

## REPORTS OF MISSIONARY LABOURS IN CAPE BRETON.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Pictou, held in Chatham in July, I asked leave to report; but owing to the lateness of the hour of meeting, leave was not given. I now beg to bring my report before you. Since March last, services were conducted by me in both languages at the places here mentioned: River Inhabitants, West Bay, Strait, River Dennis, Baddeck, Middle River, East Branch, &c. On Sept 19th, the Communion was held at River Inhabitants; on the 26th it was held at Middle River; and on 3rd October, at Broad Cove.

It is scarcely necessary for me, I hope, to enter into a lengthened explanation as to our reasons for not adopting for our Communions the days intimated by Presbytery at the meeting in September. Arrangements were made to hold the Communion upon the days appointed by Presbytery in July. Intimation was given far and wide. It would create the greatest confusion and disappointment to make any change as so late a period.

It was necessary for me, for more than one reason, to start for Pictou the week before the Synod met, and accordingly I spent Sunday, 27th June, at East Branch; July 4th preached at Chatham; 11th at Roger's Hill; 18th at Pictou at Mr. Herdman's Communion.

According to request of Presbytery, I visited Middle River in March. On my arrival, I found that the Church was to be occupied by the United Body on the following Sunday. I therefore went to Baddeck, and Mr. McKenzie of that place very courteously placed both his churches at my disposal. On Tuesday we had service at Middle River, and immediately afterwards we held a congregational meeting. Among other matters, collectors were appointed for the Home Mission Scheme. On my revisiting them in June, the collectors informed me that they had called upon people for subscriptions, but had received nothing. At a meeting held 27th Sept., male collectors were appointed to "try again."

The church at Baddeck is still unfinished.

In May I drove Mr. D. Campbell to L'ardoise, Ferguson's Lake, and Lake Uist. Our people in that quarter are anxious to secure, if possible, the services of Mr. Campbell next summer. This itself is sufficient proof of the success of his laborious efforts while there.

Our Church at River Inhabitants is finished, and nearly all the pews are sold. Our Trustees hope to pay off all debt without further extraneous aid.

At West Bay our Church has been almost entirely renewed. The people there supplied nearly all the wood required, and paid liberally in money.

The following is a list of the moneys subscribed and paid for missionary services and for the Schemes of the Church:—

*For Missionary Services for the year ending August 1, 1869:—*Lake Uist, \$26.25; Middle River, \$2.75; Strait, \$68; West Bay, \$38; River Inhabitants, \$78; River Dennis, \$28; Boom, R. Dennis, \$9; total, \$250.

The greater part of the above is paid; and the remainder is coming in by degrees.

*Collected during summer for the Foreign Mission:—*Plaister Cove, \$10; River Inhabitants, \$12.20; West Bay, \$12.25; River Dennis, \$4; total, \$38.45. Middle River, \$4.34; Baddeck, \$9.46; total, \$13.80.

*Collected for the Home Mission:—*Lake Uist, \$6; River Inhabitants, \$12.22; West Bay, \$4.68; River Dennis, \$2.66; Strait, \$8; Baddeck, \$14; total, \$47.56.

We have not endeavored to collect for all the Schemes, for various reasons. Our collections must be made, except on extraordinary occasions, not at the church or place of meeting, but by book or collecting card. And should we all at once send round cards for the various Schemes, amongst a people unaccustomed to it, the result would probably be that the amount contributed would fall short of that mentioned above. As the districts get accustomed to it, we hope that the other schemes can be successfully taken in hand.