

of the leading men of the place are fast growing rich by shipbuilding. A commodious and creditable Academy, furnishes a good Education to the 200 pupils who attend its four departments. A bank and a printing-press—so it is reported—are to be established shortly. The Episcopalians, the Presbyterians, the Wesleyans, and the Baptists, have their respective places of worship, where each can worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience.

THE CONGREGATION.

Glancing our eye over the records of Presbyterianism in Shelburne, we can trace its origin back to the time when the town was founded. It is true that no Presbyterian Church was built in the place until the year 1804—the year in which the British and Foreign Bible Society was organized; but religious services were conducted in private buildings, by regularly ordained Presbyterian ministers, until a suitable place of worship was erected. No fewer than nine ministers have had charge of the congregation for a greater or less period, during the ninety years of its history. Their names occur in the following order:—Hugh Fraser, Matthew Dripps, Givan Lang, John Ross, William T. Wishart, Andrew Donald, James Byers, George Clarke, Samuel Archibald.

There are persons still living who told me that they were baptized in their infancy by the Rev. Hugh Fraser; and I have seen in his own handwriting, on parchment, a certificate of marriage performed by him as minister of the congregation, a short time after Shelburne was founded by the Loyalists.

During the vacancy that occurred between the retirement of Mr. Fraser, and the commencement of Mr. Dripps' ministry, the place was supplied by the Rev. James Munro, a Scottish minister, who itinerated throughout the length and breadth of our land, and ultimately settled in Antigonish, and became the Founder of the Presbyterian Church in that part of the Province. And I may here state that, during subsequent vacancies, the congregation was visited by the Revs. John Martin and John Scott, favourably known as ministers for many years in this city; and also by the Rev. Thomas Morrison, who was afterwards located in Bermuda.

The Rev. Matthew Dripps was pastor of the congregation for 23 years. He finished his course in 1828, and a suitable monumental tablet marks the resting-place of his remains, in the cemetery that surrounds the church in which he officiated. The Rev. Givan Lang, after a ministry of six or seven years, returned to his native land—Scotland. His two sons, now in the ministry, are not unknown to fame on either side of the Atlantic. The one is pastor of a large

influential congregation in Montreal; the other is the successor of the late world-renowned, Dr. Norman McLeod of Glasgow.

The Rev. John Ross and the Rev. W. T. Wishart, after labouring for a few years successively, in the congregation, removed, the one to St. John, and the other to St. Andrews, in the Province of New Brunswick. The Rev. Andrew Donald has now charge of a congregation in the St. John Presbytery, and the Rev. James Byers is the pastor of the Presbyterian congregation of Clifton. The Rev. George Clarke, after a brief pastorate in East Boston, is at present in Ontario, and the Rev. Samuel Archibald who resigned the charge of the congregation at the close of last year, is doing a good service in the church under the direction of our Home Mission authorities.

My visit occurred, as you are aware, immediately after Mr. Archibald's resignation, and I can conscientiously say that, while cherishing the kindest feelings to the other evangelical denominations in the place, I did all I possibly could for the welfare of our own cause in the community. I have spoken merely of the town of Shelburne, but in addition to the church in the town, there are no less than seven preaching places within the limits of the congregation occupied by us in connection with the Episcopalians, the Wesleyans, and the Baptists. On the Shelburne River there are two stations—Lower and Upper Ohio—at the respective distances of 7 and 15 miles from Shelburne. At various points on the Jordan River there are four stations known as Jordan Falls, Jordan Ferry, Jordan Bay and East Jordan, and then we have a well-finished commodious church in the thriving community of Lockport, on the sea-shore. Measuring in the line of these preaching stations, it is full forty miles from Upper Ohio to Lockport,

WORK.

Besides several week evening services, I generally preached three times each Sabbath—once in town and in two of the outlying stations in regular order; and I am happy to be able to say that, with scarcely an exception, I had large overflowing, attentive congregations. For the first week or two, affairs did seem rather gloomy, and unpromising. Dark clouds were flitting across the sky, and seemed ready to burst in fury on the head of somebody. But the frowning clouds soon passed away, and we had clear, unclouded, sunshine. As my present object is not to speak in self-praising terms of my own sayings and doings, I shall not weary you with a statement of the families which I visited, or the baptisms which I administered, or the marriages