

Nova Scotia, to revisit Scotland, with a view to promote the spiritual interests of the Scottish Emigrants in that distant part of the Empire, and to effect, if possible, a closer union between the Parent Church and her numerous offspring in the New World.

In accepting this appointment, your Petitioner feels that he has undertaken a work of no ordinary magnitude and importance; and he is convinced that he greatly needs, as he fondly hopes to receive, the favourable attention and kind indulgence of your Venerable Court.

Although the circumstances and necessities of your brethren in America are perhaps less known in Scotland than they ought to be, yet your Petitioner is well assured that your Venerable Assembly will hear with much satisfaction that a branch of our beloved Zion has long flourished on the other side of the Atlantic.

Nearly half a century ago, the late Rev. Dr. Andrew Brown, one of the Ministers of this city, held the pastoral charge of a large and highly respectable congregation in Halifax, which has ever since remained in the same connection. After a considerable period of time other congregations began to be organised. Of late years their number has greatly multiplied, until your Church now extends its influence over the whole Province, having a Synod regularly constituted by your own authority, with three subordinate Presbyteries, and sixteen ordained Clergymen.

Much of the prosperity of our infant Church must be ascribed to the active and unwearied exertions of the Glasgow Colonial Society, with its numerous Auxiliaries, which has sent out, and partially supported, since its formation in 1825, more than one-half of our present Clergymen. Your Church in New Brunswick cannot trace its history to such an early date as in Nova Scotia; but its progress has been not less rapid, and its success equally encouraging. In the year 1817, the Rev. Dr. George Burns of Tweedsmuir, one of the Members of your Venerable Court, had the high honour of planting the first Presbyterian Church of the Establishment in that extensive and flourishing Province, where there are now nine ordained Clergymen, with numerous congregations, united together as a Presbytery by your late legislative enactment, and where there is the pleasing prospect of the formation of a regular Synod. The Members of the Church of Scotland, in this Province, also owe a lasting debt of gratitude to the Glasgow Colonial Society, as it is from this excellent Institution they have received nearly all their zealous and pious Ministers.

Your Petitioner regrets that his information, respecting the state of our Church in Upper and Lower Canada, is not so extensive and minute as he could wish, having never personally visited either of these Provinces. He is however enabled to state, that Ministers of your Establishment have been settled in the populous cities of Quebec and Montreal ever since the commencement of the present century. And that during the last ten or twelve years, strengthened by the tide of emigration, as well as by the accession of the native population, the Church of Scotland has increased in a wonderful degree throughout these vast regions of the globe, until a field, more than one thousand miles in length, and many hundred miles in breadth, has been opened up for the labours of your Ministers and Missionaries in his Majesty's Transatlantic dominions. Every year new labourers are appointed, and sent out by the Glasgow Colonial Society to these growing Colonies; and from the minutes of the last meeting of the Synod of Canada, it appears that there are now within its bounds not fewer than forty-three Ministers residing in the Presbyteries of Glengarry, Quebec, Bathurst, Kingston, and Toronto.

Your Venerable Court might at first sight be inclined to believe that such