

schools and academies. To the native sons and daughters of Nova Scotia, the highest welfare of Nova Scotia must be, ever shall be, an object of the deepest interest. And how can we best manifest this deep interest which we take in the highest welfare of Nova Scotia? In sundry ways that can be done, but in no way more beneficially than by doing what we can to give a pure, preached gospel to all of its inhabitants. Many of its inhabitants have been leavened by the gospel; and some of these with commendable zeal have either gone forth themselves, or have aided others to go forth, to tell the poor benighted pagans the way of salvation. Praise-worthy efforts have been put forth to extend the limits of the Redeemer's Empire on the far-distant isles of the ocean. But what have we done for the remoter portions of our own native land where the living voice of the preacher is seldom if ever heard, where the sound of the church-going bell breaks not the sally solemn silence which reigns over distant hamlets and settlements! Where are the manifestations of that deep interest which as Christians—even as lovers of our country—we would be expected to have in the less favored portions of the land of our nativity! Enter we the great majority of our churches, and we hear prayers loud and long, and we doubt not, sincere, for the success of the gospel throughout heathendom. Read we our religious periodicals and we find appeal after appeal for the equipment of mission ships, and the support of foreign missionaries. Glance we over the statistical tables of our church and we see the foreign mission column groaning beneath the liberal contributions which year after year are set down in it. But how seldom do we hear the fervent prayer put up in our churches in behalf of the home mission enterprise! How coldly would be received the appeal to aid in the work which it aims at accomplishing! How lean appears this column in the statistical tables! Ye sons and daughters of Nova Scotia, is this the way ye should treat the land of your nativity! Far be it from us to say aught that would lessen the interest now taken in the Foreign Mission

enterprise. All honor, we say, to the self-denying men and women who have left the sweets of home, crossed the deep, wide sea, and gone forth to preach the gospel to those who were shrouded in the darkness of heathenism! All credit to such as liberally give of their substance for the support of those who have thus gone far hence to make known Christ to the perishing. But should we not seriously ask ourselves whether we are to overlook the near while our hearts go forth to the distant—whether, when we exert ourselves for the weal of the stranger we are to neglect those who are yet uncivilized in the land of our nativity. At this moment there is a large number of preaching stations within the limits of Nova Scotia proper, most of which require more or less assistance from the funds of the Home Mission. In the course of a short time many of those stations by proper culture will become self-sustaining congregations. In the mean time, however, they look to the more highly favored portions of our land for some support as look half-grown children towards their parents. Prince Edward Island, after a long period of comparative destitution, is now pretty well supplied with a Presbyterian ministry. In Cape Breton, however, there is a wide field for Home Mission operations, and as yet little has been done to overtake the destitute localities of that interesting island except by the employment of a few catechists.

In addition to this, ever-recurring demands are made upon the funds of the Home Mission by 18 regularly organized congregations as yet unable to support the ordinances of religion among themselves, without some assistance. Thus congregations receive annually sums varying from \$40 to \$200 according to their necessity.

Without burdening the columns of the *Record*, or wearying the patience of the reader with particulars, we may safely say of our native land what Jehovah once said of the land of promise; *there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.*

And where shall we look for the wherewithal to take possession of these destitute localities, if not to the persons who recog-