

out stations, and to this rule I generally adhered. During the eight weeks spent in the congregation, I preached in Sheet Harbour on Sabbath, and conducted prayer-meetings six or seven times on the Thursday evenings. Here I usually met the teachers of the Sabbath-school on Friday evenings. At Tangier or Pope's Harbour, I preached four times, and conducted prayer meeting once; in Quoddy I preached three times and held one prayer meeting. At Spry Harbour, where most of the hearers are Episcopalians, preached twice on Sabbath and once during the week in the vicinity of Taylor's Head where several families of Presbyterians reside. At Moser River, east of Quoddy five or six miles, I preached twice on Sabbath and once during the week. At Eckum Secum, nine miles further east, in Guysboro' county, I preached once, on Sabbath evening, and at Lochaber, a few miles north-east of Sheet Harbour, once more on Saturday before leaving the congregation.

In carrying out my arrangement, I found that it necessitated a great deal of traveling; but I was encouraged to persevere not only by the readiness with which Mr. Hall, the elder, and one or two others provided the means of travel, but also by the favorable weather, and large numbers of people who where assembled on almost every occasion. Much of my spare time was devoted to visiting the sick, but I have passed by but few of the Presbyterian families in the congregation. While there is much in the state of affairs in the congregation that discourages, there are some tokens of reviving interest in the cause of religion. That there is an alarming degree of carelessness in some quarters and much coldness among those whom we regard as friends of Christ, is undeniable. But it must not be forgotten that not only have all our meetings been well attended but more than three-fourths of the expense of the mission has been borne by the congregation, none of which has been drawn from Quoddy or Moose River, where one-fourth of my time was spent. At Sheet Harbour a large Sabbath-school has been organised by combining two small ones, and it is now in successful operation under the superintendence of Mr. Thompson, to whom I am much indebted for assistance and to whom the prosperity of the school is largely due. Churches are needed in all parts of the congregation, but most in the Sheet Harbour section, and as I have recently learnt, the necessary steps are about being taken for building one. As an evidence of desire for supply of preaching from the Presbytery, I may mention the fact that arrangements are being made to meet the expense incurred. My last Sabbath was spent in the congregation of

Rev. Alex. Stuart, he being absent according to arrangement in Sheet Harbour.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. NELSON.

Shubenacadie, Sept. 2, 1869.

Report of Mr. S. Archibald.

To the Presbytery of St. John.

Seven weeks ago, by the direction of the Clerk of Presbytery, I proceeded to the north-eastern section of St. John Presbytery and, with the exception of one Sabbath spent in Carlton congregation, have employed my time under the direction of the Rev. J. D. Murray. The section of country over which he for the last two years exercised the pastoral oversight extends 45 miles on the line of railway west of Shediac, and 17 miles northward, from that place along the shore and up the valley of the Cocagne river, besides settlements in the interior of unknown extent. Of course to do justice to such a congregation is beyond the capabilities of any one man; and it is matter of satisfaction that, in order to meet their pecuniary engagements it is no longer necessary to continue the whole field in one pastorate. Sufficient progress has been made within two short years, to warrant its division, and, with the addition of Buctouche, an out of the way section of Miramichi Presbytery, so situated as to forbid connection with any other section of that Presbytery, and yet unable alone to support ordinances among themselves, but favorably located for connection with sections of St. John Presbytery, situated on the North Shore,—two congregations may now be formed little if any inferior to the original congregation at the date of Mr. Murray's settlement. Doubtless it will be necessary to supplement both congregations for a time, but judging from the improvement of the past two years any great length of time will not elapse before they will be both self-sustaining.

As only one section that I have visited, that of Buctouche, lies beyond the bounds of Mr. Murray's congregation, it could not be expected that much would be done towards defraying the expense of the mission thus far.

With regard to the disposition of Sabbath day service, during the six weeks of my mission, it is not necessary to particularize. Suffice it to say that such a disposition was made as was considered best under the circumstances by Mr. Murray and myself, and during the week I employed my time in visiting the families of the respective sections, making known to them the proposed change, and impressing upon them the necessity of increased and systematic effort for the support of ordinance.