

and pious pastors. They have certainly strong claims upon the sympathy and liberality of the parent Church, and their brethren in the colonies. They have manifested the strength and steadfastness of their attachment in the most trying circumstances and amid repeated and painful disappointments, and several of them in regard to numbers and resources, we are assured, are in as prosperous a condition, as at any former period.

But after this necessary and important work has been fully completed, and every self-sustaining congregation supplied with a stated ministry, much still remains, amidst the increasing population of Nova Scotia to be accomplished. There are in all directions new settlements opening up, containing in smaller or larger numbers, adherents of the Church, which require to be occasionally visited; and there are in some districts such a numerous collection of families living in the same neighbourhood as would soon form a united and prosperous congregation, if carefully attended to. Every clergyman who has visited the province knows, that there is still much land to be occupied and possessed.

If other religious denominations are redoubling their exertions in support of Home Missions, surely the Church of Scotland, which has of late years been so reduced in numbers, and enfeebled in strength by secession and desertion, ought certainly to make extraordinary efforts to recover her lost ground. We hope she has not lost her wonted energy and vitality, and we have no reason to believe that her ministers and members are more deficient in zeal in piety or liberality than other Christian Churches.

The urgent necessity for Home Missions must become apparent even to the most ordinary observer, from the simple and well known fact, that there are adherents of the Church of Scotland in larger or smaller numbers in every county of the province, whilst the ministers of that Church are only to be found in the two counties of Halifax and Pictou. Surely this is a state of things which ought no longer to exist, if it can at all be remedied. And that it can be remedied, we firmly believe, if a sufficient amount of funds and an ample staff of missionaries are provided for that purpose. We could easily suggest a plan which, if carried into execution, would greatly enlarge our missionary operations and increase the efficiency of our church. But we shall leave our readers to ponder over this momentous subject for another month, and in the meantime we shall be most happy to receive such hints and suggestions, as our generous and pious friends may consider advisable and necessary for carrying out such a laudable undertaking.

### Early Labourers.

Although many years have elapsed since the first Missionaries from our church visited this Province, and a new race has sprung up, who are strangers to their persons and unacquainted with their labours, yet we cannot for one moment believe that our congregations more especially those to the eastward, will speedily forget the public and private ministrations of those, who once had the rule over them and dispensed unto them the bread of life. The relation between these early labourers and their flocks was of a very peculiar and interesting character. Most of them had to form their congregations from the immigrants which they found scattered around them in the wilderness; all of them had to endure more or less privations in the discharge of their public ministry, and some of them had to encounter no ordinary trials and difficulties. We cannot form a just and adequate conception of the present flourishing condition of our Church in the Gaelic districts, without advertg to the labours of these self-denying pioneers in the erection of Messiah's Kingdom. Some of them have already left the world, but the greater number of them are still alive and engaged in active services, although now labouring in another portion of the vineyard. It may be gratifying to their friends who still retain a lasting and grateful remembrance of their ministrations, to learn how they are at present employed in Scotland.

The Rev. John McKae, for many years the able and efficient minister of the congregations in the upper settlements of the East River of Pictou, was for some time after his return to his native land minister of the parish of Killearnan, in the presbytery of Chanonry, and is now minister of Stornoway in the island of Lewis, in charge of a numerous and respectable congregation. He corresponded with his congregation in Pictou for several years after he left the province, and manifested at one time a great desire to return to Nova Scotia, but we believe he has now abandoned that idea, and his former flock must now look to some other quarter for assistance.

The Rev. Dugald McKiehan who was for a number of years, minister at Merrigomush and afterwards at Canso, River Inhabitants and River Denis in Cape Breton, is now minister of Daviot in the presbytery of Inverness, and although afflicted with blindness is still able to discharge his ministerial duties with much of his wonted ability and energy.

The Rev. Hugh McKenzie formerly minister of Wallace and afterwards at St. Mary's is now the Gaelic minister of Inverness and has a large congregation. The Rev. Robert Williamson, who had the charge of St. Andrew's congregation in the town of Pictou is now minister of Knockbain in the presbytery of Chanonry, and well known as a most exemplary clergyman. Another of our colonial labourers, the Rev. Donald McConochie, who was for some time minister of St. Mary's and afterwards at Roger's Hill, had for several years the charge of the Gaelic congregation in Inverness, and is now minister of Urquhart in the presbytery of Abertarf. Few ministers were more diligent and esteemed than the Rev. Donald Macintosh of the West and Middle Rivers of Pictou. His people as well as the other congregations deeply lamented the departure of their ministers from the Province

as to human view a most irreparable calamity. On his return to Scotland he became minister of Urray, in the presbytery of Dingwall, and has been lately inducted, as appears from the following notice to the parish of Edderton in the Presbytery of Tain.

"The Presbytery of Tain met on the 23rd ultimo for the purpose of inducting the Rev. Mr. Macintosh, of Urray, to the pastoral charge of the parish of Edderton. Mr. Macintosh having received an unanimous call from the people of Edderton to become their minister, he has every prospect of labouring among them with very much acceptance. The unanimity and harmony which have been manifested by the people of Edderton in this case are worthy of imitation by other congregations in like circumstances."

But this brief notice of our early missionaries would be very incomplete, were we to omit the self denying exertions of those faithful and devoted servants of God who have now finished their course, and received the reward of their labours. The Rev. Donald A. Fraser of McLennan's Mountain is deservedly esteemed as the Father of the Church of Scotland in Pictou, being one of her first ministers and pre-eminently distinguished both for his talents and exertions. His ministerial labours from his arrival in Nova Scotia in 1817 till he left the county of Pictou, extended from Wallace to St. Mary's, embracing also the Gaelic settlements in Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, and were of the most arduous and fatiguing description, such labours as could only be performed by an active and vigorous clergyman in the full strength of manhood. He was afterwards for several years minister of the Calvinist congregation of Lunenburg, on its connection with the Church of Scotland, and ended his days in the island of Newfoundland, after organizing the first Presbyterian Church that had been formed in the island. No person who heard him preach, more especially during the last years of his public ministry, could easily forget his powerful commanding talents and earnest and forcible eloquence, and his death about the 50th year of his age produced a deep and solemn impression, not only upon the minds of his bereaved flock in Newfoundland, but amongst all the congregations who had enjoyed the benefit of his public services. Another of his fellow labourers with whom he frequently associated has also passed from this earthly scene, the Rev. John McLennan of Belfast Prince Edward Island, and latterly minister of Kilchrennan in Argyshire. He too was most abundant in missionary labours, and highly esteemed as an excellent Gaelic minister. The removal of these clergymen in the midst of their days, and with the prospect of enlarged and continued usefulness, is well fitted to remind surviving heralds of the cross of their important duties and solemn responsibilities. In the church as in the world, amongst clergymen as well as laymen one generation passeth away and another generation cometh. Our consolation is that the Lord God omnipotent reigneth, and that as the exalted King and Head of his church he is the same yesterday, to-day and forever.

**MUNIFICENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE IRISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S JEWISH MISSION.**—Miss Broomfield, of Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, has placed in the hands of her bankers the sum of £800 for the use of the Jewish Mission of the Irish Presbyterian Church.