

West Arm, conducted chiefly by members of St. Matthew's Church, with the assistance of zealous Christians residing in the localities. These schools are in a prosperous condition, particularly that at Richmond. It would not be fair to particularize, where all are deserving of praise, but I must say that Messrs. Doull and Bremner, the Superintendents of those schools, with their indefatigable staff of assistants, have laid both Richmond and North-West Arm under very deep obligations. In rain and snow, sunshine and storm, these faithful teachers were sure to be at their posts.

I took steps, in the beginning of the lecture season, to secure a fortnightly course of lectures at each of my stations. Those lectures have been delivered in our Churches, and, from their high moral tone, cannot fail, under the blessing of God, to have an elevating effect upon those who are privileged to be present during their delivery.

On the whole, I think I may safely say that a good work is being done at Richmond and North-West Arm, and, taking into consideration the wants of those districts, and the prospect of a large increase to their population ere many years have passed away, our Church is fully justified in expending the large amount of means and time which it is purposed to devote to them in the future. If I might be permitted to suggest a better plan for future operations than that hitherto pursued, viz., having only one service at each station every Sabbath, I would urge the propriety of conducting an afternoon service at Richmond, say at 4 or 4½ o'clock. This would open our Church at a time when all others within easy reach are closed, and might have a very beneficial effect. It would involve a little extra labour on the part of the city clergymen, of which I, of course, would take my share; but, after St. Andrew's Church has secured a regular pastor, the work could easily be done by a regular interchange of supply. I would not, however, urge this additional service until the summer season has arrived.

I have filled, either personally or by proxy, my appointments in St. Andrew's Church, and, according to presbyterial direction, I preached at Truro on the 10th and 17th of January. At my first service there were present some 50 or 60 persons, and at my last about 320; the great majority of this latter number belonged to other denominations who have Churches in the village. I am not certain to what number our people in Truro amount. I visited some twenty heads of families in, and within a mile or two of, the village, but there are others living some distance out who attend the Truro Church, and support ordinances in connection therewith. Taking the attendance on the morning of the 17th as a criterion, I should say we have a congregation there numbering some 90 or 100 souls. This will increase with the anticipated speedy addition to the population. I took up a collection on the 17th, for the Presbytery's Home Mission Fund, amounting to ten dollars and twenty-five cents (\$10.25), which I am now prepared to hand over to your Treasurer. The Trustees also handed me the sum of \$16, as their contribution for two Sabbaths missionary service. At a congregational meeting held on Monday, a subscription list was signed, and a verbal promise given that the Truro Church would contribute for the next three months the sum demanded by the Presbytery for regular Missionary supply.

On Monday evening, the 18th ult., I drove out to the North River settlement, and conducted divine service to a congregation of about 100 persons, the majority, however, being of other denominations than ours.

I may conclude by stating, that, through the kindness of Avaril Longley, Esq., Chief Commissioner of the Nova Scotia Railway, I was enabled to make the trip to Truro and back without any draft upon the Presbytery's funds.

I remain, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. THOMPSON.