

rate statistical information of the exact number of members and adherents of the Church scattered among the general population over the different counties and settlements of the Province, we have not in the mean time sufficient materials collected for preparing and filling up such a valuable document. We may, however, expect to obtain much useful information on this and kindred topics from the returns made at the census to be taken throughout Nova Scotia in the ensuing Spring. We know enough, however, of the condition of the country to be enabled to state that the wants of our people in many places are but inadequately supplied. For it would be a grievous mistake were you to believe that your Missionary, Mr. Stewart, and I can extend our ministrations to all the adherents of the Church in the eight or ten Western Counties of the Province, where there is still much land to be possessed. In days gone by I frequently preached and assisted in the dispensation of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at Cornwallis, at Lunenburg, at Shelburne, at Yarmouth, and other places, and enjoyed much delightful religious intercourse with such eminent and devoted Ministers as the late Mr. Forsyth of Cornwallis, the late Mr. Fraser of Lunenburg, Mr. Lang of Shelburne, now of Glassford, and their congregations. Now, although a wonderful change has since taken place in the structure of society, and although new arrangements and connections among the Presbyterians in these districts have since been formed, and although the Church of Scotland appears at present to be almost if not entirely ignored in more than one-half of the Province, I have reason to believe that she has still in many places not a few as warm and steadfast friends as ever, who can scarcely tell why or for what reason they have left her communion, more, it is to be feared, from neglect on the part of the Church, than from disaffection on the part of the people. I had an excellent opportunity of testing the truth of these remarks during a visit which I paid last Autumn to a number of intimate friends at Chester, Lunenburg, and Liverpool. Old attachments in these places were instantly revived, friendly greetings exchanged, and brotherly kindness manifested. I received a greater number of invitations to preach than I could comply with. I found several Protestant districts but occasionally and imperfectly supplied with the ordinances of religion, and I have no doubt that if I had had leisure to extend my Missionary journey I would have met with additional spiritual destitution in many other places, and numerous openings for Missionary labor amongst the rapidly increasing population of the Western Counties. It is sufficient for me at present to have brought this highly interesting subject under your notice, leaving the Presbytery as in their wisdom they may see meet to adopt whatever course may be deemed proper, for advancing the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom in all parts of the Province.