

# THE MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE

## Church of Scotland

IN

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND ADJOINING PROVINCES.

VOL. XXIII.

FEBRUARY 1877.

NO II.

*If forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.—Psalm 137, 4-5.*

### SERMON

BY REV. P. GALBRAITH, MINISTER OF WEST BRANCH, E. RIVER, PREACHED IN ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, PICTOU, ON THE EVENING OF THE COMMUNION SABBATH, 21st JAN'Y 1877.

“Abide with us; for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.” Luke 24: 29.

Many are the invitations given by Christ to his disciples; but here, brethren is an invitation given by disciples to Christ. Little, however, did those two disciples at Emmaus think who it was they were constraining to go in and tarry with them that evening after their seven miles walk from Jerusalem! Little did they think that that lonely wayfarer who had joined company with them at an early stage of their journey, and who, by his seeming ignorance of the startling events which had lately taken place at Jerusalem appeared to them to be an utter stranger there; but who, by his conversation, soon showed them that he was infinite better acquainted with all those things that had come to pass than they themselves were—little, I say, did they think that their fellow-traveller by the way, was in truth their own risen Lord, the object of their anxious communica-

tions one with another, as they walked and were sad. But though their eyes were holden so that they should not know him, yet their hearts were strangely drawn towards him; and, as they afterwards expressed it, burned within them, while he talked with them by the way, and sweetly opened to them the Scriptures. Unwilling to part, as it might be for ever, from one who had opened their minds to so much divine knowledge, and filled their souls with so much heavenly consolation and delight; and mindful, at the same time, of his bodily comfort, lest by journeying any further that day, he should be wearied, they pressed him to go in with them and accept of their hospitality at Emmaus. “They constrained him, saying, abide with us; for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.” Their kind invitation was graciously accepted, and he went in to tarry with them. While seated with them at supper, he took bread and blessed it in a manner peculiar to himself, and which no doubt they well remembered; and their eyes were no longer holden that they should not know him, but were at length opened to behold in their fellow-traveller and guest, their own beloved Lord and Master. Immediately upon his revealing himself to them he vanished out of their sight. The astonished disciples,