

light, besides, prove an incentive to keep the Schools in the various congregations and out-stations in a healthy and progressive condition.

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THE RECORD.

By this time, all our ministers, kirk-sessions and agents will probably be in possession of a printed circular in reference to increasing the circulation of the *Record* for the coming year. We depend upon every one exerting himself to the utmost in the various localities to render us self-supporting—which is all we aim at,—the object of the publication being to diffuse religious information connected with our Church, not to make money. We will be quite satisfied if we do not lose any, and to guard against this we now make an earnest appeal to our numerous friends.

The present issue concludes the seventh volume of our publication, and for the convenience of those who may wish to bind it, we have, at considerable trouble, prepared an index and supplied a title-page.

To our kind friends who have assisted us in the literary department of the *Record*, we return our warm and grateful thanks—and most of all to our esteemed poetical contributor, M. J. K.—who, during the last two years, has not once failed us, and some of whose beautiful verses, such as those on the loss of the Hungarian and of Captain Harrison, will be remembered by hundreds of our readers, when very much of our other matter shall have been forgotten.

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PRESENTATION TO REV. ALEX. MACKAY.

ADDRESS.

*To the Rev. Alex. McKay, M. A.:*

DEAR PASTOR.—We are desirous of giving some tangible and enduring expression of our respect for you as our minister, and of our high appreciation of your services as a preacher of the gospel,—while you, at the same time, manifest the most assiduous zeal in seeking to promote the individual interest of all, without respect of persons, within the wide range of your extensive field of labor.

You have been instrumental, under God, in effecting valuable and manifest reforms in our congregation, by discouraging, in your preaching and lecturing, as well as by example, the use of spirituous liquors as a beverage or in sensual gratification.

We would, moreover, gratefully acknowledge the ready and cheerful manner in which you devised and pressed forward a scheme by which we were relieved and became respectably independent as regards Church property.

Prompted by these considerations to manifest our sentiments, we procured this set of silver-mounted Harness, which we now beg

to present to you, trusting that you will be pleased to accept of the same, in token of our hearty good-will to-wards you.

And we earnestly pray God, that, in the dispensation of His good providence, you shall belong spared to go before us to break to us the bread of life; and that Mrs. McKay, your amiable spouse, shall be blessed with good health, to enable her to grace our society with her countenance.

In the name of the Salt Springs congregation,

ALEX. MACKAY.

GEO. SUTHERLAND.

ROBERT MCKENZIE.

West River, 8th Nov., 1861.

} *Committee.*

REPLY.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS.—I thank you very heartily for your kind address. While conscious of many shortcomings in the discharge of the highly responsible duties of the holy ministry, it is very encouraging to have full proof of your esteem and good-will. Next to a full sense of the approbation of the great Head of the Church, this affords the most hopeful encouragement of success.

It is most gratifying to observe, with you, the benefit resulting from the disuse of ardent spirits. The human share of praise—if any is merited—is, I conceive, rather due to those who so readily, in their receptivity to truth, responded to our plain exhortations, and so steadfastly adhered to their wise resolves. But let us in this, as in everything, continue to own with gratitude the agency of the Author of every good—assured that only thus shall the reform prove enduring.

It is also very pleasing to learn that you have become so independent in the secular affairs of the congregation. In this, likewise, I would ascribe the credit to yourselves—male and female—who so vigorously adopted and carried out measures for the attainment of this object.

I gratefully accept of your gift, which is so handsome that, coming from another source, I could not feel justified in using so splendid and expensive an article. But considering the pressure of the times, and all you have done during my short pastorate among you, to promote our comfort, in the erection of our excellent manse, and otherwise, I take this to be the lasting expression of much kindness. As such I shall receive it, to indicate your generosity, rather than to manifest a desire for display.

I beg to return my best thanks for your very friendly mention of and wishes for Mrs. Mackay.

I am most thankful to you for the assurance of your prayers. I request and crave your earnest and constant prayers, that, "the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified"—so that when we have respectively done the work assigned to us, and finished