

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met in Knox's Church on the 9th December. The principal business before the court was the disposal of a call from the congregation of Strathalbyn in the Presbytery of P. E. Island, to the Rev Alex Ross of Pictou. Papers having been read, it appeared that no persons were present to represent the congregation of Strathalbyn, or the Presbytery of P. E. Island, neither had any documentary pleadings been sent or reasons of translation. Mr John E. Logan, Elder, and R. P. Grant Esq., appeared from the congregation of Knox's Church, earnestly opposing Mr Ross's removal. They referred to the trials of the congregation previous to his settlement among them, and the success which had attended his labours among them. They stated that since he became their pastor the congregation had steadily increased in numbers—that they had finished their church inside, and were preparing to complete the outside by erecting a spire—that they expected this year to increase his stipend twenty per cent—that not only had Mr Ross been very cordially called but that now there was not one individual in the congregation disaffected to him—that it was believed that a work of grace was going on through the congregation which his removal would interrupt—and that from his qualifications for preaching both in Gaelic and English, it would be extremely difficult to supply his place were he removed.

Mr Ross being called on, stated that he had never in any way been consulted as to this call. Had the parties sought either directly or indirectly to know his mind, he would have discouraged them from taking any steps in the matter. Since they had resolved to proceed, he could only allow the call to take its regular course. He had endeavoured to lay aside all personal feeling in the case, and he wished to leave the whole matter in the hands of the Presbytery.

Members of Presbytery then expressed their views. They were unanimous in declaring their sympathy for the congregation of Strathalbyn which had given up a young, earnest and energetic minister for the service of the church but that they were decidedly against translating Mr Ross from his present charge.

Mr Ross then stated that he not only acquiesced in the decision of his brethren, but that it was entirely in accordance with his own feelings.

The call was accordingly laid aside.

A letter was read from the Rev A. W. McKay now attending some of the classes of the Edinburgh University, requesting a Presbyterial certificate. The clerk was instructed to furnish him with the same.

Supply of preaching having been appoint-

ed for the various vacancies and stations within their bounds, the Presbytery adjourned.

The Presbytery agreed to meet for Presbyterial visitation at West River Church on Tuesday, 20th January, Rev. K. J. Grant to preach, and in the Central Church, on the following day the Rev John Stewart to preach.

Presbytery of P. E. Island.

This Presbytery met in the Free Church of this City on Wednesday, the 26th ult. In consequence of the state of the roads and the inclement weather, the attendance of members was limited. There were present the Revs A. Munro, G. Sutherland, W. Ross, and A. Falconer, with Mr Gordon, elder, from Casumpece.

The Rev William Ross withdrew his demission in compliance with the earnest request of the Presbytery, and in response to the united and special efforts of his congregation.

The reports of missionary labors of Rev H. McMillan and J. D. McGillivray were read, approved, and ordered to be transmitted.

The Presbytery resolved to apply for the services of Rev I. McKay, of Cape Breton, and Rev W. Stewart, of the Presbytery of Halifax.

One thousand copies of the Pastoral Letter on Popery, were ordered to be published without delay, in a pamphlet form, and distributed over the country.

Mr Munro reported that he had moderated in a call to Murray Harbour, that the call was unanimous, and in favor of Rev H. McMillan. The call was sustained. The Clerk was instructed by Mr McMillan to intimate his acceptance of the call, should the Presbytery sustain it. The Presbytery accordingly appointed Mr McMillan's induction to take place at the South Side, Murray Harbor, on the 17th December, Mr McNeill to preach and preside, Mr Munro to address the people, and Mr McLean of Dundas, the minister; the edict to be served on Sabbath the 30 November.

Mr Sinclair was appointed for three Sabbaths in December to Lot 14, and for the three next to New London North and Summerfield, and thereafter till the meeting of Presbytery to West St. Peter's.

The Presbytery adjourned, to meet for the induction of Mr McMillan, at Murray Harbour South, on the 17th Dec., and for general business on the last Wednesday of January, 1863, in Queen Square Church, Charlottetown, at 12 o'clock noon.—*Com.*