

evening, my good friend Mr. McEachern, who conveyed me from Charlottetown, was kind enough to drive me back again.

On Tuesday, the 17th inst., at 5 a.m., I left for Pictou, expecting to address the people of Pictou Island on Thursday; but as no appointments were made, I spent the remainder of the week visiting friends.

On Sabbath, the 22nd, I visited the Rev. Mr. Patterson's people of Green Hill. As Mr. P. was from home, I both preached a sermon and gave an address on the subject of Foreign Missions; and in the evening, at five o'clock, had service in another of his Churches up the Middle River.

On Monday I returned to Antigonish. On Wednesday evening I happened to drive into the village, it being the evening of their prayer meeting. Mr. Robertson was present and expected to lecture, and as the Rev. Mr. Murray was absent, I presided over the meeting, and Mr. Robertson gave a very interesting account of the South Sea Islands. The attendance was very good, although the night was wet and disagreeable.

On Sabbath, the 29th inst., I intend to preach both in Chalmers' Church, Lochaber, and in King's Church, South River; and on Sabbath, the 5th Sept., at Earltown and New Annan, and then, on the 8th Sept., to leave on a visit to Canada, of which visit, if time permit, I will give you an account in my next.

Meanwhile, I remain yours truly,

JOHN GOODWILL.

LETTER FROM REV. F. R. McDONALD, NEWCASTLE.

MR. EDITOR,—I suppose you consider it high time I should be giving an account of my stewardship. At any rate, I think so myself. And now for a few hurriedly written remarks.

In the Presbytery of Pictou I fulfilled all my appointments, which dated from the first Sabbath in March to the second Sabbath of June. While I recall with very great pleasure the varied kindnesses I experienced among the adherents of our Church in the vacant charges of the Pictou Presbytery, at the same time I cannot help feeling deeply grieved when I recall their extraordinary indifference in one respect, and that is, the unreasonable smallness of their collections in support of missionary services. It was most cheering to me, I must confess, to see the different churches so well filled always, and the manifest appreciation of the efforts made by the Presbytery in securing supplies. To use an expressive word (perhaps not a graceful), I fear there was not a little *sham* in the appreciation. The genuineness of this appreciative feeling must be judged of, not so much by what is implicit in the presence of large audiences during divine services, but what these audiences are really willing to do. Were we to pass judgment upon this basis, I fear they would stand on a very low scale of Christian progressiveness.

It is with great reluctancy that I express myself thus, but from a sense of right I feel it to be my duty. These remarks do not, of course, apply to every member in particular, for some few have done well; but, generally speaking, they apply, unfortunately, too forcibly. Some of the vacant charges, I was going to say, have done well; but I cannot, for not one has done what it could and ought to do. Lochaber, one of the best,—judging from the number of adherents,—would do well, I feel confident, were they asked, but they were not, and why they were not I cannot say. It is a most lamentable thing that these large and wealthy charges would not exert themselves a great deal more in this respect. What would the adherents of the Church at home think of them, were they to know their indifference; those men who so liberally and willingly supply funds for the benefit of our Colonial Church. Many men may be found in the Church in Scotland who deny themselves some of the comforts of life in order to give a donation to, as they think, the poverty-stricken Church in the Colonies.