

Mr. McKay's perseverance has triumphed over every obstacle in this matter, also, and certainly one or probably two Gaelic speaking preachers have been secured for this Province.

This mission has established clearly one or two important facts. *First*: That, if we will only be true to ourselves, we can always rely upon the assistance of the Mother Church and particularly of our old friends, the members of the Colonial Committee. *Secondly*: That, for a supply of Gaelic ministers we must look to ourselves, and instantly set about either establishing a seminary of learning which may meet our wants or extend more widely the operations of the Young Men's Scheme. *Thirdly*: That provided the prospect of a sufficient maintenance can be held out, we may rely upon getting from the Church at home a tolerable supply of English preachers. Without such a prospect it would be cruel and sinful to ask any man to leave his native country for Nova Scotia, when so many large and influential colonies are calling for missionaries.

All our people and especially those of our vacant congregations must understand, that all this has been accomplished by the presbytery having come under very grave obligations of a monetary description. The salary guaranteed to each of these missionaries for one year is £150 sterling. Leaving out of consideration at present the passage money. It will be the business of the Church here to see that these gentlemen are appointed to places that will appreciate their services sufficiently to pay honorably what they promise.

It is not expected, however, that the places now vacant, namely, Pugwash, River John, McLennan's Mountain, and St. Mary's Barney's Peter and Lochaber, Georgetown and St. Peter's Road, and Truro shall be able for some time to make up the full salary of these missionaries. The question is then: how is this to be done? And, how are we to keep faith with the Committee and by keeping faith with the Colonial Committee, at present our only fountain of spiritual supply, preserve the Church from future desolation? Let us fail in this particular and we can scarcely ever re-establish our credit with the Mother Church or recover our character for honor and consistency. We answer, by means of the Home Missionary Association of Halifax, and the

Lay Association of Pictou. If the 2,500 families of the Church, as given in the statistics, exclusive of those who made no returns and large missionary districts not accounted for in these imperfect tables, were to pay annually one half dollar a-piece, which as an average is almost nothing, the result would be about £300, a sum which would amply meet all deficiencies, and maintain the efficiency of our Church for years to come, in a way, that would be a pride and satisfaction to us all, and a cause of deep thankfulness to the disposer of all hearts. Until so much as this, at least, is done, the people of Nova Scotia have no right to solicit an educated clergy like those of the Church of Scotland to settle among them. Whatever may be done, it is clear, that our obligations are at this moment as serious as they are righteous and, while the call to duty is urgent, we trust their obligations are thoroughly understood and admitted by the people.

Our Church courts will probably make arrangements at once for the settlement of the clergymen, who are about to arrive. From the manner in which they have been sought out and from the terms in which they are spoken of, it may confidently be anticipated, that they will be a great acquisition to the ranks of our clergy and that their labors, if it please God, will be a great blessing to the people. The duty of holding meetings with the people in the various vacant stations, settling clergymen or arranging their sphere of labor, receiving satisfactory guarantees for the payment of what is promised, bringing the claims of the Home Missionary and Lay Associations before the people and organizing efficient branch societies, though it may devolve a great deal of extra labor upon our already overworked clergy, will, we have no doubt be undertaken by them as a labor of love. The prospect of such a large and valuable accession to the brotherhood will impart a stimulus to their labors and the star of hope will brighten their path.

If these gentlemen should be safely conducted to our shores it will be the duty of the people of the Church, not to waste time in vain jubilation, in barren and unproductive joy, in making a great fuss about hearing the missionaries preach, but to make immediate arrangements for their reception, accommodation and comfortable support, re-organizing