

It is my earnest prayer that God may bless and prosper you all, both in things temporal and spiritual, and that when your and my earthly sojourn is ended we may meet in the Kingdom of Glory. Affectionately yours,
JAMES McDONALD.

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For the Monthly Record.

ORDINANCES IN CAPE BRETON.

The progress made by this mission, during the last two or three years, has been beyond all that could be expected under the circumstances. At present we have three ministers or missionaries; still it will be some time before we shall feel ourselves independent of the service of the ministers of Pictou in the summer time, at our communions.

Now the time is approaching when all the parties concerned may be reminded of the case, when our people have to make due preparations for holding the feast; and when the ministers referred to can recollect the gratification they have hitherto felt in coming and dispensing the solemn ordinances of the Word and Sacrament to them.

It is readily granted that the way is long, that these ministers will have their hands sufficiently full with their own numerous communions, moreover that one or two of their number are now absent from the country, who used to grace these solemn convocations. But if they reflect on the time not long by-gone, when they would not be troubled with such invitations from this quarter, it is hardly to be thought that the ministers will not consider their friendly aid uncalled for, nor their congregations deem the time wasted on their distant brethren here. And although we have the same number of ministers with our people in Prince Edward Island, where generally the assistance of our Pictou ministers is not required on such occasions, the parallel in the case as regards that quiet little Island no longer holds. Here commonly it is high wind, and when it is not there is no trusting the foul air sleeping for a while in the bowels and subterraneous caverns of the Island.

The trials endured by our people—the abuse heaped on them, the insults offered to them, the misrepresentations made of the stand which they have taken,—no man on the spot has ever made up his mind to divulge beyond the Strait of Canso, nor probably ever will undertake the ungracious task. But often it is that though men refrain, Providence will speak out in its own way.

At present our prospect here is one of continued hardships, and of adverse decisions on churches and church property. Also our political atmosphere is dark enough, ominous of the sure degradation of all concerned, by reason of the individuals “offering” to represent other people, but who cannot represent themselves. But the plan adopted by

the clergy here in general, is to allow sentry to fight out their own battles.

Surely though the world has been always moving, it has never moved so fast as now when the destinies of the Church and of nations seem all as if stowed up in another ark, labouring, and heaving, and straining among the billows of our stormy and portentous times. But the ark of the Church never sinks, nor even be stranded, whilst the Captain of her salvation is on board and holds the helm. Look up all, you people! His eyes look down on you whoever you are and whatever you may be about. He takes cognizance of all and of their work to whom all judgement has been committed and who is constituted the Governor of the world and the Supreme Ruler of the universe. Will you, then, once look up? Some believing in His over-ruling providence—to their comfort, at all times; others who have never believed to purpose, seeking His glory their chief end, their eternal salvation. All events, the day of account is before all.

Now it is humbly requested by our adherents, that two Gaelic Ministers and one minister with English only come over here in August and it is as earnestly prayed for, that what they do, it will be in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ Jesus. J. G.

MEETING OF SYNOD.

Our Synod meeting at Charlottetown closed on Monday evening, 1st July, after five days continuous, yet, on the whole, agreeable work. The attendance both of ministers and representative elders was extremely satisfactory, very few of either being absent from their posts. One of the elders present, the Hon. John Holmes, has reached the 50th year of his eldership, having been appointed in 1817, and a minute, expressing gratitude for his being so long spared to the church was adopted by the Synod at one of its sittings. The members from the mainland had a delightful passage, both going and returning, on board the excellent steamer “Princess of Wales.”

In addition to our own ministers and elders, we were favoured with the presence of several corresponding members: from Canada, the very Rev. Principal Snodgrass, the Rev. Kenneth McLennan, Moderator of the Synod of Canada, and Mr. Brymner, elder, Montreal; and from New Brunswick the Rev. Dr. Henderson, and Rev. Messrs. Caie and Ogg. As usual, the minutes were published in the August No.

NOTICE.

The editing of the *Record* for the synodical year, now commenced, has been placed in the hands of the Rev. Mr. McCunn—this change being occasioned by the removal of Mr. Pender from Pictou. Communications intended for insertion are, accordingly, to