

a pastor. Their first minister was the Rev. Donald A. Fraser, a native of Argyllshire, Scotland. He first came to Nova Scotia landing in Pictou in 1810. Being fluent in the Gaelic language and a man of pleasing manner and address he was soon settled. About forty families of Highlanders had settled at McLellan's Mountain, Pictou and after seeing and hearing Mr. Fraser they gave him a call which he accepted. Here he continued to labour for 21 years when he removed to Lunenburg and was inducted over the congregation there in 1837. After a period of five years he moved to St. John's, New Foundland and founded the congregation to which he ministered for three years. Their first settled pastor, he was beloved and respected. On the 7th February 1845 his labours were ended by death and the little flock was again without an earthly head.

After the separation a vacancy of some three years followed during which a partial supply was given. Being isolated and the providing of preachers somewhat costly, only occasional labourers could be sent. They were not however wholly neglected and among those who visited them when vacant was the late Rev. Matthew Wilson of Sydney Mines and the Rev. Wm. Duff still living at Lunenburg.

In 1847 the Rev. Archibald Sinclair was settled over them. Mr. Sinclair's was a short pastorate, scarcely one year. He removed at the end of 1848 and was succeeded for a comparatively brief period by the Rev. Alex. Romans.

Previous to this time and shortly after the death of Mr. Fraser a division arose in the congregation. Some members and adherents declared themselves in favour of the Free Church. Quite an agitation followed and a long discussion ensued in the matter of church property. A lawsuit was the result and the courts decided in favour of the Church of Scotland party. Two congregations were now established in connection with different branches of the Presbyterian Church.

In 1853 the Rev. Moses Harvey was settled over the Free Church congregation and continued their pastor for a quarter of a century. Under his ministry there was progress. A church was built seating 450, and a manse and glebe was provided worth \$160 a year. In 12 years it comprised 72 families, and a flourishing Sabbath School with nine teachers and seventy scholars. Whilst Mr. Harvey performed the ordinary work of the congregation he also interested himself very much in the welfare of the Island. His

pen was frequently employed in setting forth its resources.

After Mr. Harvey had laboured alone for 22 years and the congregation had increased considerably he received the services of a colleague. The Rev. Neil Forsyth who came out from Ireland was inducted on the 26th May 1875. Mr. Forsyth scarcely remained two years. He tendered his demission on the 20th Feb. 1877 and left for Ontario. In June 1878 Mr. Harvey also resigned, retired from the active duties of the ministry, and is still living in St. John's.

Those who still adhered to the Church of Scotland after the disruption called a young man the Rev. Thomas King. Mr. King was a native of Scotland, and was ordained on the 31st Aug. 1849. On the 8th October of the same year he became pastor of the congregation but only remained a little over twelve months.

In 1851 Rev. Francis Nichol was appointed to the charge who remained until June 1858 when he removed to Ontario and died at Toronto on the 30th Oct. 1873. These short pastorates though somewhat disheartening did not discourage, for in the short space of two months, the Rev. Donald McRae was settled in Aug. 1858. After a ministry of twelve years in New Foundland he returned to the East River of Pictou where he had previously laboured two years. Then in 1874 he was inducted into the charge of St. Stephen's church, St. John, N. B., where he still labours.

The Rev. Daniel McDougall was the next settled pastor who remained three years and afterwards returned to Scotland. He was succeeded by the Rev. D. Patterson in Dec. 1874. At the time of Mr. Harvey's retirement, Mr. Patterson also tendered his demission and both congregations became vacant.

After the union was effected constituting the Presbyterian Church in Canada negotiations were entered into for the formation of one congregation. The loss of the two churches by fire paved the way for carrying it into effect. In 1878 the union was consummated and on the 27th Dec. of that year Rev. L. G. McNeil of Maitland was inducted over them. The congregation comprised 170 families with 280 communicants. Shortly after Mr. McNeil's settlement a new church was erected and marked progress has been made. Upwards of sixty-four have been added to the communion roll and nearly \$10,000 has been contributed to the general schemes of the church. Last year an average of \$42 per family was raised and when the church debt was being paid