

duce a certificate to that effect, should receive a pension of £100 or \$500.00 per year for life.

Five years after this magnanimous offer was made, only five Church of England clergymen were found in the Colony.

We give these facts to show that there was great spiritual destitution in Newfoundland. That Methodist missionaries were justified in carrying the glad evangel where there were open doors, and there is no question but it was that which brought them to Bonavista.

In 1815 there were 5,000 persons in Fortune Bay and as many more in Placentia Bay without a pastor. In Placentia Bay the Roman Catholic priest got ahead of the Protestant minister. Hermitage Bay and Western Shore was in the same destitute condition with upwards of 5,000 neglected souls. There is also strong presumptive evidence that nearly thirty years after Rev. Mr. Peasley's departure from Bonavista, the Rev. Mr. Coughlan paid a flying visit from Harbour Grace. The veteran John Swyers, upwards of ninety years at the time, assured the writer that his mother told him that when a girl she heard Mr. Coughlan preach in the open air at Bailey's Cove. That would nearly coincide with Thomas Galor's statement, that no clergyman had been in Bonavista since 1776.

It would be very easy for Mr. Coughlan to pay such a visit. In 1781, John Hoskins, the pioneer of Old Perlican, their first preacher and schoolmaster, paid a visit to Bonavista. He was much impressed with the spiritual condition of the people and the splendid field for usefulness. He immediately communicated with the Rev. John Wesley regarding his visit to the town, and also that the people were very anxious that he should settle amongst them, open a school, and teach their children. He informed Mr. Wesley that it would be a splendid opportunity to teach school and to preach the gospel. Mr. Hoskins' statements seem conclusive, namely, that in 1784 there was no day school in Bonavista, and no regular administration of the truth, or not such gospel privileges as such a community warranted. There was no regularly ordained Methodist preacher in the Colony at that time, but the following year the Rev. John McGeary was sent to Carbonear, ordained by the Rev.