

a minister, or at least as the head-quarters of one of our missionaries. Already, besides our own, there are five or six other places of worship in the village, which is rapidly increasing in size and importance. The Episcopalians, Methodists and Baptists have each their representatives here; and the Free Church will soon have a considerable building, which is now in course of erection. There is also a small Roman Catholic Chapel in progress. So that, in Pugwash, we are not without our share of competition,—rivalry—opposition—in the great and good work of winning souls to Christ. Still have we much to be thankful for, in so far as there are many in the village and surrounding country sincerely attached to us, notwithstanding the long period of our weakness as a church. Believing as we confidently do that truth will at last prevail, we have nothing to fear but everything to hope for the future success of our missionary operations in this quarter; and in the meantime we derive encouragement from the undoubted fact that to our own body at present belongs the largest number of regular church-goers in the village. Since I commenced my labours, the number in attendance has been slowly but surely progressing, and we have now usually from 150 to 200 people, most of whom are our own adherents. Some months ago, a Sabbath school was commenced in the church, meeting an hour before the forenoon service. It is succeeding remarkably well, and promises to be the means of great and increasing usefulness. Its conductors are deserving of great credit for their zeal in so good a cause. I may here take the opportunity of mentioning, what seems to fall within the range of observation, that, the Rev. Mr. Darrough, a covenanting clergyman stationed at George River, has been employed for some time past in officiating once a month in our Church at Pugwash, the people having invited him to do so, and agreeing to pay for his services. In the absence of one of our own labourers, this gentleman, by his able and faithful ministrations, seems from all accounts to be doing a good work for the locality.

V. VICTORIA SETTLEMENT.—This interesting Settlement I visited on two occasions in the middle and end of last winter, preaching in a Schoolhouse. It was truly pleasing to see so many busy settlers laying aside for a brief period the implements of labour in order to meet together on the afternoon of a week day for the praise and worship of Jehovah—a privilege which, it is much to be regretted, they so seldom enjoy. The whole settlement consisting of about sixteen families, may be said to belong to our Church. I was sorry that my other arrangements prevented me from paying them more frequent visits in the course of the summer: but should I continue to labour in the district I trust I may have it in my power to see them during the ensuing

winter. Considering the evidence which they have already given of their attachment to the church of Scotland, I think that every effort should be made by the Missionary labouring for the time at Wul-lace and Pugwash, to render them as frequent services as possible.

VI. GULF-SHORE.—In this quarter a few miles from Pugwash, we have a small church in which I have had the opportunity of officiating oftener than once on Sabbath afternoons, after preaching in the village in the forenoon. The attendance was numerous. The district being populous, there is every chance that, if its wants are attended to, it will prove an excellent station, there being many friends of the Establishment in the neighbourhood. The building however, is now pretty old, and would perhaps require a little repair in order to render it comfortable during winter, when no doubt we shall have occasion to make use of it. The Free church, have erected a new church about two miles distant, which I suppose is now completed.

VII. GEORGETOWN; P. E. ISLAND.—I have visited the Island twice this season: once in the middle of May, when I made a stay of about six weeks, and again in September, when I remained three weeks preaching chiefly at Georgetown, where we have a building capable of accommodating about three hundred people. There is also a small piece of land around it, the property of the Church. As far as I could ascertain, from the best sources of information, there are at present about thirty heads of families, in the district attached to us; but more might soon be added to the number. The people would not in the meantime undertake to subscribe more than £50 a year Island currency, towards the support of a Missionary, though they are sanguine in the belief that in a few years, this sum might be considerably increased, if an active and zealous labourer were to reside among them. At one time, I believe, the Georgetown congregation promised to be among the best we have; but having been now so long neglected, there has been a great falling off in our ranks, which now consist of a mere handful. Something, however might yet be done to rebuild the crumbling walls of our Zion in the locality, if arrangements were now made to supply them with something like regular services, until they can be better accommodated, which I trust may be very soon. I may observe that a considerable number of our people have years ago joined the Episcopalians, and become so attached to that body, which for fifteen years has had a Minister stationed in the place, as to leave little room to hope that they will ever again return to the church of their fathers. In the village besides the Episcopal, there is also a Roman Catholic Chapel, which, I am sorry to say, is but too well attended. The only other place of worship, besides our

own, is a small chapel erected some 12 or 15 years ago for the use of the sect called O'Brienites, or "Bible Christians," a Branch of the Methodists, I believe. Until about 2 years ago, they had regular service every sabbath, but whatever may be their strength in other parts of the Island, (and I am informed it is considerable) in Georgetown they are now very few in number, receiving only an occasional visit from their preachers. I may further mention that the Wesleyan Methodists have one or two families of adherents in the locality. They obtained from Government a Title for a church; but no building, it would appear, is yet in contemplation. I understand that their Missionaries visit Georgetown once a month or six weeks, and preach in our Church or in the School-house. They are in so far supported and countenanced by our people, who, although they would never think of joining them, are yet willing, when opportunity offers, to attend divine service, and pay their share. Last year, our people expended some £20 in plastering the church, and intend having a pulpit erected as soon as possible. The church would also require to be seated in a proper manner, temporary boards only being at present employed. As the frame of the building seems to be substantial, it is to be regretted that the interior is not in somewhat better order; but in the present circumstances of the congregation little else perhaps could be looked for. I was told that about £100 of their currency would be requisite to do everything that was necessary for the church; and I suggested to some of the leading men that I believed the Colonial Committee were, in such cases as theirs, disposed to render assistance, provided the people showed themselves zealous in doing what devolved upon them; and I accordingly advised them to have estimates made out for the purpose of being laid before the Presbytery, through whom I imagine the representation ought to be made. And I must here take the liberty of saying, that for the credit of the Kirk, it seems absolutely necessary, to have the building overhauled before any Missionary could be reasonably expected to take charge of the congregation. If it be said that this can easily be arranged after a Missionary has actually settled at Georgetown, it may be replied that he would be without a place to preach in, for months perhaps, during the time the church is undergoing repair. I therefore sincerely trust that this suggestion will in due time be attended to. I may further mention that, as all of those with whom I conversed seemed very desirous that I should remain and labour permanently among them, I felt that I could not do less than give them this encouragement, namely, that if no one else came out, and if the Presbytery of Pictou, under whose direction I was presently acting as an itinerant missionary, should deem it expedient, I should be very willing, for my own part, to give my exclusive services to