

Mr. William Grant, student of divinity, appeared before the Presbytery and presented a diploma from the Theological Seminary of Princeton, New Jersey, signed by the Professor of Divinity—stating that he had completed the course of study prescribed in the plan of the Seminary;—whereupon the Presbytery agreed to receive his trials for license, which he accordingly gave in. These were unanimously sustained and highly commended, and he was accordingly licensed to preach the everlasting Gospel.

The Presbytery then adjourned to meet in Knox's Church, Pictou, on Tuesday the 22nd inst., at 11 A.M., for considering the rules and forms of procedure, and for ordinary business.

JOHN MACKINNON, Clerk.

Presbytery of Halifax.

This Presbytery met on Wednesday the 26th ult., at 2 o'clock, P.M., in the Presbyterian Church, Musquodoboit Harbour, and after sermon by Rev. A. Simpson from Mark xiv. 9, was constituted by Rev. E. Annand, moderator—besides whom were present Rev. Messrs. Sedgwick, Stuart, McMillan, McCurdy, and Glendinning, ministers, and Mr. W. Anderson, ruling elder. The principal business of the day was the visitation of Mr. McCurdy's congregation. Two sections of his charge, viz., Musquodoboit Harbour and Clam Harbour, were visited on Wednesday.

The questions prescribed by Synod were put respectively to the minister, the Elders, the Session, and the managers, and on the whole were most satisfactorily answered. The Presbytery was much pleased to find this part of Mr. McCurdy's charge in such a prosperous condition. Though widely scattered it is well organized. It was very pleasing to see such a staff of elders supporting and encouraging their pastor—eleven in all in a congregation of 80 families; most of them comparatively young men, trained under Mr. McCurdy's ministry. The fact that so many men could be found qualified to fill the important office of the eldership in such a congregation speaks much for the diligence and success of the pastor. Mr. McCurdy is doing his work faithfully and efficiently. He is indeed abundant in labors, and has reason to believe that his "labour is not in vain in the Lord." In three years—the time that he has had the oversight of the congregation—the membership has nearly doubled, and the attendance at the Sabbath services has greatly increased. Prayer-meetings, Bible classes, and Sabbath Schools have been established, and are now in a flourishing state. The people are devotedly attached to their minister, and the greatest cordiality and harmony prevail. From all that the

Presbytery could see and hear, they had reason to believe that the cause "of pure and undefiled religion" is advancing in Musquodoboit Harbour. Financially, too, matters were satisfactory. In these two sections there are no arrears of salary, and the people have hitherto implemented their engagements with a good deal of promptitude. Nor are they wanting in liberality. True, they are not paying Mr. McCurdy a large salary, but their means are limited, and considering their numbers and resources they will, in this particular, compare favourably with our best congregations. No people feel the pressure of "hard times" more than they; but they do not, like some, try to practice economy by withholding from the Church. It would be desirable if they could advance their pastor's salary, and the Presbytery believe that they will do so as soon as they are able. Meantime they are doing well—better than many who are more favourably situated.

On the following day, Thursday, the Presbytery met at Meagher's Grant—an outlying section of the congregation, and after an appropriate sermon by Rev. A. Glendinning, proceeded to enquire into the state of this part of Mr. McCurdy's charge. It also was found to be in a healthy condition, though perhaps not quite so prosperous as the other two sections. The Presbyterian Church has long occupied this ground. The remains of one of her oldest ministers—Mr. Murdoch—rest in the graveyard. For many years, however, it was irregularly supplied by adjoining ministers and by probationers, and did not prosper. But since it has enjoyed the pastoral supervision of Mr. McCurdy it has made considerable progress. A neat and comfortable place of worship has been erected, and the attendance on ordinances has increased. A Bible class and Sabbath school have been organized, and are doing well. And as in the other sections, the people generally are warmly attached to their pastor, and appear to take an interest in religious exercises. But the Presbytery was sorry to hear that they had fallen a little in arrears in money matters. An effort, however, is being made to meet all demands, and the Presbytery was assured by a responsible party that the arrears would all be paid off in the course of two or three months at the furthest. It is hoped that Meagher's Grant will imitate the other sections of the congregation, and for the time to come endeavour to meet their engagements as soon as they become due.

In consideration of the whole there is much to encourage—much for which all parties have reason to be grateful to God, and much to stimulate to yet greater efforts in the cause of our Lord and Master.

Two Students of Divinity—Messrs.