

The Presbytery then adjourned to meet in St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, on the first Wednesday in June, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Closed with prayer.

JAMES CHRISTIE, Presb. Clerk.

FROM THE COLONIAL STANDARD.

Presentation.

THE congregation of Gairloch have recently presented their pastor, the Rev. Alexr. McKay, with a sleigh; and the following address and reply were delivered on the occasion:

ADDRESS.

To the Rev. Alexr. McKay, M. A.

DEAR AND BELOVED PASTOR,—Permit us to express our sentiments of esteem and regard for you as our minister, and to indicate in some measure our appreciation of your services as a faithful preacher of the pure gospel of the Son of God.

You have laboured amongst us in the face of many difficulties, with the most indefatigable zeal,—uniformly endeavouring to promote our spiritual interest in striving to lead us to adorn that doctrine which is according to godliness. And we trust that your usefulness is manifestly apparent in as much as we are hopefully aroused as a congregation, from our lethargy in religious matters, to a profounder sense of our responsibility to our God in the various exercises of our most holy religion. We rejoice, too, to own that we have the distinguished privilege of enjoying the services of a pastor who does not shrink from the difficult, and often painful task, of opposing and discountenancing evils of every description with fearlessness, and thus, willing in common with the faithful ambassadors of God in all ages, to undergo all the unpleasant consequences resulting therefrom, "enduring hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

We therefore recall with thankfulness the day on which, in the good providence of God, you were appointed to take the oversight of us; and we earnestly pray God to strengthen your hands and encourage your heart in carrying onward the good work already begun.

These considerations induced us to obtain this Sleigh, which we now have much pleasure in presenting to you, as an evidence of our sincerity and the earnestness of our sentiments, and of our hearty good will towards you.

And our most earnest prayer to God is, that He would bless you with spiritual and temporal good, so as to enable you to continue discharging your responsible and onerous duties as becometh the servant of Him, who went about doing good; and that Mrs. McKay, your kind consort, would be blessed

with improved health, so as to enable her to attend to her duties and grace our society.

For the congregation of Gairloch.

DUNCAN MATHESON,
WILLIAM McDONALD, } Elders
DAVID SUTHERLAND,

New Gairloch, Co. Pictou, March 10, 1862.

REPLY.

DEAR AND VALUED FRIENDS,—The expression of your kind sentiments of regard for me, I receive with deep thankfulness, not merely as coming from yourselves while representing so large a body of fellow-worshippers, but more especially as illustrative of the best and only safe bond of attachment that can exist between a pastor and his flock,—esteem for his work's sake.

The difficulties in the course of duty have only been such as are fully promised by our Divine Master, who at the same time engages to bestow "strength sufficient" for our support, and most assuredly gives, in due time, a realizing sense, and often manifest tokens of His most gracious fulfillments of these promises, to all who confide in Him. Nor would I forget to acknowledge with gratitude that these difficulties have been greatly alleviated by your co-operation and support.

I rejoice to learn—and there can be no greater occasion or ground of joy in the world or in the Church of God than—that the work of God is manifestly prospering; and no greater encouragement to renewed diligence, than to have full proof of being made the honoured, though humble instrument in suppressing evil, and advancing the cause of God.

I freely admit that it was with many misgivings I undertook this vastly important charge, and that in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling, I have laboured among you. You may then readily conceive how cheering evidences of success, and expressions of satisfaction and good will, must be from those most competent to form a just estimate of the results of our labours. On this account I am not sorry that I have undertaken this charge. And you will permit me to observe that I regard tokens of the divine blessing greater inducements to continue these labours, than even manifestations of universal human approval.

I gratefully accept this admired and costly sleigh, in memorial of your good will, as well as of your desire that I should continue to preach and preside according to the divine precept and example. And though a valuable present at any time even, from the Gairloch congregation, I cannot but regard it more so when the unprecedented pressure of the times might justify some to withhold, and true charity might dictate to the recipient, rather to encourage the bestowment of your free-will offerings on the really needy.

I beg to assure you that I feel encouraged