

found in the midst of us. We are happy to recognize in you the intimate friend and zealous fellow-labourer in the Church of Scotland of our first revered and deeply lamented pastor, and we cling with fond attachment to that Church for whose extension and prosperity you and he so long and diligently laboured. We are persuaded that the Lay Association, which you have been mainly instrumental in forming in the congregation, will be the means not only of binding us more closely to each other, but also of diffusing much useful information regarding our Church. And we have good reason to believe that the cause you have undertaken to promote for the purpose of providing us with a permanent pastor, a plan which has met with such general approbation and liberal support, will be ultimately crowned with success. Although absent from us and removed to a distance, we cannot believe that you will cease to care for us, and seek to promote our spiritual welfare. We trust that the intercourse, which has lately recommenced with the branch of our Church in Nova Scotia, from which we derived assistance when our congregation was first formed, will be not less pleasant to her Ministers than profitable to us, that it will be productive of great good to all the parties concerned by enlarging the sphere of Christian effort and brotherly kindness, and by strengthening the ties of ecclesiastical union and religious fellowship; and it will afford us the greatest satisfaction at all times to welcome the occasional visits of the Ministers of a Colony from which we have already obtained so much aid.

Wishing you a safe and happy return to your charge in Nova Scotia, many souls to your labours here, and a crown of glory hereafter, we beg to bid you farewell, and in doing so would ask your acceptance of the accompanying gift, as a slight additional token of our esteem.

We have the honour to be,

Reverend Sir,

Your faithful and obliged friends,

A. MILROY,
ROBT. RODGER,
F. R. RENNIE,

Elders.

JOHN MCWILLIAM,
PETER MCBRIDE,
THOS. GLEN,
DAVID STEELE,
PATRICK TASKER,

Trustees and
Managers for
selves and
Members of
St. A. Church.

St. John's, Newfoundland, A. D. 1851.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS.

RESPECTED AND DEAR FRIENDS.—

I beg leave to thank you most sincerely for the kind and affectionate Address you have now presented unto me, with the accompanying testimonial, on taking leave of your congregation, and to assure you of the comfort and satisfaction it has afforded to my mind at the termination of my mission to this place. Although cheered and encouraged by the good wishes and fervent prayers of the Elders and Members of my beloved flock, and other pious friends in Halifax, when accepting the appointment, and fully convinced of the superintending care and all-sufficient grace of God in every situation of life, and in the discharge of the most arduous and self-denying services, I felt, I must confess, no ordinary degree of anxiety, and, I may even add, of despondency, in leaving Nova Scotia to minister to a congregation of entire strangers placed in very peculiar circumstances, and requiring much sympathy and friendly counsel and consolation. I knew that much was expected, and much was to be accomplished, and hence it was not at all strange that I should be afraid that I might be found wanting in duty, and might come and labour amongst you in vain. I was not unacquainted with the numerous unexpected and protracted trials which you had experienced since the death of your first dearly beloved and sincerely lamented pas-

* A purse of twenty sovereigns.

tor. I knew the straits and difficulties to which you had been lately reduced, and the disconsolate feelings which very generally prevailed even amongst the most sincere and attached friends to the cause, and therefore I can frankly declare that I was not prepared for such a cheerful and cordial welcome as I met with on my arrival in St. John's, still less to witness such a large and respectable audience as has regularly attended on my public ministrations. It will be not less gratifying for you to learn than it is pleasing for me to intimate that the state of your congregation, and of your Sabbath school, the number of your adherents, and the order and regularity of your ecclesiastical affairs, have exceeded my expectations; and your proceedings and engagements have indicated a degree of zeal, harmony and liberality, which cannot be too highly commended. I was greatly delighted with your spacious school-house, and with the large, elegant, and commodious church, which you have erected for the services of the sanctuary; but I was still more encouraged and comforted on seeing a most interesting and attentive congregation in Christian fellowship, worshipping God within its walls. Now that I have become personally acquainted by pastoral visitation with nearly all the families connected with the church, and have obtained a good account not only of your external circumstances and liberal disposition, but also of the views and feelings which you entertain and cherish in the land of your adoption to the Church of your fathers, I feel convinced that there is much more ground to thank God and take courage than to be cast down and inactive. If provided regularly with the dispensation of the Ordinances of Religion, and favoured with faithful pastoral visitations from house to house, there are amongst you abundant materials for the formation of a prosperous and flourishing congregation, and a most ample and promising field of labour and usefulness. Every year is adding to the number of the Scottish emigrants and the native youth who are seeking admission into the communion and fellowship of your church, and almost every vessel is bringing some new adherents to your shores. It must, however, be evident to every enlightened and reflecting mind that it is not by the occasional visits of the Ministers of other churches, even if these could be readily procured, and prove most welcome and acceptable, but by the continued and unwearied labour of a stated and efficient Ministry, that a congregation, such as yours, is to be revived and strengthened, and the minds of its members instructed and edified. It is to this most desirable consummation that you are all anxiously looking forward; and this is one of the greatest boons which in present circumstances could possibly be conferred on you. I rejoice to think that a movement has already been made by you in the right direction, and from intimate acquaintance with the exertions of the Lay Association of Nova Scotia, and with the known and tried zeal and liberality of the Colonial Committee of the Parent Church, I can assure you that you have every reason to expect pleasing tidings in answer to your application. I hope soon to see a Minister stationed among you, whom you can call your own, "a workman who needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth," and, far separated as he is from his brethren in the Ministry, and the land of his fathers, left on many trying occasions to act according to his own judgement and information, he certainly will require, as I have no doubt, he will receive from you every assistance and encouragement which he has a right to expect, and a ready co-operation in all his efforts for your moral and spiritual improvement. I doubt not that you will be as anxious to receive as he is to communicate instruction, and seek to imbibe the spirit, and display in your conversation the benign and practical influence of that Gospel which he proclaims. That I am most desirous to see a large, united, and prosperous congregation, collected and established in this town in connection with that venerable Church,

in whose service I have now been engaged for thirty years of my life, you will all readily believe. That such a congregation will be formed in process of time by diligent and persevering exertion, I firmly and confidently trust. But I am still more desirous that amidst your commercial pursuits, domestic comforts, and religious advantages, you should become a pious, a holy and a happy people, living and fruitful branches of the true Vine, a field which the Lord has blessed.

JOHN MARTIN.

St. Johns, N. F. L., May 28th, 1851.

Those, who feel an interest in the prosperity of this congregation, will be happy to learn that the Rev. John Scott, of St. Matthew's, sailed in the Packet this morning for St. Andrew's Church, where he will meet with a cordial reception. Arrangements will, we understand, be made to supply the pulpit till the ensuing autumn, when it is expected that a Minister will be in the field willing and qualified to take the permanent charge of the congregation.—*Halifax Guardian*.

SYNOD OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

This Ecclesiastical court is now met at Fredericton, and actively and zealously engaged in devising means for the extension and prosperity of the Church of Scotland in the sister Province. The field of exertion in that Colony, as among ourselves, is very extensive, the want of additional labourers is severely felt, and the duties devolving upon the Members of the Synod most solemn and important. We shall be most happy to learn that in the course of their deliberations they have been enabled to devise some plan for increasing the efficiency and enlarging the sphere of their public ministrations in such a way as to embrace all the adhering population within the bounds of the Synod.—*Halifax Guardian*.

LAY ASSOCIATION OF HALIFAX.

The Annual Meeting of this important Educational and Missionary Institution, in aid of the exertions of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, was held on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., in the Caledonia Academy, the Hon. Alexander Keith, President, in the Chair, and was attended by a number of the Office-bearers and Members of the Society, who appeared much interested in the proceedings. After the Meeting had been opened with prayer by the Rev. Frazer Nicol, the Annual Report of the Committee, the Association was submitted and read by the Secretary, Archibald Scott, Esq. It gave a full and detailed account of the proceedings of the Association during the past year for the advancement of Education and Home Missions throughout the Provinces, of the sums that had been collected and expended for these objects, of the places that had been visited, the Ministers and Missionaries who had been employed, the new Associations which had been formed in connection with this Institution at Pugwash, at Belfast, P. E. I., and at St. John's, Newfoundland; and the loud calls which were addressed to the Committee for additional and more extended exertions. The conviction was impressed upon the minds of all present of the great utility of the Association, not only as a strong bond of union among the different churches, but also as a powerful and most efficient instrument for providing the means of moral and religious instruction and encouraging the Ministers of the Gospel in carrying on their Home Missionary operations. A series of Resolutions were then moved, seconded, and unanimously adopted, approving of the Report on Home Missions now presented by the Committee, urging the continued destitution of the means of Education and the Ordinances of Religion, as cogent motives to increased and unwearied efforts in aid of the Institution; tendering the thanks of the Association to those Clergymen and ladies who had made collections, and those persons who had contributed to the funds of the Society during the past year; highly approving of the as-