

their pulpits being supplied and expenses provided for, their consent could be easily obtained.

Such a mission would at least shew, on the part of the church generally, a becoming sympathy for their brethren, who are deprived of the regular administration of religious ordinances. It would be an act of kindness which would be highly appreciated, and probably responded to with collections, which would meet the whole expenditure involved.

Our views may be regarded as extravagant or immature, but we give them to awaken thought. The prospect of supply now appears unpromising and the future *portentous*. We must either do more for the spiritual culture of Cape Breton or yield up the field to those who will go heartily to work to make it spiritually productive. In the young men studying in Dalhousie College, we have a force from which the English congregations may, in a few years, draw a supply. We wish we could see the same prospect for those who can profit by the gospel only when proclaimed in the ancient and sacred language of the Gael.

Something must be done, and that without delay. We invite brethren, who have been musing on this matter, to give the Church the benefit of their wisdom.

REPORT OF MR. SAMUEL GUNN.

To the Editors of the Home and Foreign Record of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

Messrs. Editors:—I beg leave to submit for publication in the *Record* a brief report of my mission to Cape Breton during the past summer.

The first field of labour assigned me by the Presbytery of Cape Breton was Gabarus and Framboise. These two districts constitute the congregation over which the Rev. Isaac McKay formerly presided. Gabarus is about 25 miles from Sydney, on the south-eastern coast of the island. It is inhabited by Englishmen and Scotchmen and their descendants. The first mentioned are settled along the Bay, and depend chiefly on fishing for a livelihood. They belong to the Methodist persuasion, and their present pastor is the Rev. J. W. Howie, a native of Cape Breton. Some little distance from the sea-coast there is a series of beautiful lakes, along which about

forty Scotch families reside, all professed adherents of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

In this section of the congregation I resided, and laboured seven Sabbaths, which time extended over a period of nearly three months. In addition to the services of public worship, I conducted a weekly prayer meeting and Sabbath school. The attendance on Sabbath was always large, and the people very attentive. The prayer meeting was also well attended, considering the season of the year, and the occupation of the people.

Framboise is about 16 miles from Gabarus on the same coast. It is inhabited by about seventy Scotch families, nearly all adherents of our Church. Here I laboured four Sabbaths. Besides the usual services, I held a prayer meeting in this section on Sabbath evening, and on Monday morning before leaving for Gabarus. As I was not able to visit the families, and return with the kind friends who accompanied me, I had recourse to this expedient, in order to become acquainted with the people, and to compensate for a duty that I could not well perform.

To those who will not venture from their warm firesides to hear the words of eternal life, on account of the dampness of the air, or some symptoms of a storm, let me say that I have known parties, some of whom were well advanced in years, travel 16 miles to the house of God on Sabbath, and 8 miles to the weekly prayer meetings, and the weather at the same time inclement, making no mention of the roads. Surely it was not mere curiosity that induced them to leave their homes for the Sanctuary on such occasions as these. Both sections of the congregation are a model to others for punctuality, regular attendance, and unwearied attention. During the services I observed frequently persons deeply impressed, and apparently broken-hearted. I trust these services were the means of refreshing some of the people of God, and awakening others.

I exceedingly regret that this congregation is at present destitute of a settled pastor, but I hope the time is not far distant when they will have a minister of their own, to bear rule, and break the bread of life among them. In the meantime it is not only their duty, but the duty of all congregations in similar circumstances, to ponder well the messages which they have heard, to study the Scriptures at home, to make the best use of all the means God has put within their reach, and to pray that the Lord of the harvest may raise up and send forth labourers into his harvest.

From this congregation I was ordered to Cape North. Aspy Bay, Cape St. Lawrence and Grandantz constitute this con-