

have appointed a committee of their number to manage their Ecclesiastical concerns; a subscription list for the support of a Minister has already been opened, which has been signed by 61 persons, who are almost all heads of families. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper has been once dispensed among them. 32 Communicants came forward and joined in the observance of that solemn ordinance, and the Church is always well attended when our Ministers preach in that district.

The friends of our Church in this settlement, are endeavouring to raise one half of his stipend, relying upon the settlers in Meaghers Grant and Musquodoboit Harbour, who are desirous to have public Worship, in each of these places once a month, to provide the remaining half of his income. This would certainly be an advantageous arrangement, for the people on the lower part of the river, could funds be realized for that purpose. It would evidently tend to enlarge the boundaries of the visible Church, and bring a very considerable number of distant settlers, within the reach of the ordinances of Christianity.

The place of Worship at the Middle settlement, which is now open for Sermon only once in two weeks, and on some occasions, when the Minister is assisting his Brethren at the Communion, or visiting the Settlements on the Eastern Shore, only once in three, and sometimes four weeks, would then be open for Divine service every Lord's day, the settlers at Meaghers Grant, and Musquodoboit Harbour who are in their present circumstances favoured with public Worship, two or three times a year, would have the Gospel preached to them once a month; the inhabitants on the lower part of the River, would be brought into a nearer and more friendly connection with each other as Members of the same Congregation, than at present exists, and the interests of pure and undefiled Religion, would no doubt be greatly advanced in every part of the district.

That there is a field, and a very urgent and increasing demand for the pastoral services, of an additional Minister in Musquodoboit, without encroaching on the existing Congregation, is I think from the preceding statements, evident and undeniable. He would certainly have to encounter, at the commencement of his labours, as other Presbyterian Ministers in Nova-Scotia, have already encountered, very considerable difficulties, as the stations are at a remote distance from each other, as the roads leading through the settlements are but in a very indifferent state, and many of the settlers themselves are only in very humble circumstances. But he would be aided and encouraged in dispensing the ordinances of Religion amongst his people, and enduring hardness, as a good soldier of the Redeemer, by the assistance of his Brethren, the approbation of the Church, and the sympathy and support of his flock, he would be instrumental in introducing the pure principles and the holy precepts of the Gospel, into the remote corners and lonely cottages of the wilderness, he would unite the widely scattered settlers in the bonds of mutual friendship and brotherly love, and might also, by the divine blessing, be made the honoured instrument, of turning many of our long neglected fellow subjects and fellow sinners, in this extensive district of the Province, "from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God." Every friend of Religion will pray fervently that such desirable blessings as these may be speedily imparted to the inhabitants of Lower Musquodoboit.

Annual Meeting of the Lay Association of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland.

[From the "Montreal Gazette."]

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Thursday evening, the 15th January, in St. Paul's Church. The proceedings of the evening were opened with an appropriate discourse by the Rev. Mr. Snodgrass, pastor of St. Paul's Church, who took as his text, Psalms cxvii. v. 6. "They shall prosper that love thee," after which, the business of the evening was proceeded with.

HUGH ALLAN, one of the Vice Presidents of the Association, was called to the Chair. He said, in the absence of the President and first Vice-President of the Association, he was called upon to occupy the Chair during the transaction of the secular business of the evening. He had not anticipated this, and would not detain them with any remarks further than to say that this Association was founded for four objects: 1st. The education from their midst of young men for the Church; 2. The distribution of money for the purpose of erecting churches in desolate country places; 3. The dissemination in the country parts of information as to the progress of the interests of the Church; and 4thly. The support of a periodical devoted to the interests of the cause. These objects had not been fully carried out, owing to unfortunate circumstances; but two of them had been carried out to a considerable extent. He then called upon the Secretary to read the Report.

This was an interesting document, and had been prepared with much care. The Treasurer's Report was also read.

After reading the Reports,

Mr. FERGUSON moved, seconded by Mr. A. H. ARMOUR:

That this Report be received, adopted, and published in detail in the *Presbyterian*.—Carried.

Mr. WATSON, in moving the next resolution, said—Although he did not belong to Mr. Snodgrass' congregation, it was with great pleasure, and he hoped, advantage to himself, he had listened to the able and eloquent discourse of the evening.

Moved by G. D. WATSON, seconded by J. S. HUNTER:

That the thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Rev. Wm. Snodgrass, for his excellent and appropriate discourse; and that he be requested to allow it to be published in the *Presbyterian*. Carried.

Mr. ALLAN then intimated the adoption of this resolution to

Mr. SNODGRASS, who said:—The resolution, in his opinion, was complete without the latter part. He would take that part into consideration, and if he had time to transcribe his discourse, he would see what he could do. There were two ways of giving thanks,—the one in words; the other, and more valuable of the two, in deeds. He gave them credit for sincerity in their vote of thanks, and he trusted that the Association would redouble its efforts

for the advancement of this fine country. He hoped that next year it would be even more successful, and that its financial operations would be increased. Now was the time for young men to come forward and take the burden on their strong, broad shoulders in the heat of the day. There was no sight so pleasing to a minister than to see young men taking an interest in the affairs of the Church. It was a work of which they had no reason to be ashamed; and he hoped that they would weigh well this matter, and show by their deeds that they had benefited by the instruction which had been imparted to them.

Mr. G. W. C. MACK, in moving the next resolution, said the wording of the motion was sufficient to recommend it to the meeting.—Young men in this country were prevented from acquiring the liberal professions, because wealth was not so generally diffused as at home, where one member of each family, at least, was brought up to one of the liberal professions—the church, law, medicine, &c.—This was not the case here, nor would it be for many years. There was not a doubt that many were prevented from entering the Church by want of necessary means. He could mention the case of one—he could speak of more, but he would confine himself to one,—who had been enabled by that Society to prosecute his studies, and was deservedly appreciated by the congregation among whom he labored. He was not at liberty to mention that young man's name publicly; but was confident that there were many others from their midst, who had they the means, would carry on their studies. Besides, it was gratifying to have young men in the ministry, who had grown up amongst them, who knew them, whose homes were with them, and between whom there was a strong attachment. He did not mean to detract from Mr. Snodgrass's efforts, but he knew that the latter understood the feelings he spoke of. Again, the interest in the publication of the *Presbyterian* was not sufficiently felt. The various congregations of the Church should be induced to take more interest in it. He could not but congratulate the children upon the efforts which had been so successfully made to place a paper (*The Juvenile Presbyterian*) in their hands. When some of those who were old looked back to their days of childhood, when they were receiving not such books as these, but "Tom Thumb," "Jack and the Bean Stalk," and such like works, they could not look upon the change from these to this paper and other good books but with pleasure.

Mr. JOHN SMITH seconded the resolution, which reads as follows:—

"That in the circumstances of our Church the aiding of deserving young men, desirous to study for the ministry, is a duty peculiarly incumbent upon our people, and in this view the Bursary Scheme of this Association, which has been already productive of good, is deserving of increased support and more general countenance, especially now, when it is contemplated to extend its operations."

The next resolution was moved by Mr. STEWART, seconded by Mr. D. S. ROSS.

"That the following gentlemen be appointed Office-bearers of the Association during the ensuing year:

"President—Hon. P. McGill.

"Vice-Presidents—John Greenshields, Hugh Allan, Hew Ramsay, John Smith, Esqrs.

"Treasurer—Alex. Morris, Esq.