

ritual wants. It was originally inhabited by emigrants from Antrim in Ireland, all of whom are Protestants, except one family. They have hitherto belonged to the Presbyterian Church in Gay's River, distant from the centre of the Settlement ten miles, and their attendance is very irregular there owing to the great distance, state of the road, and the hours of divine service, which on certain Sabbaths commences in the evening. In this Settlement there are over 30 separate families, all professing the Presbyterian form of worship, with a population of two hundred souls, which I have been credibly informed. This Settlement is very desirous of the services of your missionary monthly; but owing to present circumstances that cannot be granted.

I am fully of the opinion that were there a resident minister at Little River, whose entire services were devoted to Musquodoboit, he would find in Antrim Settlement a numerous and attached congregation. This Settlement is only distant (with a good road, viz., the Halifax road,) about eight miles from Little River Church. And I am fully convinced that if there was erected a church on the Halifax road, which adjoins this Settlement, to the erection of which its inhabitants would willingly contribute, a very flourishing congregation could be established. On this leading thoroughfare to the city of Halifax there is a great and increasing population. The nearest place of worship, and the only one, is Gay's River Presbyterian Church, the road to which is very rough, and in the winter season almost impassible. A church suitable to the population here might be erected for £130. Here, then, there is a large population without the means of grace, and very few of whom, also, have the means of carrying themselves there, even though they were desirous.

On Sabbath the 7th Octr. I found myself in Truro, and there conducted public worship to respectable congregations, both morning and afternoon. On Sabbath the 14th inst. I preached at North River in the morning, and in the afternoon in the Temperance Hall, Truro: the attendance very good in both places.

On Sabbath the 21st inst. I conducted public worship in the Middle Settlement, Musquodoboit, in the morning, and at Little River in the afternoon: the day being wet, the attendance was not large in the former place. On Sabbath the 28th inst. I preached in the Grant in the morning, and in Little River in the afternoon. The attendance in both places was an average one.

Thus have I implemented the appointments given me by the Presbytery, and ere I conclude this my 1<sup>st</sup> Report of my missionary labors within bounds, I may be permitted to observe that the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Musquodoboit, has now been organized. It has now a Kirk Session and Deacon's Court, which meet quarterly for the

transaction of business connected with the congregation and its allied mission stations. I have hitherto abstained from a regular ministerial visitation of the families in this district, till I saw my way clear as to the formation of a Kirk Session. But now, since that object has been gained, I have for some weeks past devoted two days per week to this most important of all ministerial duty, being accompanied with the elder of the district visited. Although pastoral visitation is most fatiguing to the body, more especially in a settlement whose inhabitants are widely scattered; yet it is of the first and last importance always, but more especially in a newly formed congregation, as that of St. Andrew's Kirk, Musquodoboit. I have mapped out the whole Settlement into three districts, in each of which, most fortunately, one of our members of Session resides. I have already nearly visited and catechised the younger branches of all the families of two of these districts; and I have made it my object to visit every family in these districts, whether they be Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, &c., or whether they attend on my ministry or not. And I am happy to say that I have invariably received a cordial reception by all.

It also affords your missionary great pleasure to state that his "spiritual nursery," the Sabbath School, is in a most thriving and flourishing condition, its numbers still keeping on the advance, the attendance regular, and the interest of the children by tracts and other rewards not only please the infantile mind but diffuse religious knowledge. In my absence in Truro it is ably and faithfully tended by Mr. Jamieson its superintendent. I have also opened another catechumen class preparatory to the next Communion. My monthly prayer meeting in the school house is well attended. I have also commenced a monthly course of Lectures on Ancient History and Geography, which is likewise attended by a numerous and attentive audience. And it is fondly hoped that this effort to diffuse useful knowledge, especially to the rising generation, may be crowned with much success, as giving an account of the position of countries, the character of nations and people as existing in ages long past.

I may also mention that I had a communication sent me by a number of the inhabitants in the Upper Settlement of Musquodoboit, requesting a portion of my services monthly, accompanied with a subscription paper liberally signed. I have laid this communication before "St. Andrew's Kirk Session" at their last meeting; but I cannot see how this request can be granted in the present circumstances in which we are placed.

In conclusion, I may also mention that the erection of the church in Truro is tardily making advance, owing, no doubt, to the want of means, there being at present a general scarcity of the "sinews of war" throughout the Province. But if the efforts which are