

elevating and restoring lost man, hence the redeemed best praise God for His goodness, having an adequate sense of it and thankful for the chief mercy forget not the less, while other men, thankful merely for what eye sees and heart enjoys, are apt to be selfish.

But especially is His *goodness in covenant* here set forth. "For it is laid up for them that fear Him and wrought for them that trust Him." This includes personal and special mercies to soul and body, to family and substance, Rev. VIII. 28. Each believer's life is a record of this, and whoso is wise will note it to excite to gratitude.

But on a day of thanksgiving it becomes us to take a comprehensive view, and first for the health we enjoy as people, to be grateful next, for peace within our borders.

3rd. For the blessings of Education. However in its details, the measure will bear to be modified, yet it is a large and comprehensive boon to the masses.

4th. For the Harvest, which in some of its provisions, far excels last year, see Ps. 65, 9, 13. Gratitude should be discovered by praise to the good giver, and by assistance to the poor. As to the latter, we are directed on such days to help them, "that their loins may bless and rejoice the more with us,"—see directory at end of Confession of Faith,—therefore have we always done it, and they have a claim,—1 Cor. XII. 21, 22,—and are Christ's representatives. Here I commended the benevolent societies in town and private largesses and quoted Mary's example who "did what she could" and whose motive love to the master is for our imitation. "In as much as ye do it to one of the least of them, you do it unto me."

The appeal in behalf of the poor of the Congregation resulted in a collection of 25 Dollars, although the Congregation was not large, being confined very much to the town, a circumstance to be regretted, as none ought more cheerfully to render thanks than those who live by the fields. How can the Lord be expected to bless farmers when they acknowledge him not in days of thanksgiving. Of old, two days were kept in this County, one in Spring for fasting, and another in the Fall for thanksgiving, and now we find a poor turn out for the one. But if any blessing be expected there must be improvement. See Zech XIV. 16, 17.

A. W. H.

#### Presbytery of Pictou.

St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, 4th Sept. 1867. Which time and place the Presbytery of Pictou met, and was constituted with prayer: Sed-erunt, Rev. John Goodwill, Moderator, Rev. Messrs. Philip, Pollok, A. W. Herdman, Anderson, and McCunn, Ministers, Alex. Strumberg, John A. McLean, John McKear, and Charles Oulton, Elders. In the unavoidable absence of the clerk, Mr. Pollok

was appointed, and agreed to act *pro tem*. The minutes of the regular meeting of June 5th, and *pro re nata* meetings of June 18th, and 26th, and July 1st were read and sustained with the following emendations, 1st. That in the minute of regular meeting it be mentioned that the Presbytery ordered all the Synodical collections be made by those congregations which had not already contributed to them all.

2nd. That it be inserted in the minutes of meeting of 26th June, that the sum of £170 was not as agreed upon as the minimum stipend for supplemented congregations, but only in the case of River John.

The Revd. Mr. Philip was unanimously appointed moderator for the ensuing year.

Commissions in favour of Messrs. Charles Oulton, John McKear, Alex. Murray, John A. McLean, Alex. Strumberg, and William Gordon, were received and sustained.

The Rev. Daniel McGillivray, of Brockville, Ontario, being present was introduced and invited to sit and deliberate with the court. With regard to the injunctions repeatedly issued to the Rev. Mr. Brodie, to furnish a statement of the financial affairs of the Cape Breton Mission, it was resolved that a committee consisting of Messrs. Pollok, Philip and McCunn, be appointed to consult with Mr. Brodie, on that and other subjects connected with the mission. There was received and read a communication from the Rev. Mr. McKay, Gairloch and Salt-springs, intimating his intention of being absent from his charge for two months, and requesting pulpit supplies for six Sabbaths. His request was allowed and the following appointments made.

15th Sept. Mr. McCunn, to preach in Gairloch, 29th Sept. Mr. Anderson, Gairloch, 6th October, Mr. Philip, at Salt-springs.

Mr. Reid, elder, Barney's River being present, and soliciting services for Barney's River, and Lochaber congregations, the Rev. Mr. Pollok was appointed to preach in Loch-abor on the 6th of October, and Messrs. Herdman, and Goodwill to dispense the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at Barney's River, on the 13th of October. Messrs. Fraser and Gunn, Cape Breton, applied by letter for assistance during the communion season there, but the Presbytery, owing to the absence of so many members from the field, and the accumulation of work thereby entailed upon those present, regret that they cannot hold out any prospect of a deputation being sent to Cape Breton this season as usual, but hope and pray that the great Master of the vineyard may strengthen the brethren in Cape Breton, for all the duties to which they may be called. The Presbytery in consideration of the absence of Mr. McMillan by sickness, expressed their sympathy with him, and their hope that D. V., he may soon in health be able to resume his pastoral duties.