

We are gratified in learning that the good people of St. Paul's, with their usual benevolence, have assisted their minister, the Rev. Mr. McMillan in harvesting his crop.

The Rev. R. Burnet has spent his holidays in Boston and in Ontario. Mr. Burnet has well earned this short period of rest.

The Rev. D. McKenzie, Earltown, spent a couple of weeks at Lochside, Cape Breton. On his return, he gave to the Presbytery a most interesting account of his labors there, and of the state of the congregation at Lochside. It appears that the Church at that place is finished inside as well as outside, and reflects great credit upon the people who built it. At the suggestion of the Rev. R. Burnet, the members of St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, who attend the prayer meeting made a collection amounting to twenty dollars to aid in finishing this church. There is no minister stationed there, but occasional service is given by ministers from other parts. If it were not for the circumstance that this locality is so far away, some of our Gaelic-speaking ministers would visit it now and again.

Quanti Constitit ?—How Much Cost It ?

This was an example under one of the rules in our Latin grammar. May we be allowed to apply it to the matter of our religion? The calculation seems to have occurred to King David: declining to accept as a free gift the abundant provision offered him by Araunah for his sacrifice to the Lord, David said he would not offer to the Lord his God

of that which cost him nothing." An offering to the Lord he would make. It was to be a thank-offering for a very great mercy of the Lord—the deliverance of himself and his people from the deadly pestilence.

The King would not take advantage of another's liberality to provide himself with a thank-offering. His offering must be at some cost to himself. This principle remains under the Gospel of Christ—that OUR RELIGION MUST COST US SOMETHING.

The Hebrew Church was, like our own, an endowed Church as regards its sacred ministry. In the Church established and endowed, the people are not put to charges for the maintenance of religious ordinances for themselves; yet it must be borne in mind that under the former dispensation, besides the tithes, there were the legally prescribed sacrifices, and contributions at regular seasons or for occasional purposes, and that all these were free-will offerings. This also holds in the Church of Christ. Even when the congregation has to undertake the support of church and minister, and other expenses of divine ordinances, this does not fulfil all their duty in the service of God. While providing means of grace for themselves, they must devise liberal things for others.

Members of that Church which has been endowed by the piety of those who felt that their religion should cost *them* something, are under a strong obligation to contribute for the Gospel's sake. Religious privilege cheaply enjoyed can scarcely be said to be enjoyed at all; that which costs us little is considered little worth. The rule of our