

of another denomination, these made but little perceptible difference in our brother's congregation. At one time, such excitements were wont to empty the other churches and carry all before them.

We preached for Brother Kean three times on the Sabbath, and once on the Monday afternoon at a funeral service. On all these occasions we had good congregations. Our brother is surrounded by many excellent young people, who are warmly attached to him, and many of whom would unite with the church, if difficulties which now obstruct their path were only removed. Earnestly do we hope and pray that, as his labours have been blessed in the conversion of souls, he may yet be permitted to gather them into the church.

Having much enjoyed the hospitality and society of our brother and his family, and advised with him as we best could, in regard to present difficulties, we were driven by him to Falmouth on Monday evening, and from thence next morning we proceeded *viâ* Windsor to Halifax.

PICTOU.

Next day we took the Eastern Railway to Truro, *en route* for Pictou. The first half of the road passes through a country which is comparatively rocky and sterile. As we near Truro it becomes more fertile and is well settled. Arriving at Truro,—our half hour's stay in which prevents us describing it at length, saving that it is a place of considerable size, situated in a fertile valley, and is the seat of the Provincial Normal School, of which the indefatigable Dr. Forrester is the principal,—we took the coach to Pictou.

The drive of forty miles, at first monotonous, became, as we entered Pictou county, extremely interesting. All along the course of the *West River*, the rich interval land in the valley, and the well cultivated mountain slopes, on which large herds of cattle and sheep were feeding, presented a most picturesque appearance. The country seemed thickly populated, and the farmsteadings had the appearance of thrift, and in many cases even of wealth, on the part of their occupants, all of whom are Scotch and Presbyterian.

Arriving at Pictou we made straight for brother Barker's, who with his family gave us a hearty greeting. It was our original design to spend only two days with brother B., and then proceed to Cape Canso, to be there over the Sabbath; but this being found impracticable, and being strongly urged by our brother to remain with him over the Sabbath, on the plea that it would contribute to strengthen him and interest the friends in this outpost of Congregationalism, we consented to do so. The few days we remained here were spent most agreeably, and we trust not unprofitably, in visiting the friends of the cause in Pictou, and in excursions to the surrounding country.

During our stay there, we enjoyed pleasant intercourse with some of the Presbyterian Ministers of the county, one of whom, the Rev. Mr. Stewart, of New Glasgow, informed me that when a boy, attending school at Dunkeld, Scotland, he sat under the ministry of my venerated father.

Pictou bids fair to become a large and flourishing town. Its excellent harbour, the fertile and populous country around, its coal mines, of which new veins are being constantly discovered and wrought, the more recent discovery of excellent iron-ore, and the completion of the railway to Halifax, all bespeak for it a prosperous future. The town contains four Presbyterian Churches and an Episcopal, a Congregational, and a Roman Catholic Church. The Congregationalists possess a very respectable church-edifice, and Mr. Barker has a good congregation, especially in the evening when the house, capable of seating 400 or more, is tolerably well filled. Our brother has lately formed a Church,