

A meeting was held the same evening at the Hall in the village for the purpose of presenting Mr. Stewart with an address and of bidding him farewell. At half-past seven the Hall was crowded, and after praise and prayer Dr. J. McIntosh was called to the Chair. After briefly stating the object of the meeting he called upon N. McAulay, Esq., the Secretary and Treasurer of the congregation to read the address, which was as follows:

*To the Rev. Murdoch Stewart, M. A.,
Presbyterian Minister of the Parish
of Whycomah;*

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—In the Providence of God you have felt it your duty to resign the pastoral care of this congregation, owing to advancing years and physical infirmities.

While deeply regretting that the state of your health will not permit you to afford us the great advantages of a further continuation of your pastoral labours, we have cause to thank the Father of Mercies for continuing to you in the past, life and health to preach to us for so many years the Glorious Gospel of Christ.

And now at the close of your public ministrations we desire to take this opportunity of testifying to the unwearied diligence, the self-denying exertion, and great efficiency with which you discharged the great and important duties of the ministerial office.

You accepted the pastoral oversight of this congregation at a critical period in its history, when discordant elements and more or less, divisions were beginning to appear. Your wisdom and impartiality, with the influence of your high Christian character, and the acceptable manner in which you conducted your public ministrations produced unity, and you now leave the congregation with peace and complete harmony prevailing in all its borders.

We cannot adequately express our sense of how faithfully you laboured for our spiritual welfare, in season, and out of season, in the pulpit, and through the several hills and valleys of this extensive charge.

Your consolation and reward is that your abundant labours have not been in vain, and that the Master has blessed your efforts in preaching the Gospel.

We desire to express our grateful appreciation of the Christian labours of your dear partner in life among us, and of how constantly by precept and example she seconded your efforts to lead young and old to the knowledge of the Saviour.

As a slight token of our love and re-

gard for you we beg the acceptance of the accompanying purse—. Though probably no longer able to discharge the weighty duties of the ministerial office we trust that years of usefulness and happiness may be in store for you and yours. In removing beyond the bounds of this parish, permit us to state that Mrs. Stewart and yourself and every member of your family carry with you our truest respect and our best wishes.

We devoutly hope and pray that your declining years may be without a cloud, and that a long life of usefulness on earth may be crowned in Heaven by your receiving the glorious welcome, "Well done good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Sgd. on behalf of the people of Whycomah,

NEIL McLEAN,	Elder.
JOHN McINTOSH,	"
ARCHD. MCKINNON,	"
ANGUS McDONALD,	"
ALEX. McLELLAN,	"
HECTOR McDONALD,	"
NEIL McAULAY,	"

*Sec. and Treas. on behalf of the
Trustees and Congregation.*

To this address Mr. Stewart replied.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND DEAR FRIENDS, I can assure you that when I received a hint last week that such a meeting as this was in contemplation, I was quite taken by surprise; for I did not expect such a manifestation of attachment and friendly feeling. While the address that has been read is certainly most gratifying to me, I cannot help feeling a degree of shame and some confusion of face when I contrast *your* appreciation and *my own*, of my humble and very defective labours. I cannot accuse myself of having been slothful, or of having spared any bodily strength I had, and I can truly say that my aim and desire since I came among you has been to spend and to be spent in endeavouring to advance as I could, through the grace of my Master, the spiritual welfare of the congregation; but alas, my performance always came sadly short of my aim.

You refer, in your address, to the state of the congregation at the time I accepted the pastoral charge of it. I knew its state pretty well—and the wonder is, that, considering the circumstances, it was not far worse. And it was with no little fear and trembling that I accepted your call and took the charge. I met, however, with very few, if any, of the difficulties I expected, and I must say that that was in a great measure owing