

THE
St. John's Parish Record,

REV. ANDREW GRAY, RECTOR.

PORT MEDWAY, N. S., LENT, 1873.

To the Parishioners of St. John's
Parish.

My dear Brethren :

The *Record* is intended to supply a want long felt—that of communicating with all the families interested in our parish. This cannot be done from the *Chancel*, or *Pulpit*, for they are not all at any one time in church. It cannot be well done by visiting, for the pressure of other duties, and the importance of other topics compel us to leave many of the subjects herein contained untouched. Besides, many in this way we are never able to meet. And yet the need of such an interview, or a substitute for it, is frequently felt.

The Printing-press seems to furnish the best solution of the difficulty. A parochial paper seems to be the best medium of communication for the purpose between priest and people. The present number is tentative, and yet it is hoped that it may be

the first of a regular series. No good reason can be seen, why one, at least, should not be issued every year. The objects which it is hoped to secure will be better indicated by the *Record* itself, than by further comment here; although the haste with which this number has been compiled must be an excuse for some of the imperfections which others may not contain. It will contain, if issued, comments upon such matters of parochial interest as may call for them. It will try to give the condition, and follow the growth of the parish. It will rehearse its needs at any time. And we shall be glad if, beyond this, it may serve as a bond of union, uniting us to one another as members of one flock below, strengthening our attachment to the Church of our affections, and to Him who purchased it with His blood.

It will be sent to each family in the parish free, and should