

siting the congregations. My health was preserved, though on one or two occasions impaired, and the countenance of the visible heavens was so vouchsafed to me that I was only in one or two instances discommoded by the inclemency of the weather. And what thanks can I render to God for all the aids of his grace which I received in the hours of need, and for the unmerited kindness and affectionate care of many christian brethren. These blessings have been more than a reward to me for all my past labors in the service of the best of masters. My visit through the congregations has resulted in attaching them very much to my affections, so that they are constantly on my spirit at a Throne of Grace. I believe that some good has also been the result of it in promoting the missionary spirit, but God only knows how far any good has been the result of it in the edification of saints and conversion of the unconverted."—Having effected the transference of Mr Gordon from the Halifax to the Pictou Presbytery, your Board were in due season notified that he was ordained by the latter Presbytery to the office of the holy ministry. It is highly proper to call special attention to the sense of obligation which your Board cannot but entertain towards these Presbyteries for their diligent and efficient oversight of Mr Gordon, in superintending his studies, and accomplishing his licensure and ordination.

#### MR GORDON'S DESIGNATION AND DEPARTURE.

On September 12th the ordination services were held at West River, and your new missionary then also acquired the full status which places him on ministerial parity with the brethren with whom he will be called to associate. A copy of instructions was put into his hands defining that status—directing him to confer with Messrs. Geddie and Inglis for the purposes of preliminary training and selecting the future scene of operations, subject to the approbation of your Board. Mr Gordon was farther directed to occupy his time in Britain in the prosecution of medical study, and acquisition of such general information as might conduce to the interests of the Mission. Special instruction was also given him to keep, and as far as practicable transmit, from time to time, a Journal of his proceedings as a missionary. Your Board have much pleasure in

bearing testimony to the prompt and efficient manner in which Mr Gordon has conformed to these instructions, so far as he has had opportunity, thus affording good earnest of his devotedness to the service on which he has entered.—In his frequent correspondences with their Secretary they have observed with much satisfaction his ardent pursuit of medical knowledge, under the most eminent instructors, both by attendance on Lectures and Hospital practice,—his zealous efforts to act as Home missionary in that vast city (London), where heathenism of the worst type is so prevalent—his familiar acquaintance with the returned missionaries of the London Missionary Society—his visit to Scotland and free intercourse with the ministers and members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, by whom he was received as a brother—in a word, his evident purpose to make every day of his sojourn in Britain subserve the great work to which he has been set apart.—The period of his departure from London is not yet definitely known, but with such a resolute spirit to improve in every useful qualification, there exists no apprehension that the delays which have occurred, or may yet occur, will prove any hindrance to the ultimate success of his mission. Let hope deferred rather be esteemed a highly favorable ordering of that Providence which has hitherto so manifestly made "all things work together for good" to our holy enterprize. In his last letter Mr Gordon says, "Although the *John Williams* is not to leave till the last of June, yet I will have my time busily occupied after my return from Paris, for (D.V.) I shall go to that city in the beginning of June, and hope to visit some of the Ophthalmic Hospitals during my short visit there. I think I can truly say I believe that God will guide me to the most suitable field of labor, if he should be pleased to make any use of me in preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ among the heathen—where others have not gathered a harvest for Christ—where Christ is unknown—there will I most rejoice to labor for him, even if I should gather but little fruit into his garner."

#### EFFORTS FOR AN ADDITIONAL MISSIONARY LABORER.

It is with much regret that your Board have felt themselves unable to obtain the services of another missionary agreeably to Synodical instruction. During his