

## CORRESPONDENCE.

MORRISBURGH, ONTARIO, }  
 Oct. 14, 1867. }

To the Members of the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

I regret exceedingly that it will not be in my power to carry out the proposition made to your Synods, and favourably received by them, for publishing a historical and statistical statement of the Church of Scotland in the Maritime Provinces, along with that for Ontario and Quebec. Many reasons might be given, but one will suffice for the present:—it is hard to make bricks without straw! There are 23 congregations in Nova Scotia, and 14 in New Brunswick, in all, 37. At this date I have received only 13 returns from the former and 9 from the latter, as follows:—

|                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| N. S.                           | N. B.           |
| 1 Halifax, St. Mathews.         | 1 Fredericton.  |
| 2 " St. Andrews.                | 2 St. John.     |
| 3 Pictou.                       | 3 Portland.     |
| 4 New Glasgow.                  | 4 Newcastle.    |
| 5 Salt Springs                  | 5 Chatham.      |
| 6 Albion Mines.                 | 6 Nashwaak.     |
| 7 Musquodobit.                  | 7 Richmond.     |
| 8 River John.                   | 8 Woodstock.    |
| 9 Earltown.                     | 9 Bathurst.     |
| 10 Charlottetown.               | Not heard from: |
| 11 Belfast.                     | 1 St. Andrews.  |
| 12 Georgetown.                  | 2 Dalhousie.    |
| 13 Newfoundland.                | 3 Campbellton.  |
| Not heard from:—                | 4 Tabisitac.    |
| 1 Truro.                        | 5 N. Richmond.  |
| 2 McLennans Mountain.           |                 |
| 3 Rogers Hill and Cape John.    |                 |
| 4 Barneys River.                |                 |
| 5 Wallace and Pugwash.          |                 |
| 8 Cape Breton, 3 congregations. |                 |
| 9 St. Peters Road.              |                 |
| 10 East River.                  |                 |

It is thus evident that any statement that might be given of the history and present position of the Church in your Synods must necessarily be incomplete. Most of the returns are very satisfactory, and they embrace a great deal of valuable and interesting information. A few of them however require to be supplemented, which implies further correspondence and consequent delay. Under these circumstances I desire to express my willingness to hold the information already received *in retentis*, to wait the convenience of those who have not yet corresponded with me, and when full returns shall have come to hand, to do the best I can to arrange them for publication. If the expense of printing them separately shall be found too great, they might be published in the *Presbyterian*, or in your own *Record*, in such a way that the portion of the magazine thus occupied could be detached and appended to the General Report which would then be rendered more complete.

Of all the Colonial Churches I know of none whose history is likely to prove more interesting than that of your Synods, and, while there are parties still living from whom authentic information may be received, it seems to be most desirable now to collate all the facts that may come to our knowledge. In this way, though what we may attempt be but an outline or brief synopsis it will be valuable to the future historian. Without reference to the late Mr. McGillivray of McLennan's Mountain, the story of the Kirk in Nova Scotia cannot be told: the absence of data from Cape Breton Island were an unpardonable omission: and, were nothing said about the Rev. Donald McDonald, the minister, and his 5000 followers, our statement would be shorn of its most interesting features. I feel sure that there is enough in the life's history of this one man, to furnish material for a biography that would far exceed in interest that of his namesake, "The Apostle of the North."

Hoping that this explanation and these suggestions may meet with your approval, and with the assurance that I wish to be guided by your opinions in the matter referred to, I remain respectfully yours,

JAMES CROIX.

—o—  
 To the Editor of the Record.

DEAR SIR:—It might prove interesting to the readers of the *Record* if some of the ministers of our Church would answer in it the following question, and give their views on the subject.

QUES.—"Are the children of believing parents to be considered as members of the visible Church before their Baptism? Or, do they become members of the visible Church only after Baptism; in other words, in the case of the children of believing parents, is Baptism or is it not the rite of initiation into the Church?"

Yours, &c,

INQUIRER.

## SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

|                                    |   |         |
|------------------------------------|---|---------|
| 1867.                              | YOUNG MEN'S SCHEME.   |         |
| Oct 3—                             | Salt Springs Congregation.                                    | £1 14 3 |
| "                                  | —Albion Mines Congregation.                                   | 2 9 3   |
| " 26—                              | James Anderson, Esq., Treas.,<br>Charlottetown, P. E. Island  | 1 0 0   |
| 1867                               | SYNOD FUND.   |         |
| Oct 26—                            | James Anderson, Esq., Treas.,<br>Charlottetown, P. E. Island. | £6 15 0 |
|                                    | RODERICK MCKENZIE,<br>Pictou, Oct. 28th, 1867. Treasurer.     |         |
|                                    | YOUNG MEN'S SCHEME.   |         |
| McLellan's Mountain, Congregation, |   | £2 16 3 |
|                                    | W. STEWART.   |         |

—o—  
 Presbytery Clerk's Fee.

New Glasgow Kirk Session,

\$4.00