

that he works just as hard as if he were settled in this county. For the sake of our vacant charges we had some small hope that he would come this way; especially as his experience among the *Gulches* and *Canyons* beyond Kanyloops would stand him in good stead in the labourious and scattered fields within the bounds of this Presbytery.

It is with regret that we have likewise to state that there seems little, if any, prospect of Mr. McEachern coming back from Scotland. At least so report says. It is to be the more regretted as Cape Breton is petitioning for a Missionary, and the laborers are few indeed. We are every day more and more convinced of the evil of allowing useful men to go away from us. It is an old saying that "there are lovers out of Britain," and we are discovering the truth of it to our cost. Those who go away from us find that they can live in other parts of the world as well as here; and it often happens that no persuasion of ours can bring them back. If we were not so loyal and good a people the matter would not be so puzzling. We do not venture to solve the riddle. One thing at all events seems to be clear, that we should try to do what we can to persuade those we have to remain with us and labor in our midst.

COM.

It is our painful duty to have to record the death of another of the most prominent and most respected inhabitants of Hopewell, John Gray, Esq., who departed this life on Wednesday, 26th Dec. '77, in the 77th year of his age. The deceased never recovered from the shock which he received nine months before on the death of a beloved son; and for two or three months before he died, it was only too evident to those about him that his end was fast approaching. His death, like those of his son Daniel Gray, Esq., and Alex'r McDonald, Esq., all of which took place during the past year, has made a great blank in the community of Hopewell, where his well-known figure will long be missed. His whole life having been spent in Hopewell, where his untiring industry and perseverance in his worldly business were amply rewarded, he became thoroughly identified with the place. The universal respect

and esteem in which the deceased was held were shown by the immense assemblage at his funeral which took place on Friday, the 28th ult., Hopewell Church in which the funeral service was held, being crowded to the door. A special train brought up some of the most prominent citizens of Pictou and New Glasgow. The solemn funeral service was conducted by the Rev. P. Galbraith, of West Branch, of which congregation Mr. Gray was a most influential member. Mr. Galbraith was assisted by the Rev. Alex'r McLean of Hopewell. At the close of the service the remains of the deceased were conveyed to West Branch Churchyard followed by 86 sleighs. Mr. Gray has left behind him a widow and grown-up family to mourn his loss.

## WEST BRANCH, RIVER JOHN.

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION TO THE REV.  
R. McCUNN.

The following address was presented to the Rev. R. McCunn, at the Manse, on Christmas day, and was accompanied with a handsome donation, the particulars of which have already been given in the *Standard*.

We need scarcely say that Mr. McCunn has been greatly cheered and encouraged by this mark of appreciation on the part of a portion of his flock.

TO THE REV R. MCCUNN,

*Rev. & Dear Sir.*—Hearing of your severance from this portion of the Church by Presbytery, your friends and hearers of both branches of the Presbyterian Church at West B., River John, feel that they owe you a debt of gratitude for the deep interest you have always manifested in our spiritual welfare—your zeal and activity in the masters cause,—your indefatigable labours in the work of your scattered district, and your readiness to distribute to the spiritual necessities of your destitute neighbours, call forth our deepest admiration. Your christian generosity has been very clearly exemplified in the unabated interest you have manifested in our behalf, and your frequent services here. Your mission among us has been, we have reason to believe, fruitful to a great extent in subduing