

HOPEWELL.—Rev. Mr. Galbraith and Mrs. Galbraith have been enjoying a fortnight's furlough among their old friends at Bathurst, N. B. They were expected to return in the S. S. "Miramichi" on Saturday last.

On account of the communion in connection with Rev. Mr. Stirling's congregation at Saltsprings on Sabbath 24th inst., Rev. Mr. McKay will preach at Gairloch on that day, instead of at Saltsprings.

PICTOU ISLAND.—Mr. G. L. Gordon, Catechist, has laboured for three months in this interesting field, which is under the care of the Pictou Kirk Session. The people have done their part well, and have paid towards the support of the Catechist with great liberality.

STELLARTON.—During the summer the church here has been put in excellent order. With new shingles outside and new carpeting inside we have no doubt the congregation will be both comfortable and quiet. They have also placed a new clock in the front gallery.

Our good friend, Mr. Charles McEchern, who has done excellent service in supplying vacancies during the summer months, leaves for Edinburgh next month. He fully intends returning to Nova Scotia next summer, when we hope to welcome him as an ordained minister.

A very noticeable feature in all the churches in Scotland is the fact that after the blessing is pronounced the congregation resume their seats, and sit in perfect stillness and silence for a few seconds, instead of rushing out with unbecoming haste. We earnestly commend this mild innovation to all our ministers and congregations.

We publish on our first page, an extract from one of Principal Caird's University Sermons. We had the pleasure of listening to the Rev. gentleman during our visit to Scotland. He is the most eloquent preacher of the present day in Scotland. The sermon from which we make the extract is a noble production.

EAST RIVER.—We are glad to learn that matters are prosperous in connection with St. Paul's Church. Active preparations are being made for the building of the Manse. Our esteemed young friend at Stellarton, kinsman of Mr. James Cumming, Elder, collected \$100 towards the Manse Fund. We fear the venerable elder will not approve of the enthusiasm of his nephew and namesake.

GAIRLOCH.—The congregation of this place are actively engaged in negotiations for the purchase of a Manse and Glebe, in the hope that on the 27th inst., Mr. McKay will accept the call to be their pastor. We have every reason to believe that it is likely they will not be disappointed. At all events they deserve to be successful.

Three more ministers have left the Free Church; and joined the Establishment. They are all in the Presbytery of Glasgow. The *Edinburgh Scotsman* complains that the newspapers will find it a very serious matter to chronicle all the conversions, if they continue at the same rate. They propose to have a separate part of the paper for the purpose. After the list of "Births, Deaths and Marriages" we may expect to find a heading "Secessions from the Free Church." The fact cannot be concealed that the Free Church is in a very unsatisfactory position at the present time. Their experience ought to be enough to satisfy others that union negotiations form a somewhat difficult branch of Ecclesiastical business.