Mr. Editor ;

A small pamphlet was put into my hands a short time since, which I have learned to prize very highly. It is a book of Divine Songs in the Gaelic language composed by the Rev. Donald McDonald, well known here as a Minister of the Church of Scotland. I should value the sentiments contained in this book from what I know of them under any circumstances; but more particularly at the present time when I am endeavouring (in order to make myself more useful to my countrymen in this Island) to master the Gaelic language, it becomes doubly useful to me. It has a large fund of the very best words contained in the language, and the poetry being most finished, the rhyme complete; and having myself naturally a retentive memory for good verse, I am able in a very short time to learn by heart considerable portions of it, which in this way become of essential benefit to me; both for the excellent sentiments they contain, and also the choice words with which they furnish my mind. Indeed I scarcely ever came across a pamphlet, that I value more than the present little volume. I wonder very much, that so many of them have been allowed to be idle on the shelves of the Bookseller's store; and that they are not more usually to be found in the hands of those throughout the Island who could read them, and even if there are many who speak the language that could not read them, yet they could understand and appreciate the sentiments they contain, by having the same read to them by others. These sentiments as far as I am able to judge, are most sublime, and also in accordance with Scripture truth. They are also deep and learned, and the words by which they are expressed appear to be most apt and choice, displaying great natural talent for poetry in that language. One hymn more particularly has struck my fancy and attention, the one which the author designates "Laoidh Taingealachd," or a song of thanksgiving. I feel so much pleased with this hymn, that I have been trying to catch the sense of what it contains, and turn it into blank verse in English, and have even tried to make some Latin verse out of it, but both these I find difficult enough. I am convinced now more than ever of the truth of what I have so often heard, that we must not allow ourselves to think in one language, if we hope to be able to speak or write well in another. Every language has its own peculiar idiom or style, which will not admit of being blended with the idiom or style of any other language. If I wish for instance to write good and pure Latin in accordance with its own idiom, I must not allow myself first to think in English by writing my sentiments in English and then turning themin to Latin, but I must at once proceed both to think and write in that language, in which I feel desirous to convey my thoughts. There is scarcely any thing perhaps that sounds more insipid (to an English ear) than the English style of a person, (and there are many learned and professional men of this class) whose native tongue has been the Gaelic, and in whose mind it is still uppermost, who when he writes or speaks allows himself to think in Gaelic, and consequently what he wishes to communicate to others in English savours largely of the idiom of that language. But if English savouring of the Gaelic is insipid, I believe the reverse of the matter is almost worse. Gaelic has its own idiom as well as English, and in order to do it justice, you must cast the English style out of sight and try to speak and write, according to the idiom of that language. The fact is, that the more I understand the Gaelic, the more I am convinced of its being a good and expressive language. It is certainly well adapted for two things, poetry and public speaking. It is more particularly well adapted for prayer, and the preaching of the Gospel, and in this case we cannot censure those, who from their youth have been accustomed to hear and speak it, for giving it the preference when listening to the public services of the sanctuary.

We must not judge of the merit, of Gaelic from the manner in which we hear it spoken by illiterate persons. A language gradually degenerates both in sound and grammatical correctness, in proportion as it is left in the hands of the uneducated. Would any one be satisfied to receive as a specimen of good English, the provincial dialect that he hears from the common people who come from different counties in England? The same remark holds good, in a great measure at least, in reference to the language of which we are now speaking. By many, the Gaelic is thought to be an exceedingly harsh language. But I am far from thinking so. I believe it to be rather euphonious than otherwise, and I do not see why it could not be spoken as softly and as elegantly at least as Greek or Hebrew. Its greatest fault, I conceive to be, its being a defective language, that is defective in words. If a considerable number of words were added to it, I conceive it might be made a first-rate language. At present it is very expressive as far as it goes, but its stock of words being enlarged, there could be a greater choice for one to write or to express himself. Could not this be accomplished? The English has been replenished form several other languages, and I think there are many expressions, more particularly in some of the Eastern languages which there could be no great difficulty in converting into Gaelic.

But I have now long wandered from the subject in hand for which digression, (Mr. Editor) I hope you will pardon me. I was saying how much I valued the pamphlet of Divine Sonnets, of which I am in possession, and more particularly one of the songs, the title of which I have already given, and there are two or three verses of this piece which above all the rest has taken my fancy, and which if you will allow me space I will insert here, and afterwards (if I be not too tedious) endeavour to give in English very faintly and imperfectly the sense of what they contain.

Of the 3 verses that we have mentioned, we insert only 4 lines, for the rest we refer our readers to the Book published by Mr. McDonald. They are the remainder of the verse from which we quote and the two following verses.

Oh! m' anam nise nach duisg u
'S a chruit chail cuir air mherreadh
'S buail na teudan gu laidir
Le sealadh aida an Spioraid

I have endeavoured to give as much of the sense of these 3 verses as I could in the following English rhyme; it contains however, very little of the original meaning, and of course it savours of the *Gaelic*, being translated from it.

Awake, my soul, from slumbers spell,
Let thy best powers be raised,
Tune thy harp's strings and lute to song
For thy Creator's praise.

The Holy Spirit shall inspire
Thy hands to touch the chords;
And hell with all its demon-train
Shall tremble at thy word.

Sing of the mercy and the grace
That rescued thee from hell,
Sing of the Saviour's dying love,
It is befitting well.

Sing of the Spirits' quickening power
That roused the from thy sleep;
Sing of the glorious Trinity,
Its varied gifts bespeak.

Because thou sav'dst my soul from death
To help and set me free,
I'll speak of thee while life shall last
Of thy blest Majesty.

When sun and moon and twinkling stars
Have sped their latest flight,
My lyre shall then be tuned afresh
To worship in thy might.

But though my harp's melodious notes
Were set to sweetest lays,
I could not chant one single ode
Worthy my maker's praise.

The Holy Cherubs that frequent
The threshold of his Throne,
Hide their bright face beneath their wingss,
Their sullied mien to own.

I have added the 5th and 6th verses, they are no in the original lines that I have quoted.

Since reading the book of hymns of which I have been speaking, I have endeavoured to compose a little sonnet myself in the Gaelic language. It is an effusion of a little religious experience. It is nothing very great to be sure, but it may be just as profitable to those who can understand and read it, as some other subjects that we find occupying the public prints. It may perhaps leave less space for angry discussion upon Politics, and in that case, it will accomplish one good end. I believe the rhyme in this little piece, if nothing else, is pretty good—as to the sense I would not, in all cases vouch for its correctness. I would be happy, if some good Gaelic scholar either in town or country would criticize it, and point out mistakes that may be found, so that if I should attempt any thing more of the kind, an improvement perhaps might be made.

Mr. Editor, if ever I become a poet, I must attribute it entirely to reading Mr. McDonald's pamphlet, and the influence these sacred poems have had upon my mind. I never before felt much of either the inclination or ability to write poetry, for I can assure you that if all the scraps of rhyme I ever attempted were put together they would scarcely amount to as many verses as I have at present submitted for your paper. The rhyme of the following hymn is the same as that of Mr. McDonald's, that I have mentioned in this communication.

Two or three expressions I have quoted, which I have been careful to acknowledge, and the whole is perhaps more or less in imitation of what I have read in his book, but of course, the result manifests only the crude imagination of the stripling compared with the ripe effusions of the experienced veteran.

LAOIDH BHEAG SPIOIAIDAIL.

"Oh! m' anum nach duisg u"
O mhichurum s o sheachran
Chum do guothiuthean sioiruidh
Chur an guiomh le mor thesteas
Oir tha d uine ro phrieseal
S tha i sir a dhol seachad
S tha sgail a bhais ort aig iadhadh
Mur a grain air an fheasgar.

Tha gras gu soar air a tharaigseadh
Ann an teiraman an t soisgeul
A chum do cridhe a naomhach
'S do thoirt gu aoibheneas s gu misneach
A chum do naimhdean a cheanseach
Tha sir choimhstri ri d'spirod
A thoirt air ais iomhaigh chriosd ort
'S t athnuachadh ge foirfeuchd

Is tha curieadh ro shulemhear
A chum na cuirm so a mhealladh
A thigheann gu ithagusol
"Aig a bhord so a nasguidh,"
Tha an Spirod san teachdaire
Sparradh ort a bhi chintiun
S tha a bhean-huadh-phosda
Taraigse uisge beo chum do shaoradh

Taraigse dhuit aran nach tereig
Taraigse dhuit bainne is fiona
Taraigse gach ni, ni do bheannach
Le aoibhneas maishe is sgiama
Taraigse dhiul gliocas gud stiuradh
Le mor iul aons an t' shlighe
A bheir u dhachuidh gu Pharras
Ma leannas gras ri do chridhe

Oh! nis ma ta imich
'S fag do u cinnhich an saoghal so
'S dean au reighuinn is fearra
'S thoir do gudh do n fhearshaoruidh
Cha n urridh nithe cho diomhann
Air do rian no do shaothair
Ach is arruidh a ghloir ud
Air gach foirneart ga fhaotuinn
Co na cluasan a chuala
Mu nithe luachmhor cho maisseach
Sa riann an Slannighear na throcar
Is righ na gloir a chur seachead
Do gach neach a thug speis dha
S thug geill da chuid reachdan
Bheir e dhachuidh le buaigh iad
'S Cha bhi truaighe ae na gerrean

Cha bhi ocras na tarl or
Cha bhi sprosg or no amhgur
Cha bhi mulad na bron ac
'S char bhi deoir air an gruaidhibh
Cha bhi feum ann air grian ann
No gealach sgiamhach na oidheache
Oir Dia fein bithidh na ghrian dhoibh
Sa sholus siovriudh fa n comhduch

Oh! m' anum nis eirich
S cur an glussdo chuid innail
"S buail na teudan" gu foumhor
"Fo sheoladh" caoimhnal an "Spiorad"
A dheanamh cuil do da Shlanuighar
A riun do shabhladh bho Ifriun
Sa thug an gath as a bhas dhuit
Sa riun do shlanuch le criedeamh

A thug dhuit dochas na beathe
A thug dhuit adharc na shainte
Thug dhuit aoibhneas is solas.
Nach urrain bron thoirl air falb uat
Th'easrig tanam o na bhas
Th'easrig a gabhadh do chossibh
'S nith do shuilean bho dheoribh
'S le mor ghloir riun do chrioslach

W. STEWART.

Lot 49, March 6th 1855.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

PRINCETOWN ROYALTY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Robert Stewart, Royalty,	£0	10	0
George Sinclair,	1	1	0
Allan M'Neill,	0	3	0
George Sinclair, Lot 18,	0	5	0
E. S. Crafer,	0	5	3
Alexander M'Lean,	0	6	0
John Coughlan, Junr.	0	6	3
John Champion Junr.,	0	1	6
John Ramsay, Town Road,	0	10	0
Mr James M'Kay,	0	15	0
Duncan M'Gougan,	0	6	3
Benjamin Thompson,	0	6	0
Robert Thomas,	0	10	0
Mr B. Thompson,	0	3	0
Peter G. Thompson,	0	3	9
George Bearisto, jun,	0	7	0
James Henderson,	0	10	0
Duncan Bearisto,	0	6	0
William E. Dunn,	0	4	6
William E. Crozier,	0	3	0
Daniel Woodside,	0	6	3
Donald M'Gougan,	0	3	9
George Ellison,	0	3	0
A Friend,	0	2	0
	£7	17	6

Received from Mr Francis L. M'Nutt, Treasurer of Princetown Local Committee the above sum of Seven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and six pence, with the further sum of Eleven Pounds Twelve shillings and three pence subscribed at the Public Meeting (Subscribers, names previously pnblished). In aid of Patriotic Fund in all Nineteen Pounds Nine Shillings and nine pence.

THEOPHILUS DESBRISAY,
Treasurer, Patriotic Fund.

The Treasurer of the Patriotic Fund, begs to acknowledge the receipt of Ten Shillings from Duncan M'Lean Esq., New London, in aid of the Patriotic Fund.

Charlottetown 8th March, 1855.

PUBLIC MEETING

A large Meeting of the Shareholders and Consumers of Gas in Charlottetown, was held (according to previous announcement) in the Temperance Hall, on Monday evening last. Neil Rankin, Esq., was called to the Chair, and William Heard, Esq. having been requested to act as Secretary the Chairman opened the proceedings by stating that the object of the Meeting was to take into consideration the large increase in the price of Gas, and to decide on such steps as may be deemed necessary for the general good. After considerable discussion the following Resolution was moved by Robert Hutchinson, Esq., seconded by Joseph MacDonald, Esq.:

"That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that the Gas Company, in engaging to supply Gas at 20s. per 1000 feet, thereby inducing consumers to provide themselves with expensive fittings, and during the first year advancing their price 25s. per 1000 feet, without assigning any reason for so doing, have, in the opinion of this Meeting, been guilty of a breach of faith; and that a Committee of Consumers be appointed to wait on the Directors, to remonstrate against the said advance, and report the result to an adjourned Meeting. to take place in this Hall, on Wednesday, the 21st inst., at 8 p.m.

Which passed unanimously.

The following gentlemen were then named as the Committee—Robt. Hutchinson, T. DesBrisay, J. Rigg, J. M'Donald, G. Beer, jun., Esqrs.: Hon. G. Coles. Messrs. W. Heard. N. Rankin, J. Purdie, J. C. M'Donald and Pidwell. On motion R. Hutchinson, Esq. took the Chair, and the thanks of the Meeting were presented to Neil Rankin, Esq., for his able conduct in the Chair.

Expenditure of the Bazaar Fund to the 7th March 1855.

Paid to Mr. Broderick for the use of the R. Catholic Poor,	£20	0	0

Distributed to the Protestant Poor.

District No. 1.			
Margaret Smith,	0	1	6
Mrs. Evans, 1s 6d, Mrs. Godfrey, 9d	0	2	3
50lbs of Oatmeal distributed,	0	9	1½
Jeremiah Bryant and family, (sent to the Country,) including 12s from Mr Dean and 6s from Mrs Dempsey,	1	10	6
No. 2.			
Mrs. M'Masters,	0	13	1
Widow Farmer,	0	2	9
Widow Smith,	0	1	6
No. 3.			
Mrs. Tuckwell,	0	14	0
Goldsworthy,	0	2	6
No. 4.			
Load of Wood to Blacks,	0	6	0
Do. Mrs. Godfrey,	0	5	0
Cripple Woman from the Country,	0	1	6
No. 5.			
Mrs. Kier,	1	0	8
Mrs. M'Nevin,	2	18	6
Mrs. Brenan,	1	5	9½
Mrs. Roach,	0	4	9
Mrs. Dibbin,	1	2	10
Mrs. Collins,	0	5	3
Mary Wall,	0	9	6
Eliza Kendall,	0	6	0
Mrs. Keating,	1	13	6½
Mrs. Collins, for little Gorges	1	0	0
Sally Macatee,	0	12	0
Quilt to Murphy,	0	10	0
No. 6.			
Alexander Smith,	0	2	3
Wood for Mrs. M'Donald,	0	3	3
No. 8.			
Mrs. Gunn,	1	12	0

The New Perth Temperance Society.

This Society held a Public Meeting at New Perth, on the evening of Monday last, the Rev. John Knox occupied the chair. After praise and prayer, the Chairman made some appropriate remarks on the principles of the Society, and called upon Elder Stephenson to address the assembly. This venerable servant of God, who is now in his 76th year, delivered a most interesting address, in which he detailed the results of the observation and experience of a long life, and urged the adoption of temperance principles by all classes of society. Mr. Charles F. Harris, in a lengthy, argumentative and powerful address, delivered with a great deal of earnestness and energy, enforced the claims of the Temperance Reformation, and called upon all to use their influence to enlighten the public mind, until the voice of the people shall command the Legislature to pass a law that shall *outlaw the vicious traffic* and banish the baneful beverage from the land. Mr. John Kennedy followed in an able and interesting speech, in which he replied to various objections urged against the Society. The Messrs. Robertson, of Georgetown, and Mr. McNeill, of New Perth, warmly pleaded the Cause of Temperance Reform. After discussion and enquiries had been invited by the Chairman, it was unanimouly resolved to form a Division of the Sons of Temperance, and thirteen persons signed a requisition to the Grand Division, oliciting a Charter for a New Division.—*Com*

William E Clark, Esq., has been re-elected for the second District of Prince County, the Roll as far as could be ascertained stood at the close.

Clark 382,
Walsh 262.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Mr. McAusland will deliver a Lecture on the subject of the Steam Engine in connection with Trade and commerce, on Thursday next, the 20th instant, in the Temperance Hall, when steam will be got up and a small Engine constructed by a Mechanic of this Town, will be put into operation.

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber hereby notifies all persons indebted to him, either by Note or Book Account, that unless they make immediate payment, their Accounts will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for collection.

C. CROSS.

March 15.

TEACHER WANTED.

A TEACHER for the Cavandish District School, to whom a liberal allowance will be given, over and above the Government grant.

For the Trustees,
JOHN M. ROBERTSON.

March 17, 1855. Sion x

BIBLE SOCIETY.

THE Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Prince Edward Island Auxiliary Bible Society, will be held at the Temperance Hall, on the evening of Monday the 19th inst., at 7 o'clock.

A collection will be taken up during the Meeting.

WILLIAM CUNDALL,
Secretary.

March 13th, 1855.