

preached on the morning and evening of a very hot Sabbath day.

But what with a young and deservedly esteemed minister, a new and roomy church edifice in the course of erection, the completion of the branch railway from Fort William to this point, and the revival of the ship-building industry, the friends in Kingsport may well take courage. A short sail across the Basin of Minas to Parrsboro, a rough ride between the mountains over an execrable road, and through a drenching rain, brought us on the Wednesday evening to Five Islands, where we met our brother Sykes, who took us the same evening in his carriage to his comfortable parsonage at

*Economy.* Why this lovely spot should ever have been called by so prosy a name we never could tell; certain it was, that while there was no waste, there was yet no appearance of a rigid economy in the parsonage, when the entertainment of an old friend was concerned. Nature too, has been lavish in the bestowment of its beauties all around. Possibly the people may be economical, but that they are by no means illiberal is proved by their possessing so excellent a church building and parsonage, nearly free from debt; as also by their having given next to Yarmouth, the largest contribution to the College. One week spent on the opposite shores of Chebucto Basin, following a Sunday's supply at Truro, brought our work to a close. Here in our Brother Shipperley's most extensive parish, stretching for a distance of twenty-five miles and more along the shore, we preached, talked College, and took up contributions in the churches of Maitland, S. Maitland, Selmah and Noel. In all these churches, save one, we had large congregations although it was the busy harvest time. Would that our missionary funds would admit of another laborer being sent to help our already over-worked Brother Shipperley, whose very useful services were placed at our disposal during our week's sojourn. Another Sabbath spent in Truro, a conference with brother McIntosh at Digby, a day spent in St. John, N. B. (during which we formed the acquaintance of the new pastor of the Union Street Church, the Rev. Mr. Howie, and addressed his people at their weekly prayer-meeting), and the evening of Thursday, Sept. 5th, found us at Montreal, from which place

we reached our home early the following week. How many miles we travelled by land and sea, we have no means of exactly determining, nor can we announce in pecuniary results, for the returns have not yet all been made; but from the many sermons and lectures delivered, and the very frequent conversations held with ministers and members of the churches in regard to College matters, we trust no little good will follow.

### MINISTERS AND VACANCIES.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

Will you allow one trained in our Canadian College, now laboring in the United States, to offer a few comments on Brother Solandt's letter in the C. I. It is true the Canadian churches cannot reasonably find fault if the men, trained for the work in Canada, go elsewhere, provided they have tried and failed to get work at home. Things may be no better on the whole here than with you, but here is a wider field and more vacant churches, always a good many unsupplied with ministers. Ministers from Canada or England are always welcome under the circumstances; and a good many Methodists and Baptists, and others, come here, as well as Congregationalists. They are not, very many of them, *satisfied any better here than in the country they left*. Having conversed with many of various denominations, at Sunday school conventions, I have found that they do not think that they have found the change a bed of roses. Difficulties meet us everywhere. The larger number of churches *here*, as in Canada, are of the poorer kind—mission churches. Weak churches are usually the most in need of ministers. The large, wealthy churches are soon supplied; there are many on the look out for them. Strangers do not usually light upon them. These churches may not in every case get the best man; but they are supposed to be held for the most talented, *native citizens*, unless a very popular man from another country can make an impression, and capture one of them.

Churches here, that can pay a good salary, are not long vacant. In this respect it is here as with you; the vacancies are with the poorer churches. Many of these need supply as much