

importunately you plead, the more you will honour Him, and the more abundantly He will bless and prosper you.

Dear Brother, you are going far hence, and far away from the friends and the associations that must ever be dear to your memory, but, in the distant islands of the South Seas, friends will meet you who, with more than a brother's joy, will hail your arrival. These dear brethren in the same Lord will be able to aid you much by their counsel, and by imparting to you the results of their long and varied experience. It will be your wisdom, while not surrendering your own judgment, nor copying with servile imitation the procedure of any other. We receive with great deference the suggestions of such as have been long in the field, and are acquainted with every difficulty, and the best way to overcome it.

Let me assure you that your welfare and the success of your labours will be dear to the hearts of many thousands in this church. It will be ours liberally to support and encourage you in your labours, and God forbid that we should cease daily to pray for you, and the cause to which you are devoted.

May the God of all grace replenish your soul with every gift, and with the wisdom and the strength required for the arduous work on which you are entering. May His gracious providence watch over you on sea and land, make your way prosperous, and bless your mission for the salvation of many thousands who will be your crown of rejoicing when the Lord shall come. When, as a court, we shall now part with you, we do so not expecting to meet again. If after the lapse of years you shall be spared to appear in this court, you will not find us all present. May you and we so act that we may all meet our Master when he comes, to hear from His lips the welcome: "Well done, good and faithful servants, enter ye into the joy of your Lord."

A RETROSPECT.

THE Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, within the last twenty years, has experienced many changes as regards the arrival and departure of clergymen. In 1848, there were only three ministers in what was then the Synod of Nova Scotia, viz., the Rev. Mr. Martin of St. Andrew's, the Rev. Mr. Scott of St. Matthew's, Halifax; and the Rev. Dr. (then Mr.) McGillivray of McLennan's Mountain, Pictou. All these have gone to their rest, having performed their duties well and faithfully, like good soldiers of Jesus Christ. Since that time, at least fifty clergymen belonging to our church have labored for a longer or shorter period in different charges throughout Nova Scotia and the Island, either as missionaries or settled ministers. Of these, we can count seventeen who abandoned the field and returned to Scotland; seven went to Canada; two to New Brunswick; one has gone to India; one has retired in consequence of ill health and growing infirmity; one is about to set out as a missionary to the South Sea Islands; and one, it is said, intends to undertake the laborious duties of a missionary minister in British Columbia. Twenty-one of the whole number still occupy the field, all of them, we believe, labouring earnestly, and most of them very successfully, in the work appointed them to do.

In 1848, the Presbytery of Halifax consisted of only the two old established city churches; now it is represented by five ministers and six congregations,—the additional charges being Musquodoboit, Truro, Richmond, and North-West Arm. In 1848 there was but one Church of Scotland clergyman in the Presbytery of Pictou, now there are twelve; an increase, however, not to be attributed to the creation or building up of new, as of filling up old and formerly organized, but long vacant and neglected congregations. We have now two, till recently we had three, ministers in Cape Breton. In 1848, and for a long time afterwards, we had none on that Island, and even now the field there is very