

Your Deputation turned their attention to the prospect of obtaining from Nova Scotia young men to be trained for the ministry. They learned that many might be found of a true spirit, children of pious parents, who might be induced to enter on a course of preparatory study. Indeed we were impressed with the conviction that it is from Nova Scotia that we must look for the supply of Gaelic-speaking students. The specimens you have in Queen's College do credit to their country and their Church, and those, studying in Scotland under the auspices of the Synod, are in no respect, as we believe, inferior. The Synod ought to give this subject their serious consideration, and, if necessary, institute a scheme to aid those in their education, who might be induced to qualify themselves for being able and efficient members of the Gospel of Christ.

At Pugnash and Wallace there are strong congregations. Mr. George Harper labours zealously and effectively as a missionary in this district, and his services are justly and affectionately appreciated. The name of the Hon. D. McFarlane is still revered, as the friend of his countrymen, and the main supporter of the Church of Scotland. His son, the present member for the county, bids fair to imitate, if not successfully to rival, his virtues. Many others of a similar spirit have we met with, whom we cannot particularize, but with whom our Christian intercourse was delightful.

We forbear touching on the condition of the members of our Church in Cape Breton. The Synod of Nova Scotia has taken up the subject, and from them we may obtain some information that may lead to the alleviation of their spiritual destitution.

It has been already mentioned that your deputation was accompanied in their journeys by William Edmondstone, Esq. It would be wrong not to say how greatly we are indebted to the co-operation of that excellent man, whose heart is in the prosperity of the Church; he not only then, but since his visit to Scotland, has done what lay in his power to obtain ministers of a right sort for the Colonies. As Mr. Spott expresses himself in a recent letter, Mr. Edmondstone displays a reverend zeal in the cause, and is as anxious about good ministers as he is about his ships.

We have said nothing of the state of the churches under the pastoral care of the venerable Martin and the excellent Scott; nor of the Lay Association at Halifax, that did so much in the day of trial to preserve the Church of Scotland in the Colonies. In the resuscitation of their Church Courts they behold the fruits of their labours, and they trust we will soon behold it in a large increase of labourers in that interesting portion of our Lord's Vineyard.—All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed,)

ALEX. MATHIESON.
ALEX. McKID.

THE CHURCH AT HOME.

Home Mission.

Extracts from the Report to the General Assembly by the Home Mission Committee.—May, 1856.

Looking at the success already attained, it is not the less, but all the more necessary for the Church and its Members, to bear constantly in mind the fact on which your Committee have so largely dwelt, that in order to the continued prosperity of the Scheme, and to enable it effectually and fully to accomplish its object, its fitness for which has been so irresistibly evidence-

ed,—it is essential that pecuniary supplies be largely provided. As stated on former occasions the measure of its operations is regulated by those supplies. Notwithstanding the relief given to its funds by the erection of so many chapels into parishes which were nursed on-wards to that happy consummation, there were constantly springing up, more particularly in the mining and manufacturing districts, new fields requiring immediate occupation, of which the Committee are yet unable, from want of funds, to take possession. Indeed, the present state of their exchequer is such that, as will be afterwards explained, they have been imperatively called upon, in order to maintain ordinances in the numerous places of worship now upon their list, to suspend operations under the Church Building branch of the Scheme,—operations, which however important, are undoubtedly secondary in importance to the efficient maintenance of public worship in the existing chapels,—until their treasury will be so replenished, as to justify them in removing the suspension which the want of due supplies has forced upon them.

Your Committee, as stated in the outset of this Report, take courage from the response made to their appeal, and desire gratefully to acknowledge the increased liberality of the contributors to the Scheme. At the same time, they are constrained by a sense of duty, to state frankly, and at once, that the ordinary revenue of the past year is still inadequate to meet the ordinary expenditure, under the existing operations; and that until additional supplies shall be furnished, they must from prudential considerations, leave unoccupied those still outlying fields on which they are desirous to enter, as well as continue the suspension of further grants towards the erection of additional places of worship.

Averse to draw more largely upon the time of your Venerable House, your Committee, in concluding the foregoing narrative and remarks, would simply and in a few words, recapitulate, and anxiously point to the facts to which they have adverted, namely,—to the character, circumstances, and calling of the population whose spiritual wants and necessities, this Scheme, and its precursor were instituted to provide,—to the marked success which has invariably attended the agencies thus employed, and the unspeakable benefits which through these, have been conveyed to those portions of the population whose claims and interests cannot consistently with either the duty of the Church and her members, or the safety of the community, be disregarded,—to the fitness and adequacy of the Scheme, proved by what it has already accomplished, to reach its proposed aims and objects, if duly supported, and to the duty and privilege of every member of the Church, and of every Christian, to contribute, as God has blessed him, to carry on with increased vigour, and to complete and consummate a work forming the noblest enterprise in which man can be engaged,—the promotion of the temporal and eternal well-being of his brother man, and the extension of his Redeemer's Kingdom.

For some years past, your Committee have, in their Annual Report, enumerated a few cases in evidence of the increase which has taken place in the numbers, both of the communicants and of the congregations connected with the chapels on the Committee's list. Following this example, a few similar instances may here be cited:—

At Greenhead, Glasgow, the congregation has increased from 200 to 500, and the communicants from 70 to 200. At Camlachie, in the Barony Parish, an increase from 450 to

600 has taken place in the number of the congregation, and from 305 to 335 in the number of communicants. At Elderslie, in the Abbey Parish of Paisley, the congregation has increased by 50, and the communicants by 61,—the former now numbering 450, and the latter 251. At Carlsdyke Mission, Greenock, already referred to, which was established about two years ago, the congregation has increased from 180 to 260, and the communicants from 90 to 134. At Mossgreen, Dalgety, also recently established, the communicants are now number 188, and of these 60 are new members. In Holborn Street Church, Aberdeen, the congregation has increased from 500 to 650, and the communicants from 236 to 257. In Leith Loan Church, Arbroath, there has been an increase of communicants from 266 to 245,—there is a correspondingly large congregation. At Pathhead, Dysart, the communicants have increased from 343 to 389, and the congregation now numbers 700. In Mary's Church, Glasgow, the congregation has increased from 397 to 431, and the communicants from 185 to 235. At Buchie, Rathen, which was opened about three years ago, the congregation has increased from 400 to 500, and the communicants from 200 to 280. In Walsburgh Church, Dundee, which was also opened about the same period, there is a congregation of 400, and 129 communicants. At Thornton, Markinch, there are 296 communicants and the congregation numbers 476, and at St. Luke's, Glasgow, the communicants have increased from 157 to 248, and the congregation of 550. Many other cases of correspondingly favourable results, have been reported to the Committee, and might have been cited; but it appears to them that the specimens which have now been given, are sufficient to establish the fact of the onward successful progress of the numerous chapels now upon their list.

In connection with these chapels, the establishment of Sabbath Schools continues to be a great satisfaction, and has been attended with the most beneficial results.

Discourses Delivered in the Scottish Nation Church, Crown Court, London, in August and September, 1855. By John Murray, Minister of St. James's Parish, Glasgow. Glasgow: Thomas Murray & Son.

We can cordially recommend the said sermon to the attention of the public. The volume very elegantly got up by the publishers, and quite a model of fine printing. The author, Dr. Mur of St. James's, has been long time amongst us as a favourite and most distinguished preacher of the Gospel, having been labouring in this parish and congregation for nearly six years. Not writing his sermons in haste, he has not, until now, favoured the public with anything from the press, nor would we have had the present volume but for the recommendation by him in his preface, which for its shortness and originality, we make no apology for quoting.

"The first of September, 1853 was the day which the preacher of the following discourse had completed the fiftieth year of his ministry. Seventeen of those years had been occupied by him as minister of the parish of Leicestershire, in the vicinity of Stirling; and thirty-three of them had, at that time, been occupied by him as minister of St. James's Parish in Glasgow. The great success of the Christian kind these twenty years of his ministry have been accom-