A vacancy of some length now occurred, during which the Rev. Mr. George Burns, then officiating in St. John, N. B., paid a visit to Halifax. Through his advice the congregation agreed to connect itself with the Church of Scotland. In answer to their application for a minister of the Established Church, the Rev. John Martin was sent. He arrived in the Spring of 1821. He continued their pastor till 1856, when age and declining health rendered him unable to continue his arduous labours which were not confined to Halifax. In Halifax, besides his pastoral work he had charge of a church, or religious weekly paper, which he conducted with ability, and was frequently on mission tours. He was well known in the remote corners of Cape Breton. The Colonial Committee knew and appreciated the Christian enthusiasm of the faithful veteran, and created for him a somewhat anomalous office, that of Inspector of Missions for Nova Scotia. This office, while it relieved him of a burden, for which he was physically disabled, gave him material to occupy his thoughts and as much of the work he loved, less or more, as strength permitted, that preserved to him the blissful feeling of being still in harness. To be shelved and pushed into the cold seat of the looker on would be to him suffering which would embitter and shorten his days. The committee saved him from this experience. They gave him an honorable position and left to his own choice the amount of his labour. Of this he could, but would not, take advantage. Like Whitefield he preferred to wear than rust out. For seven years after this kind provision was made in sympathy with the weakness of his years, besides vigilantly attending to the duties of his office, the white haired old man, devoted himself as indefatigably as ever to ministerial work, preaching in the destitute localities the glad tidings of a Saviour who lived and died for sinuers and was now living, able and more than wiling to save them, and who was pleading with them