

REPLY.

My Christian friends,—Conscious as I am of much weakness and imperfection in my most earnest and faithful discharge of duty, it is exceedingly encouraging and gratifying to me to see you here this evening, and to have you express, in the name of the congregation, by more than words, your appreciation of my feeble efforts for your good. The intelligence, forbearance, and hearty co-operation of this congregation, render the “faithful, diligent and successful” discharge of my pastoral duties, if not comparatively easy, at least very pleasant,—so much so, that I can truly say, “My lines have fallen unto me in pleasant places.”

Although I have had the unsolicited honour of an invitation to another very important field of labour, yet I feel more than compensated for any superior advantages I may have declined, by the affection and attachment of my present charge.

I became your pastor, believing that I was led by the guidance of God's Spirit, and having assumed the spiritual oversight of this congregation, God helping me, I trust I shall never be wanting in proofs of my earnest desire that you should all become “savingly acquainted” with the loving Saviour.

With much pleasure and encouragement I accept of your munificent present of ninety-two dollars (\$92),—a present, the intrinsic value of which is much enhanced by my knowledge of the circumstances of the congregation, the calls made upon your liberality within the past year, the punctuality and regularity of your payment of stipend, and last, though not least, that it has been put into your hands by the ladies of the congregation.

For your kind wishes for myself and family, please accept our warmest thanks; and it will be ours, by prayer and endeavour, to bring to your homes and hearts the blessings that perish not with the using. May He who is the source of all good, bless you all in your “basket and your store,” guide you through life by His unerring counsel, and at last receive you into His rest with a joyous “Well done, good and faithful servant, enter ye into the joy of your Lord.”

W. McMILLAN.

H. Munro, Elder, W. McKenzie, Trustee, for the Saltsprings congregation.

Gift and Address to Rev. A. McLean, M. A., Belfast.—We are delighted to have the following Address and Reply put into our hands for publication. It is a handsome effort on the part of the Belfast congregation, and is high evidence of the satisfactory state of matters existing between Mr. McLean and his attached people. After the payment of the minister's salary in full, the Trustees of this congregation waited on their beloved pastor on New Year's day, and presented him with a purse containing \$121, together with the Address we herewith publish.

Address to the Rev. Alex. McLean, M. A., Minister of St. John's.

Rev. Sir,—We whose names are hereto appended, on behalf of a part of your congregation of Belfast and Orwell, would beg to offer as our New Year's gift this purse, containing \$121, as a small token of our affection and regard.

It is now over nine years since you entered on the duties of a pastor among us, during all which time your exemplary deportment, and the high tone of Christian propriety which has so eminently distinguished your conduct, have been such as to render us deeply sensible of our obligation to make the best return which sincere affection can prompt. We are fully sensible of the many proofs your past labours afforded of the interest you felt in our welfare, and we trust and pray that the many earnest exhortations with which you pressed on us the necessity of making sure our interest in the great salvation, will not have been in vain.

We further beg to give expression to the sincerely cherished hope, that you