

Rev. Messrs. R. Sedgewick, John Cameron, James McLean, W. Murray, D. S. Gordon and Thomas Cumming, Ministers; and Messrs. D. Reed and Robert Murray, Ruling Elders. After sermon by Mr. Cumming, the Presbytery was constituted, Mr. Cameron, Moderator, *pro tempore*. Rev. Thomas Sedgewick being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member. The chief business before the Court was the visitation of the congregation. The facts elicited by the examination of the Minister, the Elders, and the Managers were, upon the whole, satisfactory. Middle Musquodoboit is one half of the Rev. Mr. Sedgewick's charge.

On the next day the Presbytery met at Upper Musquodoboit—the other half of Mr. Sedgewick's charge. The same members were present as at the previous meeting with the exception of Mr. Cumming. After sermon by Mr. Robert Murray, the Presbytery proceeded to the visitation. The state of matters in both sections of the congregation was found to be to a large extent similar—the same number of elders—equal attention paid to Sabbath schools and Prayer Meetings.

Amid much that was most pleasing and satisfactory, in connection with both sections of the congregation, there were a few facts that called for serious remark on the part of the Presbytery. The whole stipend paid within the last six years did not average £170 per annum. The Middle Section endeavoured to raise their share to £100, but fell considerably short of the amount, while the Upper Section stuck to £75—their share, as agreed upon when Mr. Sedgewick was first settled. A Manse has been built for the minister, and considerably more than the stipend originally promised had been paid. There are now, in the whole congregation, about 400 communicants, and to these it would be no hardship to raise £300 a year. The congregation, in both sections, were urged to take immediate steps to make this matter of the *stipend* less discreditable to themselves. Of course they will do it. It has been hitherto neglected merely for want of thought.

The extent of the congregation has developed an immense amount of labour on the Pastor—labour under which he must speedily succumb; and the Presbytery thought that in justice to the minister and the people the congregation ought to be divided or that the services of an assistant should be secured.

On the whole, the Visitation was delightful. The congregation is peaceful, prosperous and public-spirited. Collections are made for all the Schemes of the Church, and some of these collections are very liberal.—The minister lives in the affections of his

people; there is mutual confidence on every side. This congregation takes a larger number of *Records* than any other in the country. There can be no doubt that the "work of the Lord" is prospering in every respect, and that it will continue to prosper still more abundantly if the advice and the well considered suggestions of the Presbytery are acted out promptly and in good faith.

Rev. T. Cumming obtained leave of absence for three months with the view of going to Scotland. Arrangements were made for the supply of Bridgewater for a few Sabbaths. The Presbytery agreed to apply for the services of two Catechists for the summer. The next meeting is to be held in Poplar Grove Church on the second Tuesday of April, at 7 o'clock, for visitation and other business; Rev. E. Annand to preach.

Home Missions.

The Presbytery of Halifax will probably employ three Catechists or Home Missionaries during the summer. No doubt more could be well employed were the men and the means forth coming. Our list of Missionaries is at present small. We have two in P. E. Island—Messrs Bernard and Stuart: two in Cape Breton, Messrs Sutherland and Sinclair; one in Pictou, Mr. McNab; one in Bermuda, Mr. Campbell; and one in Yarmouth county. When the College session closes we understand that several students of the second year will proceed to New Brunswick to labour there as Catechists. Three will probably remain within the bounds of the Presbytery of Halifax. One, we hope, will go to Cape Breton.—There will be a general "dispersion." It is pleasant to know that even if twice as numerous as they are our young men would find ample employment.

CAPE NORTH.—The Rev. DONALD SUTHERLAND laboured in this desolate region for about seven years. He was the first and the only minister ever settled there. We have reason to know that he laboured very diligently amid many serious difficulties and discouragements. More than a year ago Mr. Sutherland resigned his charge, and since that time he has been on the Home Mission list. Cape North, though so far out of the way, should not be forgotten: and we hope the Presbytery of Cape Breton will be able to afford them some supply, however little. A missionary of the Established Church of Scotland speaks of the youth of Cape North as "reverting fast to a state of heathenism." We believe that this is a gratuitous libel on their character; but we publish it in order to stir up the zeal of our brethren in Cape Breton to do what they can for this interesting portion of their field.