheme with the French Canadian Missionary Society have, after full deliberation, agreed that the time for amalgamation has not yet come. They have arrived at this conclusion chiefly from a consideration of the present position of the French Canadian Society, and also from the fact that the members of St. John's French Congregation desire further time for consideration before dissolving their connection with the Presbytery of Montreal.

Mr. Lang, the Convener, having dissented from a resolution of the Committee to the effect that the final decision upon the question of amalgamation with the French Canadian Missionary Society be delayed till after a conference with the congregation of St. John's Church, to the deep regret of the other members, resigned the Convenership and his place on the Committee. After Mr. Lang's withdrawal

I was appointed Interim-Convener.

Mr. Doudiet having been inducted Minister of St. Matthew's Church, Point St. Charles, St. John's Church is at present vacant. An arrangement has, however, in the meantime been made with Mr. Doudiet to conduct a French service on Sunday afternoons in this Church.

About five hundred dollars are due for arrears of stipend to the Missionaries, and for interest on the mortgages. Three hundred dollars will also be required to carry on the work of the Mission till the meeting of Synod in June next. In addition to these sums, five hundred dollars are due to the Ladies' Committee, which it is

desirable should now be re-paid.

The Synod appointed the usual collection to take place on the first Sunday of July, but owing to some uncertainty as to the future of the Mission, very few contributions have as yet been received. The Committee earnestly hope that if you have not already made a collection in your Congregation for this Scheme, you will do so at your earliest convenience, that the claims against the Mission may be promptly and fully met.

On behalf of the Committee,

WILLIAM M. BLACK, Interim-Convener.

Remittances to be sent to

JAMES CROIL, Esq.,

210 St. James Street, Montreal.

GENERAL SUSTENTATION FUND.

We beg leave again to remind Congregations that contributions for this fund should be forwarded to the Treasurer immediately, otherwise, they will not be available for the next payments. This is a matter of vital moment.

Information respecting the JUVENILE MISSION is unavoidably postponed till next month.

Family Reading for the Lord's Day.

NOTES FOR SABBATH MEDITATION SELECTED.

- 1. The great business of life is to pre pare for death.
- 2. They who look often in their glass, should look oftener unto their coffin; this will check the pride of beauty.
- 3. If every hour is so short, it becomes us to improve it as it flies, and not dream our life away, lest death awakens us at last in terrible surprise, instead of finding us watching and prepared for his summons.
- 4. Our sins are all recorded before God, nor doth a vain or foolish thought pass through our minds unnoticed.
- 5. They who confess their iniquities, desire to unveil their inmost soul to God, and fly to the sinner's refuge, will find all cancelled, forgiven, and forgotten; and shall be made glad with the light of God's countenance.
- 6. The aged who defer the thoughts of dying are peculiarly inexcusable.

SENEX.

Poetry.

CELEBRATION OF THE TERCENTENARY OF JOHN KNOX'S DEATH.

Sound high a hymn of grateful praise from Scotland's shores to-day, Let ancient towns with battered walls and

heath-clad mountains grev.

And purple moors and dungeon-floors, by Scotland's martyrs trod,

Give back an echo to the strain of thankful praise to God!

Nor let the music die away, but o'er the Ocean swell,

And ring again from other lands where Scotland's children dwell

From where above the orange-groves the Southern cross is seen

To the cold Northern plains that lie neath snows of glittering sheen.

Then let us echo back the notes from our Canadian strand,

For Scotsmen love their country's Kirk in their adopted land:

Where many a settler's cabin-home, far in the forest wild,

Hath echoed to the Scottish psalm the mother taught her child.

Methinks behind the gathered shades of these

three hundred years
I see a dark and troubled time of mingled hopes and fears.

When tumults raged, and brothers' hands were dyed with crimson stains;

A time when fettered men awoke to struggle with their chains!

Ah! brave young Patrick Hamilton, thy martyr-fires gleam bright,-

The first of Scotland's witnesses, thou noble Christian knight!

But those blue wreaths, that curled that day above thy murdered youth,

Stirred up in Scotland many a heart to battle for the Truth.

And soon that Truth was spread abroad o'er Scotland far and wide,

Nor knightly sword nor priestly ban could stem the rising tide;

In vain those lurid flames delight proud Beaton's savage eyes,

If, for a Wishart, -done to death, -God bids a Knox arise!

The lion heart-the daring hand-the glance both keen and true,

The soul on fire with holy zeal—the will to dare and do,-

The skill and wisdom to design—the promptness to perform;
Ah! worthy pilot Scotland found to guide her

through the storm!

It was no idle, waking dream that cheered his soul that day

When from the galley-deck he saw St Andrew's steeples grey.

And seemed to hear the blessed words from that beloved shore,

"Here, where thou first didst preach the Word, thy voice shall sound once more."

Ere long that presage was fulfilled, and error's gloomy night

Had vanished, as the darkness flies before the dawning light,

For God was with His faithful ones, and His Almighty hand

Broke priestly chains and dungeon-bars o'er all the ransomed land.

Then let us keep with thankful hearts this celebration day,

And to the heroes of our faith our reverent

homage pay; Yet unto God, and God alone, our grateful praise ascend.

Who called His servants to the work and brought it to the end.

And we, to whom this blessing comes through long descending years,

The faith our fathers won and kept through warfare, blood and tears,

Still let us firmly guard its truth, and shed its light abroad, Till over every darkened land is shed the light

of God.

CANADENSIS.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO. GROUP I.

Vaughan,...Monday,...13th Jan., 1873, at 7 p.m. West King. Tuesday, ...14th "King,........ Wednesday, 15th " 46 "

Newmarket, Thursday, 16th " " "
Deputation: the Ministers of these charges. and Mr. Mullan.

GROUP II. Stouffville,..... Monday, 13th Jan., at 7 p.m. Georgina,Tuesday, ...14th Uxbridge,......Wednesday,15th 41 u Markham,.....Thursday, ..16th u

Scarboro',Friday,17th " "
Deputation: the Ministers of these charges and Mr. Macdonnell.

GROUP III. Bowmanville,... Wednesday, 22nd Jan., at 7 p.m. Whitby,.....Thursday,...23rd "

Pickering,.....Friday,24th Deputation: the Ministers of these charges, and Mr. Mullan.

GROUP IV. Caledon, Monday, Dec. 16, 1872, at 2 p.m. Mono, " "
Orangeville, Tuesday, ... "
Arthur, Wednesday, "
Fergus, Thursday, " " 16, 7 p.m. 17, " u 18, " " 19, " "

Garrafraxa, ..Friday " 20, 2 p.m. Hillsburgh, ... " " 20, 7 p.m. Deputation: the Ministers of these charges,

and Messrs. Carmichael and Aitken.

GROUP Y.	SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY FUND.
Osprey,Monday,Jan. 13, 1873, at 7 p.m. Dunedin,Tuesday, " 14, " 11 a.m. WestNot- tawas- } " " 14, " 7 p.m.	McNab and Horton \$18 00 King 2 00 Georging 7 75
aga,) East Not- tawas- Wednesday, "15, "11 a.m.	Guelph
aga	Rev. G. D. Ferguson, Treasurer
Mulmur,Thursday, " 16, " 2 p.m.	FRENCE MISSION.
Scotch)	S. School, Ross and Westmeath
Settle- ment, Gwil- Friday, "17, "2 p.m.	McNab and Horton 18 00 Perth, additional 8 00 Nottawasaga West 5 00
limbury J St.John's,)	Pakenham
Gwil- " " 17, " 7 p.m.	Donations
Deputation: the Ministers of these charges and Mr. Strahan. For Gwillimbury, Mr. Fraser.	Elgin and Athelstan
The meeting at Torouto will be held on Tueş- day, 21st January, (in connection with meeting of Presbytery). Deputation: Messrs. Car-	JAMES CROIL, Treasurer. \$279 00
michael (West King), Aitken, Mullan and Fraser.	GENERAL SUSTENTATION FUND.
IF It was agreed that a special collection should be taken up at each of these meeting, either for the	Guelph, in full
Manitoba Mission of for the Presbytery's Home Mission.	Hornby, in full
	Lachine, in full
Acknowledgments.	Plantagenet, in full
	Lanark, in full
QUEEN'S COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND.	Dummer, in full
Subscriptions acknowledged to the 15th October, 1872 \$97681 \$5	Pakenham, in full 25 00 West King, in full 40 00
15th October, 1872	West King, in full 40 00 Chelsea, in full 25 00 Middleville and Dalhousie, in full 40 00
\$100, \$25; John Fraser, 2nd instal. on \$500, \$125; F. J. George, bal.	Brock, in full
on \$200, \$50 200 00	Quebec, in full
Kippen; Andrew McKenzie, \$1.25; John Doig, \$2; Thomas McGregor,	New Richmond, in full
\$2; Angus McKay, \$1; Thomas Young, \$1; Duncan McGrigor, \$1;	Stirling, in full
James Cooper, \$1; John Cooper,	Nottawasaga, in full 40 00 Roslin and Thurlow, in full 35 25
\$1; Charles McLeod, \$2	Three Rivers, on account
2nd instal. on \$100	Williamstown, in full
London; Gavin Rowat, \$5; Richard	Martintown
Anderson, \$5; Alexander Duguid, \$2	Vaughan, in full
CORNWALL; Samuel Cline, 1st instal. on \$100, \$25; William Ross, additional, \$30	\$1213 56
Pertu: Robert Scott, val. on \$4, \$2;	MANITOBA MISSION.
Andrew Gamble, (Bathurst,) bal. on \$20, \$10; James Spalding, (Perth), bal. on \$10, \$5	N. Dorchester
(Perth), bal. on \$10, \$5	St. Andrew's Church, Toronto 53 67
	\$63.67
W. IRELAND, Treasurer. Kingston, 15th November, 1872.	G. H. Wilson, Treasurer.

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