

Mr. Sinclair was chairman, and to his able, energetic and untiring efforts are largely due this historic event and its successful carrying out. Herewith we give a sketch of Rev. A. Maclean Sinclair's distinguished career:

John Maclean, the well-known Gaelic bard, published his poems in 1818, and came to Pictou with his wife and children in the ship *Economy* in 1819. John Sinclair, fourth in descent from the progenitor of the Sinclairs of Strath-Halladale, left Scotland in the ship *Industry*, July 6, 1831, and arrived in Pictou on Sabbath morning October 9th. He was the lucky possessor of a good stock of health and strength, and sixpence in cash. He settled in the woods of Goshen, Guysboro County. He married first, in 1833, Mary Inglis, by whom he had a daughter and two sons. He married, secondly, in 1839, Christy, eldest of the family of John Maclean, the poet, and had by her one son, Alexander Maclean, who was born in Glenbard, Antigonish County, March 1st, 1840.

Mr. Sinclair went to school for the first time in May 1848. He knew the most of the letters of the alphabet then, but his education extended no further. As the school-house was three miles from him, he had the benefit of the physical exercise of walking six miles a day. He took charge of the Lochaber School in the County of Antigonish in September, 1855, and remained in charge of it for a year. He spent the winter of 1856-1857 in the Pictou Academy, and was employed during the last two months as assistant. According to the late Mr. Costley, Principal of the Academy, "his progress in Latin, Greek, Geometry, Practical Mathematics, and English Composition was highly satisfactory, and in Mathematics especially altogether extraordinary." He taught school in St. Mary's, Guysborough County, during the summer of 1858, and then returned to the Academy. He received his collegiate education at the Gerrish Street College, Halifax, and the Truro Seminary.

Mr. Sinclair attended the Normal School, Truro, in 1861, and graduated as a grammar school teacher. He taught school for one year in Canning, Cornwallis. Of his first appearance on a public platform the Rev. William Murray, Presbyterian minister in Cornwallis, gave the following account in the Presbyterian Witness:

"The best lecture on the subject of education to which I have listened for many a day, was delivered on last Monday evening at Canning, by Mr. Sinclair, the grammar school teacher of that place. Mr. Sinclair came to Canning with high recommendations from Dr. Forrester the principal of the Normal Institution at Truro, but he has more than realized our most sanguine expectations. The treatment of the subject, the style of writing, the full-heartedness with which he entered into the subject, as well as his excellent delivery, took us all by surprise. Unlike many uneducated upstarts that come our way, Mr. Sinclair is a very modest young man; his success was therefore all the more marked. It is a happy evidence of the value of the Normal College at Truro that such distinguished young men come forth from it. The rising town of Canning is also very fortunate to be favored with such a teacher." Mr. Sinclair completed his course in arts in the Truro Seminary in 1862, the year before the professors in that institution were transferred to Halifax and Dalhousie College started into existence. He entered the Theological Hall, Halifax, in 1863,