

main, question in reference to union. The first Presbyterian minister in the Province of whom the writer has any account was the Rev James Lyon, who arrived at Pictou in the year 1765 with the first band of settlers who arrived from Philadelphia. Mr Lyon was a graduate of Princeton College and was ordained by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, N. J., in December, 1764. The Presbytery in their minutes after his ordination say, "Whereas application has been made by the people of *Halifax* and other parts of Nova Scotia for ministers of the gospel, and particularly by Col. Alexander McNutt, the Presbytery appoint Mr J. Lyon to go and officiate in said Colony at discretion for the space of ten months, or longer, if the state of affairs require it." But the people of Pictou, in their petition to Scotland afterward, say that he was sent to Pictou by the Philadelphia Company with their first settlers to that place, but that he did not long continue there. He however remained in the Province for some years, for in the year 1768 we find that complaints were made against him to the Presbytery of New Brunswick, of which he was a member, of his neglecting the duties of his office for land-jobbing, and also of his administering Baptism to the child of an individual against whose moral character charges had been brought.

In the minutes of the Synod of New York and Philadelphia we find noted, in the year 1768, "a memorial from Col. Alexander McNutt, in Nova Scotia, setting forth the deplorable state of that new part of the Church and earnestly requesting two ordained ministers to continue some time to ordain elders and organize congregations." The Synod were not able to send missionaries that year, but determined to consider the matter at their next meeting, but it was then resolved that, "from the representations made concerning the situation of Nova Scotia, we are of opinion that it is not expedient to appoint any missionaries to that Province at this time." Though the application was in this instance unsuccessful, yet other ministers beside Mr Lyon arrived from the United States. The Rev George Gilmore, of Windsor, was from that country, the Rev James Monroe, though originally from Scotland, came to this Province from the same quarter, and there were probably others in the Western part of the Province of whom we have no account. We find, in the year 1768, the Presbytery of New Brunswick proposing to the Rev James Murdoch that the ministers in the Province be formed into a Presbytery "in connexion with" their Synod.

We advert to these matters as showing the early "connexion" of Presbyterians with the United States. A little more and, instead of the divisions of Scotland, we might have had those of America among us. Instead of Kirk, Free Church and Secession, *car nommes de guerre* might have been Old and New School, or Cumberland Presbyterians, more particularly as the Presbyterians of Truro and Onslow strongly sympathized with the American cause. The Revolutionary War rudely cut any connexion of this kind.

The next source from which Presbyterian ministers were obtained was the Secession. Whether the early Scotch Irish settlers of this Province had any connexion with that body previous to their arrival in this country we know not; but they certainly showed a strong predilection for it. As early as the year 1762 we find the settlers of Truro writing to Col. McNutt to endeavour to obtain for them a Secession minister. At that time the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, as well as the Established Church of Scotland, was considerably imbued with Arminian errors, and as early as 1736, only three years after its formation as a Presbytery, the Secession had extended to that country. These settlers seemed to have been attached to the doctrines of grace, and, if they had not previously been connected with the Secession,