

case with some of the early Congregational Churches of Nova Scotia. Not being able to get a minister of their own faith and order, they did the next best thing, and got a Presbyterian Minister, the Rev. Mr. Ross, at present a Presbyterian Minister in New Brunswick. Mr. Ross was a thorough Presbyterian, and to some extent succeeded in making of it a Presbyterian Church. The old people never fell in with his views, but a young generation was growing up that would in time have done so. When he left in 1844, he was as much a Presbyterian as when he came to Chebogue, and he left quite a Presbyterian party in the Church. In 1846, the Rev. Mr. Tomkins, an able preacher, sent to Nova Scotia by the Colonial Missionary Society, became Pastor of the Church, but he and the Presbyterian party did not get along well. Whether he acted wisely or not, the writer will not attempt to express an opinion; but the difficulty at length culminated in Mr. Tomkins requesting all who were Congregationalists to re-sign the covenant. A part of the Church did so, and another part organized themselves into a Presbyterian Church, which still maintains an existence, not very strong now, and some of its members cherishing warm feelings of attachment to the Mother Church, from which unfortunately they became separated. It is to be hoped that wise counsels will yet prevail among them, and that they will return to the Church of their fathers, and have one strong church instead of two weak ones.

In 1851, Mr. Tomkins removed to Liverpool, in Nova Scotia, after which the Church was ministered to by the Rev. Mr. Hendebourek, another of the Colonial Missionary Society's ministers, who had preached for some time in Salem Chapel, Halifax. His ministry at Chebogue was brief, and in 1852 he removed to Quebec. In 1853, the Rev. Jacob Whitman, a native of Nova Scotia, received a call to the Church, and was Pastor from that time till 1860, when he resigned. Mr. Whitman, though not now pastor of any church in Nova Scotia, is still a resident of that Province, and was present at the meeting of the Union at Chebogue in 1865, in the affairs of which he took a warm and lively interest.

In 1860, the Rev. George Ritchie, whose name appears on the list of alumni of the Congregational College of B. N. America, but now of Boston, took charge of the Church in connection with Yarmouth, but at the end of the year, health failing him, he gave it up, and confined his labours to the Church in Yarmouth alone. After this, Mr. Strasenbourg, another of the alumni of the same College, supplied the pulpit three months; and Mr. Simeon Sykes, now Pastor of the Church at Pleasant River, N. S., for three months; and in 1862, the Rev. John Gray, of Montreal, at the request of Rev. Dr. Wilkes, visited the Church, received a unanimous call, and was ordained May 8, 1863.

The writer visited Chebogue in July, 1865, as a delegate to the Congregational Union. He felt an interest in this ancient Church, one of the oldest of the existing Congregational Churches in these lower provinces, dating back a century, preserved in a wonderful manner from wreck and ruin as one of the ancient landmarks set up in Nova Scotia, more than a score of years before the advent of the Loyalists; racked and torn in its earliest days by that inundation of New Lightism that sowed the seeds of dissension, and made Baptists of the descendants of the Puritans; and in later times divided again by an attempt to fasten upon the Church a system of government that would have made it Presbyterian in reality, if not in name.