

'Gospel, the loving-kindness is more clearly revealed, and more tenderly urged, than in the law, therefore the punishment of those who reject the Gospel is more aggravated and severe. "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgement and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. For we know Him who hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense saith the Lord. And again, the Lord shall judge His people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." (Heb. X:26-31.)

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATE PRESBYTERY OF NOVA SCOTIA.

An old Mss. volume about six inches by nine, and an inch in thickness lies before us. It is partly blank and partly written by the hand of Dr. McGregor the first Presbyterian Missionary to Nova Scotia. It is a record of the proceedings of the above named Presbytery and as a leaf from the history of the early days of our church when Nova Scotia was one Presbytery consisting of three ministers with elders which also looked after New Brunswick and P. E. Island, will be read with interest by many. We copy it verbatim:

"James McGregor, minister was sent by the Associate Synod of Edinburgh in Scotland, to Pictou, in the year 1786.

Duncan Ross and John Brown, Ministers, were sent by the General Associate Synod of Edinburgh in Scotland to Nova Scotia in the year 1795, and ordered to constitute themselves with Mr. McGregor into a Presbytery which should be denominated, "The Associate Presbytery of Nova Scotia." The Presbytery was accordingly constituted, but the minutes of the first five years are not on record. Mr. Brown was settled at Londonderry, Mr. Ross at Pictou.

Pro renata, Pictou May 20, 1801.

The Presbytery was constituted with prayer. Present—John Brown, Duncan Ross and James MacGregor, ministers, with Joseph Crow, John McLean, and James McDonald, ruling elders—Mr. Brown was chosen moderator, and Mr. McGregor, Clerk.

Fifteen commissioners from various parts of Pictou congregation were heard on the question whether two ministers be necessary for Pictou and then the Presbytery resolved themselves into a committee, closing with prayer.

After the committee was finished the Presbytery was again constituted by prayer, present, ut supra.

The report of the Committee being called for, the clerk read the following resolutions.

1. That it is necessary to have two ministers in Pictou.

2. That the congregation be divided in two.

3. That a committee be appointed by the people of the different settlements with power to divide the congregation as agreeable as possible and that Mr. Ross and Mr. Macgregor shall be present at the committee and shall use their endeavour to prevent any quarter from being under a necessity of joining themselves to any of the congregations against their will.

4. That the committee meet at Robert Marshalls on Wednesday next.

5. That Mr. McGregor shall lay down his charge of the West side, and Mr. Ross of the East side (since Mr. Ross' arrival he and Mr. McGregor were jointly ministers over all Pictou) according to the division which shall be made.

6. That the commissioners for the next Presbytery at Pictou shall enquire of their constituents if they object to the members from Pictou sitting in judgement upon their resolutions.

7. That a copy of these resolutions be on each side of the congregation for inspection.

The Presbytery appointed Mr. Ross to preach at Douglass the last Sabbath of May and the two first of June. Closed with prayer.

Londonderry, June 22nd, 1831.

The Presbytery was constituted with prayer, Present—John Brown, Duncan Ross, and James McGregor, ministers with James Campbell and James McDonald, ruling elders. The Presbytery appointed Mr. McGregor to preach three Sabbaths at Amherst, and authorized him and Mr. Campbell or Thomas Fulton, if both, or either of them go thither, to hold a Session, along with any members of Session who may be there on the case of Mrs. Berry.

Appointed Mr. Ross to preach one Sabbath at the Shubenacadie meeting house, and another at Nine Mile River, also some days at Miramichi, provided