

X some money, and also a communion service, which we believe is still in use. This was the second church in the county, the Lutheran not being built till the year following.

Previous to this they had endeavored to obtain a minister of their own persuasion, who could preach to them in their native tongue. They had applied to ministers of their own persuasion in Philadelphia, but received answer that they could not obtain enough German ministers for the supply of the wants of their own people around them.

Being unsuccessful in these appeals abroad, they at length chose one of themselves, Mr Bruin Romeas Comingo, who had been for some time living at Chester and employed as a fisherman. Mr C. was born at Nieuwardon, in the Province of Groningen in Holland in Oct. 1723. He had not received a classical education, but he was a man of good natural talents, who had the ordinary education of his native country and who was well informed in Scripture and religion. At that time there was no Presbytery in the Province. There were several Presbyterian and Congregationalist ministers, who not only freely associated but in matters of common concern acted as one body, as was the practice amongst the Puritans in New England. Application was made to these ministers to ordain Mr C. and after a careful inquiry into his moral character and his qualifications for the work of the ministry, and due consideration of the whole circumstances of the case, they felt it their duty to comply with the request.

The ordination, being the first in the Province, took place on the 3rd July 1770, in St Matthews Church, Halifax, then known as the Protestant Dissenting Meeting House in the presence of Lord William Campbell, the Governor of the Province, several members of the Council, and a large number of persons belonging to all denominations. The proceedings seemed to have excited much interest in the community. The ministers who took part in the service, were the Rev Mr Murdoch then of Horton, afterwards of Musquodoboit, and the Rev Mr Lyon of Onslow, both Presbyterian, and the Rev Mr Secombe of Chester, and the Rev Mr Phelps of Cornwallis, both Congregationalists.

The whole proceedings were afterwards published in a pamphlet formed under the care of Rev Messrs Secombe and Lyon with a prefatory dedication addressed to Malachi Salter, Esq., as a token of esteem as they say, for "the zeal which you have manifested on every proper occasion to advance the interests of religion in this infant colony, and in particular for those prudent and vigorous measures you have taken and still pursue, to obtain and establish a fund for the support of such Dissenting ministers in this Province, as stand in need of assistance."

The ordination sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr Secombe, who had labored for some time alternately at Chester and Halifax, and who was highly esteemed in the Province, being frequently spoken of as the father of the dissenting churches in Nova Scotia. His text on this occasion was John xxi. 15, 16, from which he discussed in a very simple and practical style the following topics. "It is the will of God that there should be an order of men to preach the word and carry on the work of the gospel ministry. 2nd. Some are called unto, and employed in this work. 3rd. It is a great advantage unto and necessary qualification for such men to be endowed with sanctifying grace—that they sincerely love the Lord Jesus Christ." In the conclusion he addresses an appeal to the candidate, to the representatives of the congregation of Lunenburg, and to the general audience.

Then followed a paper by Mr Murdoch, equivalent to the narrative of steps taken, in the Scottish Presbyterian ordination service, entitled "Reasons of the ordination of the Rev Bruin Romeas Comingo to the pastoral care of the Dutch Calvinists at Lunenburg. It is as follows—

"A REPRESENTATION of the distressed state of the Dutch Calvinists of Lunenburg, having been made to us, the ministers of the gospel, who are convened on this occasion,

"We accordingly took the same into our serious consideration, and upon due enquiry have found that these people have been entirely destitute, for the space of sixteen years, of a regular minister, who might break the bread of life unto them, in due season and perform the other duties of the