

at half-past 7 o'clock in the evening; of which public intimation was given, and this meeting was closed with praise and the Benediction.

OUR OWN CHURCH AND COUNTRY.

NOVA SCOTIA.

COMMUNION SEASON.—This season of Holy Communion has been peculiarly sacred and happy among us. Our people have felt this with deep gratitude to God; though it is too precious a theme to write or publish as if for ostentation. Yet I may say that I have never seen more solemn, genuine, and orderly congregations of devout communicants than in the five Kirk charges in which I have been privileged to take part this season.

PICTOU ISLAND.—The Rev. Mr. Callan made a missionary tour in this Island recently, with much delight and cordial acceptance. He brings a very good report of the worthy islanders, and of the Kirk Missionary there, who is doing an excellent work. Pictou has reason to be thankful for its awakening spirit of Missions, Home and Foreign.

NEW GLASGOW.—The Egerton Presbytery met in St. Andrew's Church on the 3rd inst., in regular quarterly order. All the Ministers were present, as also the Elders of St. Andrew's, St. John's, and Gairloch Churches. The meeting was most happy and harmonious as usual. The following appointments were made for Gairloch congregation: Rev. W. McMillan for Aug. 14, Sept. 25, and Nov. 6; Rev. A. J. MacKichan for Aug. 28 and Oct. 9; Rev. W. Stewart for Sept. 11 and Oct. 23. Also for St. Andrew's, New Glasgow, and Fisher's Grant: Rev. P. Melville for Aug. 21; Rev. R. McCunn for Aug. 28; Rev. W. McMillan for Sept. 11 and Oct. 9; Rev. Mr. MacKichan for Sept. 18; and Rev. Mr. Stewart for Oct. 2.

Rev. Mr. Dunn tendered demission of his pastoral charge in order to facilitate its erection into two parishes, as was proposed. The Presbytery appointed Rev. Mr. Melville to preach by exchange on the 7th inst., and to cite St. Philip's and St. John's congregations to meet the Presbytery in the Westville Church for their interests on Friday, 12th inst., at seven o'clock, P. M. All the brethren spoke in the most cordial terms of Rev. Mr. Dunn; and it was found that he offers his demission not from any dissatisfaction or discord with his congregations, but purely and unselfishly to make way for their proposed subdivision into two parishes.

WESTVILLE.—On Thursday, Clare Park, the residence of Robert Simpson, Esq., Westville, was the scene of one of the most brilliant social events of the season, in the marriage of Miss Simpson to Fred. S. H. Calnick, Esq.; the ceremony being performed in St. Philip's church by the Rev. C. Dunn; after which the bride held a reception at Clare Park. The wedding presents were both costly and numerous, and spoke for the popularity of the bride and groom.

Miss Simpson had presided at the Organ in St. Philip's Kirk with great acceptance for some months past, in gratitude for which, the Choir presented her recently with a very beautiful Family Bible, and several richly-bound volumes of Poetry, besides a most respectful and complimentary address.

HOPEWELL.—The LORD's Supper was commemorated in St. Columba Kirk on June 26, with much comfort and most excellent order, as usual. The Rev. W. Stewart and the Rev. D. Sutherland assisted the Pastor with great acceptance. Sixteen new communicants were added during this half year; making a total of 132 since Mr. Melville's induction in 1881. On the Monday of Thanksgiving, the senior Elder, Mr. Hugh Fraser, received as a token of gratitude and love, two memorial volumes of the Holy Scriptures and of the Metrical Psalms and Paraphrases, in large type. The senior Precentor, Mr. Archibald McLeod, also received, in token of love and gratitude, two memorial volumes of the Holy Scriptures in Gaelic and English with Psalms and Paraphrases in the same beautiful type. It is a delightful privilege to show our love to our aged friends while they are spared amongst us.

The visit of the Rev. D. Sutherland has left a happy impression here, and his admirable services will be long and lovingly remembered.

CAPE JOHN, ETC.—The LORD's Supper was dispensed in this thriving congregation on 24th July. Rev. P. Melville assisted the Pastor in his own dear native Parish, with most sacred and tender memories. To revisit the scenes of youth and home is almost as the opening of a door in heaven, when we meet fondly with loved Christians, the nearest and dearest kindred and friends of auld-lang-syne. What then must it be to meet in heaven with all the good and true! Happier communions we have never had hitherto beneath the sun!

THE LATE REV. ALEX. MCKAY, A. M., was born at Scotsburn, studied at Aberdeen, was ordained in 1852, returned and labored in his native Parish for some time: he was called first to Belfast, P. E. I., and afterwards to