

It was not so always. There was a time, which we can easily recollect, when we had Ministers labouring with much diligence and acceptance in eleven or twelve counties, and frequently visiting the adjoining districts. It may be so again. For we have seen great vicissitudes in the history of our church, consisting only of three ministers, on our arrival in the colony, increased to two or three and twenty—again in a most extraordinary and unexpected manner reduced to three—now, again, beginning to increase, and yet about to be enlarged in the good providence of God, in the present and coming generations, to an indefinite extent. For although we have only a few ministers, and one travelling missionary now labouring with unwearied diligence, and much success among many thousands of our population, a number of additional missionaries are required, and we are assured may be expected in the ensuing spring; and it is certainly the duty of the whole Church, as well as the congregations, to which they may be appointed to minister, to aid the Colonial Committee in Scotland in providing funds for their support. It is therefore with no ordinary satisfaction we introduce into our columns, the following earnest appeal from the Convener of the Home Mission Committee, when announcing the collection for the Home Mission Fund. The collection which we have no doubt will be liberal, is to be made in all our congregations and preaching stations, in the ensuing month of February; and the sums, including such subscriptions and donations as may be obtained, are to be remitted forthwith to David Allison, Esq., Halifax, the Treasurer under the direction of the Synod.

HOME MISSION FUND.

The Committee of the Home Mission Fund beg to remind the Ministers of the Church, that by appointment of the Synod, the Annual collection on behalf of the Fund, is to be made in the month of February in all the congregations and stations within the bounds of the Synod;—and they earnestly hope that each minister, will bring before his people,—and before those he addresses at preaching stations,—the claims of this Fund,—on the occasion of his giving the intimation of the collection, on the previous Sabbath.

The Committee embrace the present opportunity of stating generally, for the information of the Members and Friends of the Church, that the Home Mission Fund was instituted, at the late meeting of Synod, and that the object of the Fund is to defray the expenses incurred by the Colonial Committee in Scotland, in sending out missionaries,—and to support such Missionaries, until they shall have been inducted as pastors of distinct charges.

Though there are so many adhering congregations still vacant,—and so many new congregations might be formed,—as well as scattered localities which require to be visited Ministerially,—within the bounds of the Synod,—yet the Colonial Committee have only one Missionary, at present, labouring in this large field, and there is reason to believe, that the little success of the Committee in engaging preachers to enter on a career where their services are so much needed, arises in no small degree, from an apprehension that no adequate provision can be

made by the Colonists themselves, for the support of a stated Ministry,—and that Ministers coming out here, must, when their term with the Colonial Committee expires, return to Scotland or be left to struggle on, with an inadequate income, the rest of their days.

It is earnestly hoped, therefore, that the collections about to be made, in behalf of the Home Mission Fund, will be such as will disabuse the minds of the Licentiates in Scotland in regard to the particular just alluded to,—will demonstrate the ability and desire of the members and friends of the Church to maintain religious ordinances in their midst,—and in particular, that the collections from the vacant congregations and preaching stations, will give proof of a liberal spirit,—and warrant a confidence, that ample provision will be made for the support of the Ministers who may settle among them.

JOHN SCOTT,
Convener of Committee of H. M. F.

Presbytery of Pictou.

STUDENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

WITH a view to provide a supply of Pastors for the Gaelic congregations in the Eastern parts of this Province, and at the same time afford encouragement to promising young men, to qualify themselves for the office of the sacred ministry, it is well known that the Presbytery of Pictou sought out, with much anxiety and care, and sent home to Scotland, several years ago, a number of hopeful scholars to prosecute their studies in the University of Glasgow, who on receiving license would return to Nova Scotia, to preach the Gospel to their fellow-countrymen. The object is highly praiseworthy in present circumstances, when we have neither a provincial University, nor a Divinity Hall to afford the regular course of education, for the Ministry prescribed by our Church.

The proposal first made, we believe, by one of our Nova Scotian clergymen, who had himself studied in Scotland, has all along met with much encouragement; liberal sums have been subscribed in the different congregations, to assist the young men in prosecuting their studies. Much interest is felt in the advancing progress of their literary and philosophical as well as theological education; and high expectations are entertained of their future success and usefulness as Ministers of the Gospel. They are all young men of most respectable talents and excellent character; they have all distinguished themselves in the classes through which they have already passed, and some of them, on the strictest test and on undoubted authority, are among the brightest scholars of the age. Nova Scotia has no reason to be ashamed of the attainments of her ingenious youth, if they do justice to their talents, and find a sufficiently large and conspicuous sphere for their developement. We have again and again had an opportunity of directing the attention of our friends to the proficiency of these students, when recording the rewards which were bestowed on them, and publishing extracts from their letters to their relatives and friends in this Province; and it affords us much satisfaction to lay before our readers another very pleasing extract from a letter, addressed to the Rev. Allan Pollok of New

Glasgow, by one of these students from the East River of Pictou, who received, if we are rightly informed, last season, one of the highest prizes in the Logic class. The letter was written some time ago; and long ere this he and his fellow students have entered on the study of Moral Philosophy and other kindred branches, to enable them to complete their preparatory education for the Christian Ministry three or four years hence.

SOMERSET HOUSE, GARELOCH HEAD,
11th October, 1855.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—As long as we remained together, I did not feel that there was occasion that we should be writing individually the one having nothing to communicate more than the other; I have been, accordingly more in the habit of writing to Mr. McLean, while the others did so to some other member of Presbytery. But now that we are separated I think otherwise, and I know that the presbytery have a right to know how we are engaged, that they severally have a claim upon each of us to an extent that we can never requite them for. Although I have been long in writing, I certainly do think and believe that I am deeply indebted to you and the other members of presbytery as well as to the people, my own dear countrymen, for their exertions on my behalf, and when I speak for myself I presume to do so for us all. I hope and I must say I am not indifferent to the many blessings that have been showered on and around me, mainly through your exertions. I owe you a debt which I feel to be a heavy burden; yet methinks in it I can trace the finger of God, as having opened up this channel—wherein his goodness might flow to me—and, accordingly, I am strengthened and enabled to look up to Him and thank Him for His unbounded goodness; and I trust that ever deeply impressed with my responsibility to my God and my Country, I will be enabled to use every opportunity that may present itself, to fit and prepare me for that arduous task and high-calling, in which I profess to be engaged; and so returning if God spares my life—to my native country in the fulness of the Gospel of Christ—I may testify in word and deed that the glory of God is the only motive that actuates my whole conduct.

All summer I was in a gentleman's family in this place. I was extremely glad to get the offer, as I had nothing to do in Glasgow, and wished very much to leave it in the hot weather, but did not know very well where to go. It was merely accident that brought me to this place, and I am sure I don't regret it in any way. Last Session was a tremendous hard one. Logic and Middle Greek, I am told, taken together are the most difficult classes in College if so they are now past. I stood it notwithstanding the toil and anxiety, very well, and was quite as healthy when the session ended as when it commenced; but not quite so strong. I did not study much in Summer. I thought it advisable not to do so—better lay in a good store of health whereon to fall back in Winter. I am now quite strong.

Thanksgiving day in P. E. Island.

Belfast, 11th Dec. 1855.

The Presbytery of Prince Edwards Island, in connection with the Church of Scotland, had under its consideration, at last meeting, *inter alia*, the propriety and duty of appointing a day of thanksgiving to