

## CORRESPONDENCE.

*For the Record :*

BARNEY'S RIVER, 2nd Feb. 1877.

Presbyterial Visitation :—The Presbytery of Pictou visited us here on the 23rd ult. The Rev. Mr. McCunn conducted divine service, preaching an excellent and most suitable sermon from John XX. 24—29. Thereafter the Presbytery was constituted, the Rev. Mr. Stewart being Moderator pro tem. The Minister, the Elders and the trustees of our congregation were separately questioned as to the fulfilment of their respective duties; and the Presbytery expressed themselves, upon the whole, as very well pleased with the state of affairs. Suggestions were made for improving a few matters. Good will undoubtedly follow the visit of our reverend friends to the different churches under their care. The Rev. Mr. Dunn availed himself of the opportunity of testing the mind of this congregation regarding his self-sustentation or endowment fund. All the members of the congregation who spoke, with one exception, expressed themselves strongly in favour of the scheme; while the one gentleman who had his misgivings, declared at the same time his readiness to give it his support, should it finally take a practical shape. The hearty sympathy given Mr. Dunn by the people here will, it is hoped, encourage him and others in making the scheme a success.

Presents.—The people of Barney's River this winter, as well as last winter, placed a good quantity of fire-wood at the door of their minister, the Rev. Mr. MacKichan. And some who could not take a share in this endeavour to keep

the new house warm, helped in attaining the same end by hauling coal. Yesterday a few of the ladies of the congregation waited upon Mrs. MacKichan, and in the name of the other ladies of the congregation and of themselves, presented her with a beautiful carpet, which they, there and then, cut, sewed, bound and tacked to the floor. Mrs. MacKichan highly appreciated the kindness which prompted this handsome gift.

A. J. M.

*For the Record :*

At a meeting of the congregation of West Branch, East River, held last month, the pleasing announcement was made that a donation of ten dollars had been generously offered by T. Watson, Esq., of the Pictou Bank, for the manse debt fund. The donation was gratefully accepted, and a request made that the thanks of the congregation be conveyed to Mr Watson through the RECORD. It may be mentioned that this donation was entirely unsolicited, but spontaneously given by the donor on hearing of the existing state of matters at West Branch on account of that unfortunate debt; and it is hoped that this desirable end may ere long be accomplished. Though the members of the congregation generally feel that they ought to pay off the debt themselves without any outside aid, yet we have every reason for believing that subscriptions such as that of Mr. Watson, from those in Pictou County who remember West Branch in its prosperous days, will be very thankfully accepted.

TEMPERANCE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The Greenock School Board have decided that their school teachers shall be instructed to make frequent allusion to the sin of drunkenness, and to advise children to avoid its temptations, the counsel being enforced by illustrations drawn from the newspapers and impressed upon the minds of the scholars by songs in praise of temperance.—*Scotch paper.*