

pect of receiving and claiming due consideration.

I would remind the ministers of our Church, that some years past the members of the New Brunswick Synod made the proposal of which we speak. In the year 1851 every minister of our Synod received an extract Minute of the proceedings of that body, in which it was resolved that "a committee be appointed to correspond with the ministers of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton and Newfoundland with the view of uniting them with this Synod in one body under the name of the Synod of the Lower Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland." The motion was UNANIMOUSLY agreed to. If, then there be any odium attaching to delay or indifference in this affair besides having marked their anxiety for this consummation, our brethren of the other Synod have taken effectual means to leave it at our door.

Permit me to refer to a possible objection to such a measure. It might be urged that the distances which separate members, and the difficulty of obtaining a place of meeting suitable and sufficiently central, is an insuperable obstacle. I venture to suggest no place; but, for the sake of illustration, let me suppose that Moncton is the place of meeting. How would this suit the convenience of members and what additional labor would it impose? My propensities not being geographical, I would fain omit this part of the discussion. I feel confident, however, that details would show a less amount of travelling, on the whole, to be the result, and the labor equalised. The Isle d brethren would proceed from Charlottetown to Shediac, and thence to Moncton, a course which would be both easy and inexpensive, compared with a journey to Pictou one year and to Halifax another. The Halifax brethren would find it as easy to travel from Truro to Moncton, as from Halifax to Pictou now; for I consider the railroad from Halifax to Truro will make that part of the journey as nothing. The Pictou brethren would find it much the same thing to travel from Pictou to Moncton as from Pictou to Halifax. In truth, the brethren in Pictou would have most reason to complain of the arrangement. We venture to think, however, that the additional labor would not prevent them from carrying it out, if they saw it to be desirable. The minister of the Pictou Presbytery belongs to a peculiar type. Allow him his grumble, and the patient creature will put his shoulder to any wheel, that will turn for the well-being of his Church.

As regards the convenience of our New Brunswick brethren, we presume that they counted the cost before they came to their resolution in Synod. We think that it could be easily shown that no increased inconvenience would result to them from an annual assemblage in Moncton, as it must be highly inconvenient for one half of them to pass across their whole Province to

Miramichi one year, and to St. John the next.

I am glad to leave the whole subject, and especially the last part of it to the consideration of my brethren in the eldership and the ministry. I beg to apologise for having engrossed so much of your valuable space. Trusting that a matter which draws into its discussion the increased value of our Synodical deliberation, the advantage of securing many different and necessary gifts, the attainment of a position for the Church enabling her to fulfil her true function as a Church, both here and in New Brunswick, the acceleration of the time when a General Assembly of our Church in British North America shall be a possibility, a proper reciprocation of offers already generously made, and increased comfort of all as members of Synod is in no danger of being totally overlooked.

I remain, yours truly,

ALLAN POLLOCK

[To the Editor of the Monthly Record.]

CHERRY VALLEY, P. E. ISLAND,
April, 1857.

MR. EDITOR,

I see you have been complaining of the paucity of your communications from our Presbytery. Few are better entitled to them; and have better right to complain. You carry the generous view of distributing to many hundreds, what receives the approval of your matured wisdom. You complain, when, from what seems to you neglect—you fail of being the medium of speedy transfuser of the good news of the Churches. There we must admit you have a claim on us, because to you we are usually indebted for the first intelligence of the successes of our Zion. But what we are willing to accord to you, we cannot concede to every one. Your correspondent from the far West unqualifiedly avers that our conduct in this respect is "too bad." Yet you might remind him that while there is the comparatively bad there is the worse in the descending scale of this unhappy adjective. The seeming neglect complained of, has several grounds of extenuation, if not entire exculpation. Changes and breaches in the churches have been so common, and often so unlooked for in late years that when a seeming good has been done, we cannot—as canny Scotchmen—be over sanguine in publishing our proceedings to the world. When we had only a little more than settled down in comparative rest from one settlement, it was only to re-commence the same work over again, and this in the same charge, and with no small amount of labour. Do you wonder should our gratification be mingled? Do you wonder after having to return to our own duty, we should feel it in accordance with Christian prudence to retire to our chambers and there submit the result to the Great Shepherd? We did propose, however, did time permit, to acknowledge through your Periodical, the kindness of the Rev. Messrs. Pollock and McRae, for their very prompt and able assistance, who came across the straits at so late a season, at considerable hazard, and travelling with us through very inclement weather over sixty miles to the inductions, and that for no consideration but purely the interests of our Church.

We had Presbyterial visitations in Charlottetown and Georgetown in February last. Both of these were as favorable as could have been anticipated in the circumstances. We are full of those who are sanguine of great moral transformations being wrought in a day or year with ordinary means. What is permanently good is usually gradual. "Slow and sure," often holds good in morals as in other things. It was very gratifying to find these settlements to prove harmonious and satisfactory to those part concerned. We have lately heard that our Georgetown—the weakest—is progressing favourably. The lower flat of the Church has been seated, and all the seats have been let at a late meeting. We anticipate much good shall result from such visitations—as engaged by the Synod. We know good has already followed. We hope all the Presbyteries will be active in carrying out the instructions of the Synod.

We have also had our *unity* Presbyteries, as regards clerical members. This your correspondent will surely call worse—especially when business of importance calls for attendance—Could he suggest a cure for such cases? We know our Church has a very rigid statute on the subject. We however, prefer attraction to compulsion.

I have also to communicate the very pleasing intelligence—such as has often been your privilege of late—that we received very encouraging communications from the Colonial Committee of late. To reply to these a special meeting was called at the above place. The Committee gave us to expect two additional missionaries in the Island this summer. One of these has been sent out shortly after the application, and is now, it appears, a Pictou, on his way here. We desire to believe that that Presbytery shall not in future rob other Churches in the hope of being gainers. Seeing that the Rev. gentleman has escaped through the Halifax Presbytery we entertain some hopes of seeing him across the strait. It is fondly hoped that the city and its suburbs are amply supplied, and we hope that the superintendent shall find some time to review the outposts during the fine season.

The Committee gave us also to expect a missionary for the West Branch and Eastern congregations shortly, and official applications has been made by our Presbytery that no time shall be lost. We trust the Pictou Presbytery in their turn will do a similar good service for us.

These facts with many others, which have of late been recorded of the actings of the Colonial Committee in this age of missions, are surely enough to cheer the McOuttrays, and Martins, and Scotts, who stood at their posts and contended vigorously for the interests of the Church and the cause of God, when many would have become faint-hearted—to cause them to rejoice and renew their old age like the eagle, as well as stimulate the young soldiers to activity and devotedness in the great work. Our Church is doing much for us, very much. We ourselves should be armed with renewed vigour and zeal—*lay* and clerical.

At a late meeting the Clerk brought forward two overtures: First, that the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Synods should be united into one. Second, that the adherents of our Church in the four provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, should use immediate and active measures to establish a College and University in connection with our Churches, for the benefit of our people. More of this shortly. CLERICALS.