

ter a time that preaching three sermons was beyond his strength. These circumstances, we believe, with others, weighed on his mind to induce him to respond to the calls for additional ministerial labor on this side the Atlantic.* He accordingly arrived here in the spring of 1818, and was shortly after inducted as colleague and successor to the Rev. James Munroe of Antigonish, whose last appearance in the pulpit was at his successor's induction, and who only survived a short time.

At the time of Mr Trotter's induction, the congregation of Antigonish was weak, having only fifteen communicants. Like most of the congregations of our church originally, it was composed of very heterogeneous material, some of the original settlers being disbanded soldiers, and the rest mostly from the United States, few, if any, being properly acquainted with Presbyterian principles. As was too common, a large subscription was made for his support, when persons of all denominations, and perhaps we should add of all characters, appended their names, but which, when the time of payment came, proved sadly deficient. He informed us that after the first year it never yielded the one half of what it bore upon its face, and this with all manner of irregularity. Under these circumstances, he was necessitated, like many of our older ministers, to resort to secular employment for his support. Providence blessed him in this respect, and not being pressed in his worldly circumstances, he did not press his people, so that the subscription gradually fell away, and we regret to say that for some time the support which he received from his congregation was but

*Since writing the above a fact has been mentioned in connexion with his leaving which we believe well authenticated, which is interesting. At that time there was besides the Burgher congregation an Antiburgher congregation, also weak, and under the pastoral charge of Dr Cairns, afterwards of Belfast. In consequence of the union formed in this Province, a movement began in favor of it in Scotland, and at its commencement it was proposed to unite the two congregations, and it was thought this might be best accomplished by both ministers retiring, which was done.

nominal. This system is one which by withdrawing a minister's time from the duties of his office, must always tend to the injury of a congregation. But in his case it was originally a necessity. We will not say whether he might not have followed it too far—whether he did right in allowing his congregation to relinquish their exertions altogether—whether he should not have taught the people their duty, and leaned more upon them, and devoted himself more unreservedly to the duties of his office. These points have already caused some disagreeable discussion. We have reason, however, to believe that he became persuaded that in some measure he had been in error in the course he had pursued.

Besides Antigonish and Cape George, he for a number of years supplied both Guysborough and Lochaber. His own congregation gradually increased, so that it is now quite capable of giving an adequate support to a minister. During the greater part of his life he enjoyed robust health, but for some time, feeling the infirmity of increasing years, he was extremely anxious to have a brother associated with him in the pastoral charge of the congregation. A paralytic stroke while on his way to attend the meeting of Synod of 1851, laid him aside for a short time from public labor; but he was soon enabled partially to resume his public employments, and continued to preach once every Sabbath, until the induction of Mr Honeyman, as his colleague and successor, in Nov., 1853. The following winter he was enabled, in company with Mr Honeyman, to accomplish the pastoral visitation of the congregation, and preached occasionally all the autumn of last year. From this time he gradually sank, with little other complaint than an exhausted constitution, and in the full possession of his faculties, until the 20th of April last, when he fell asleep in Jesus, aged 73 years.

Mr Trotter was a man unquestionably of great mental power. But few men of greater talent have appeared in our Church. We can recollect in attending the meeting of Synod as a spectator a few years ago, the impression made upon our mind of the superiority of him and Dr McCulloch in mental endowments. It is to be regretted that