

ation for the sacred and all important truths you have so often inculcated, and that you may have the great satisfaction of seeing that the seed you have sown among us has not been altogether without fruit.

We, the teachers and pupils of your Sabbath School would therefore request your acceptance of this copy of a FAMILY BIBLE as a token of our respect and appreciation of your services in our behalf, and our fervent prayer is that the Giver of all good may long preserve you in health and strength to break the bread of life amongst us.

We would also desire to unite our prayers and best wishes for the welfare of your amiable partner and family.

Signed in behalf of the teachers and pupils of St. Andrew's Church Sabbath School, Pictou, by

WM. GORDON,
Superintendent.

Pictou, April 22, 1863.

REPLY.

My Dear Friends,—

I accept this as the spontaneous expression of your good feeling and confidence in me as one of your Teachers, as well as of your attachment and respect to a good cause. The Sabbath School is an Institution whose welfare I have deeply at heart, and whose efficiency I have endeavored to promote, and not without some success, if I must believe from your too favorable address. However, it is but right to add that there are others to whom a portion of this praise should be designed as well; there is an excellent superintendent, whose long-continued services in our cause are both a tower of strength and a token for good, and there are Teachers whose valuable labors have done and are doing much for the benefit of the young. I rejoice in being myself a fellow-worker, and in the thought that our labors have not been in vain, since our school has largely increased in numbers, and from the efforts and zeal now put forth by our Teachers, we may look forward to still greater results, should it please God, to prosper us for the time to come. Prayer and effort, it has been said, will accomplish almost anything, we have lived to prove the truth of that observation, yet are we but instruments, and therefore we should never forget on whom we must depend for the blessing, and fail not to pray that the Good Shepherd would yet further bless us by giving us to see of the fruit of our labor in the regeneration and spiritual growth of the youth committed to our charge.

I did not at first perceive that the pupils were contributors to the movement. I interpret this as a token of their attachment to their school, as well as of respect to myself, our youth have many and peculiar advantages, week day and Sabbath, and they possess, too, some most devoted and useful Teachers,

who grudge no pains for their improvement. Let me hope that they are profiting by these means, and that they will repay such labors. From Sabbath Schools have gone forth ministers, missionaries, useful and sanctified characters; may ours send forth some bright witnesses of the truth, who will spend and be spent in their Redeemer's service, some benefactors of their race and reformers of their species, and may our pupils grow in knowledge and in grace!

It was only yesterday that I was made aware of this movement. Hitherto my reward has been sought in my work, and in the advancement of the school; this will still be my motive, yet I acknowledge that your handsome present is both gratifying and encouraging, and that, since you expressed well-wishes for my household, this Book of Books will, I trust, be preserved as an heir-loom, and handed down, as a memorial, in my family, to generations.

I again thank you sincerely, and crave the Divine blessing upon our school and labors.

A. W. HERDMAN.

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FOR THE MONTHLY RECORD.

Notes from Church History.

SCOTLAND.

At the request of some of the readers of "the Record," we dwell a little longer on the History of these pioneers of Scottish Literature and Piety—the Culdees of Iona. It is asked, whence did they come?—what did they teach?—how did they live?

Exactly thirteen hundred years ago, there launched from the coast of Ireland, a small boat, formed of wicker-work, and covered with raw hides. It bore, as its freight, the most valuable cargo to Scotland, twelve apostles of truth, and landed on the island of Iona. At this period, Scotland might be willing to sit at the feet of her sister island and learn from her. Ireland, it appears, was far in advance of her in everything noble. And, as a proof of her true greatness, she wished to enable others by sending to them the source and secret of her prosperity, the oracles of God.

The ecclesiastical history of Ireland is one of peculiar interest, of strange sadness, but of a sadness by no means unmixed with hope. The dawn of her history broke bright and beautiful,—Her noonday became overcast with a very dark cloud. God grant that, as the evening of her day approaches, there may be a return to the brightness promised by her morning! What a solemn lesson her history may justly teach to those who are ever ready to boast of the constant progression of all nations! At a time when many of those nations now leading the van of intelligence and prosperity had either no national existence or were mere barbarians, Ireland