

his grand object to bestow an eternity of empire upon the papal throne; and to accomplish this, he strove to inflict an eternity of thralldom upon the human mind. His daring aim was to make the chair of Peter equally stable and absolute with its fellow-seat in pandemonium."—P. 85.

"Lest the work of vengeance should slacken, Rome held out dazzling bribes, equally compounded of paradise and gold. She could afford to be prodigal of both, for neither cost her any thing. Paradise is always in her gift for those who will do her work, and the wealth of the heretic is the lawful plunder of the faithful. With such a bank, and permission to draw upon it to an unlimited amount, Rome had no motive, and certainly would have had no thanks, for any ill-judged economy. The fanatics who mustered for the crusade hated the person and loved the goods of the heretic. Onward they marched, to earn heaven by desolating earth. The work was three centuries ago. It was done effectually at last, however. 'Neither sex, nor age, nor rank, have we spared,' says the leader of the war against the Albigenses; 'we have put all alike to the sword.' The churches and the workshops, the Christianity and the industry, of the region, were swept away by this simoom of fanaticism. Before it was a garden, behind it a desert. All was silent now, where the solemn melody of praise and the busy hum of trade had before been so happily blent. Monarchs had drained their exchequers to desolate the wealthiest and fairest portion of their dominions; nevertheless they held themselves abundantly recompensed by the assurance which Rome gave them of crowns and kingdoms in paradise."—Pp. 92, 93.

Papery is unchanged, as intollerant now as ever. After a splendid chapter on the Canon Law, Mr. Wylie thus writes:—

"As the world grows better, the Papacy grows worse. The Papacy of the present day, so far from being set off by a comparison with the Papacy of the middle ages, rather suffers thereby; for of the two, the latter certainly was the more tolerant in its actings. No thanks to Rome for being tolerant, when there is nothing to tolerate. No thanks that her sword rusts in its scabbard, when there is no heretical blood to moisten it. But let a handful of Florentines open a chapel for Protestant worship, and the deadly marshes of the Maremma will soon read them the lesson of the Papacy's tolerance; or let a poor Roman presume to circulate the Word of God, and he will have time in the papal dungeons to acquaint himself with Rome's newsprung liberality; or let the Queen's Government build colleges in Ireland, to introduce a little useful knowledge into that model land of sacerdotal rule, and the anathemas which will instantly be hurled from every Popish altar on the other side of the Channel, will furnish unmistakable evidence as to the progress which the Church of Rome has recently made in the virtue of toleration. Assuredly Rome will not change so long as there are fools in the world to believe that she is changed."—P. 156.

#### MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The arrival of the mail this week brings an account of the November meeting of the Commission, and seldom, since the stirring times of the Ten Years' controversy, has there been a meeting where so much important business has been transacted. It is well known that the last General Assembly sent a special re-

mit to the Sustentation Committee, to mature a plan for the more efficient working of the Sustentation Fund, and to lay said plan before the November Commission, with the view of its being transmitted to the various Presbyteries for their opinion. That plan has been prepared, and at a large meeting of the Committee, and a large meeting of the Commission, the plan was unanimously adopted, and transmitted to the Presbyteries for consideration. The objects and advantages of the scheme are thus briefly stated:—

1. To secure, as far as is practicable, a minimum stipend for all the ministers of the Church, rather above that which they receive at present, and to place it at the same time on a footing that will give it far greater stability.

2. To open a way by which the income of all the ministers may be raised indefinitely higher than that minimum, and by which, at least, many of them will attain to the amount named by the General Assembly, of £150, exclusive of the sum payable to the Widow's and Orphan's Fund.

3. To improve, by a special provision, the income of that class of ministers whose sacrifices were the greatest at the Disruption, and whose privations are the severest now.

4. To facilitate the due extension of the Church without impoverishing her existing ministry.

5. To give contentment and confidence to the most liberal and laborious supporters of the fund, by making them certain that their strength will no longer be spent in beating the air, nor their generosity abused, by being made to minister to the supineness and the selfishness of those who seem to think it is more blessed to receive than to give.

We shall return to this matter and give an analysis of the scheme. It is entitled to the most calm and serious consideration of every non-established section of the visible Church.

Dr. Candlish gave a most encouraging report on the state of the Education Fund. The most fearful apprehensions were entertained, that, in consequence of the want of a public collection this year, the periodical contributions would evidence a considerable deficiency, and so, would there have been but for the unwearied assiduity of the Convener. Foreseeing that the Martinmas dividend could not be paid without forestalling the funds, Dr. Candlish wrote private communications to twenty-eight individuals, and from these he received the munificent sum of £2,700 sterling. Not one of the individuals to whom the Dr. wrote refused; on the contrary, they all gave with the utmost cordiality and delight. And now the fund has been enabled to start fair and clear on its new footing.

Other important reports were given in, but the next business that mainly engrossed the attention of the Commission, was the address from Dr. Baird, of New York, on the condition and prospects of Evangelical religion on the Continent of Europe, from which that learned Divine had just returned. The report is admirable, and will well re-pay an attentive perusal. In our next we shall furnish our readers with its leading lineaments.

#### TO AGENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

As the end of the current year is now approaching, we would request our Subscribers to pay the amount of their subscriptions due to the nearest Agent. We have lately been engaged in transmitting to our Agents, lists of the Subscribers in their different localities, with the amounts due by each to the 31st December; and trust that our Subscribers will make an effort to pay their respective amounts, and that our Agents will remit the sums received, as promptly as possible. We trust we shall be able to complete the transmission of all these lists before the close of the year. We would call special attention to our terms for 1852, only *Ten Shillings* if paid in advance, if not, the subscription will be, as heretofore, *Twelve Shillings and Six Pence*. Of course, parties in order to avail themselves of these terms, will require to pay beforehand all arrearages, the amount of which can be known by application to the nearest Agent.

#### SUPREME COURT.

The Michaelmas Term of the Supreme Court here opened last Tuesday, on which day the Court was occupied in delivering judgments and hearing motions. There was a full Bench and a considerable number of the Bar in attendance. The remainder of the week has been taken up with hearing arguments upon legal questions arising in various cases. As there is not much business of this nature before the Court, it will likely adjourn till the Fourth Tuesday of the present month, when the Sittings after Term will commence for the trial of Summary and Jury causes.

EDINBURGH QUARTERLY REVIEW.—Messrs. L. Scott & Co.'s reprint of the October number has arrived, and fully sustains the high character which this Periodical has attained, in the walks of literature and science. The first article, "Comparative Philology,"—the third, "Sources of Expression in Architecture,"—the fourth "Juvenile Delinquency,"—and the ninth, "Official Catalogue of the Great Exhibition,"—are all excellent, and will well repay a careful perusal.

LETTERS RECEIVED.—John Main, Esq., Richbucto, 2, with remittance. James G. McKeen, Esq., Plaister Cove, C.B., we wrote to Mr. McK. last week, and shall be happy to hear at any time. Mr. Donald McDonald, Mabou, C.B., directions attended to, shall be happy to hear as soon as convenient. Mr. Hugh Chisholm, St. John, N. B., 2, we wrote to Mr. Chisholm last week, and enclosed the Bills of our friends in King's co. N. B.—our Subscribers in that quarter will oblige by an early settlement with Mr. Chisholm of the amounts due.

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC!—Galvanized Seven-pence half-pennies are in circulation through the city; from their close resemblance they are easily mistaken for Half-sovereigns.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HALIFAX CURLING CLUB took place at the Caledonia Hotel on Monday evening, December 8th, when the following gentlemen were elected office bearers for the year ensuing:—

Capt. H. M. Drummond, 42nd Royal Highlanders, President; Mr. John McDougall, Vice President; Mr. George McKenzie, Ass. V. President; Mrs. John Richardson, Patroness; Mr. James Reid, Patron; Mr. Adam Reid, Treasurer; Mr. W. R. Cogswell, Secretary; James Williamson, James Gray, Alex. Ogsen, H. C. D. Twining, Patrick Sheils, Council.

An Inquest was held at West Branch, East River, on Saturday the 29th November, on the body of Ann McDonald of that place, found dead in the woods the day previous. Ann McDonald was a widow of about 80 years of age. She resided for some years almost alone in a farm-house on the out-skirts of the back-settlement of the East River, her sole companion being a favourite dog, with which she shared her meals, and often-times her bed. Her state of loneliness was more a matter of choice than of necessity. Her kind neighbors, who cheerfully supplied her little wants, would have willingly admitted her an inmate of their houses, but she preferred living alone in her own solitary habitation. She was in the habit of visiting some one of her neighbors twice or thrice a week; always accompanied by her dog.

On Tuesday 25th she visited one of her neighbors' houses where she had dinner, and left for home early in the afternoon. The distance between the two places is about one and a half miles, the third part of which is under woods. There is a footpath which she must have travelled hundreds of times before. Thursday following, one of her nearest neighbors called at her house, and on finding nobody there nor any indication that a fire had been used for a day or two, search was immediately made in the direction of the already mentioned woods. The body was found on Friday, within a mile of the foot-path, apparently on the spot where she had laid down on the first night after losing her way. It is supposed she lost her path, owing to some windfalls which the late gales had blown across the way.

It appears, that no sooner was life extinct (perhaps before) than the dog commenced feeding on the dead remains of his late benefactress. The skull and bones of the face were entirely laid bare, and the joints of the neck destroyed to such a degree that the head was completely separated from the trunk.—There is no doubt of this being the work of her own dog, as the snow which fell on Wednesday and remained on the ground until the body was discovered, would have shown the tracks of any other animal that might come near the place.

The dog which has exhibited this savage and unnatural disposition, so much at variance with the generally entertained opinion of the habits of these animals in such cases, was of that species often met with in the country—middle-sized, long-legged, and gaunt body; with a prominent, savage, and melancholy looking eye. Feed them as you may, they always appear lean and haggard. Of course the dog was killed.—*Com. to Eastern Chronicle.*

A Coroner's Inquest was held at Little Harbour on the 5th Dec, on the body of James Reid, Senior, who died suddenly on that day. It is supposed he died in a Fit, probably Apoplectic, as he was of full and plethoric habits, and subject to fainting Fits for some time back. Mr. Reid was in the 66th year of his age, and was one of the first settlers in Little Harbour.—*ib.*

A GOOD MOVE.—The C. B. News states that the Provincial Government has forwarded to the Registrar of Deeds for that County, one of Milner's Fire Resisting Safes, manufactured in England, for security against fire of the books, papers, &c., belonging to his office.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The committee of this Institution, have engaged the Rev. Mr. Hitchborne, to deliver a course of Lectures this season, on "Ancient and Modern Mechanic Art," "Roger Bacon," "The Art of Printing," and "James Watt and the Steam Engine." Tickets can be had at Messrs. McKinlay's book store.—*B. N. American.*

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, HALIFAX, DEC. 3, 1851.—His Excellency the Lieut. Governor has been pleased to direct the issue of a General Commission of the Peace for the County of Victoria, to bear date this day, and to include the names of the undermentioned gentlemen:

Murdock McKaskill, *Custos Rotulorum*; Kenneth McLeod, Donald McLeod, Duncan McRae, William Jones, John Munro, John Campbell, James Sutherland, Charles McKenzie, Charles J. Campbell, John Robertson, Alexander Munro, William Kidston, Joseph Hart, Alexander McRae, William Ross, Angus Buchanan, J. W. Burke, and Alexander McKay, Esquires.