

## THE CHURCH IN NOVA SCOTIA.

### Surprise Party at Earltown.

On the evening of the 8th Nov., had the reader been loitering by the brook that flows past the Earltown Manse, his musings must have been disturbed by the approach of a considerable band of young men and maidens, consisting of detachments from both of the Earltown congregations, and claiming for themselves the somewhat warlike appellation of a surprise party; yet their designs were peaceful. True, the word of command was "Present," but they came not to break in upon the meditations of the loiterer with weapons of war, not even to enter the lists with the minister in Polemical Theology, but to break in upon his musings with offerings of good will. They came to spend a pleasant evening—to spread a table with a plentiful repast, and to offer gifts of gratitude and affection to Mr. and Mrs. McMillan. They had taxed the three kingdoms of nature to bring presents to their pastor. And though it is well understood that, of the three, the mineral, the vegetable and the animal, the first named ranks the lowest, yet on this occasion one was ready to reverse the order, and assign the highest place to the mineral, when it was discovered that the silver and gold formed a considerable item in the presents of the party. Yet we are much mistaken, if, above the geese and above the gold, Mr. McMillan and his spouse did not prize still more the feeling that prompted this expression of the gratitude and attachment of an affectionate people.

"Sweet is the breath of vernal shower.  
The bee's collected treasures sweet,  
Sweet music's melting fall, but sweeter yet  
The still small voice of gratitude!"

THE REV. CHARLES M. GRANT has received and accepted a call from St. Andrew's congregation, Halifax, and we believe is to be inducted to that charge on the 12th of the present month. It is gratifying to know that the debt on the building has been nearly all removed.

THE CHOIR of St. Andrew's Church, Picton, presented Miss Lindsay with an elegant Bible and Writing Desk, valued at \$20, on the eve of her departure from this place. Miss Lindsay has, for a number of years, been a prominent and very regular member of the Choir who have shewn so warmly their appreciation of her services.

### Presentation to Rev. John McMillan of Musquodoboit.

Most of our readers are aware that the Rev. John McMillan has been for some time settled over the charge of Musquodoboit. Through some oversight, no notice of the settlement appeared at the time in the *Re-*

*cord*, but we have now the satisfaction of communicating the gratifying information that Mr. McMillan is not only labouring there, but labouring with much success and much acceptability. In proof of which, he has recently been presented with the valuable gift of a horse and set of harness. We have much pleasure in publishing the address and reply on occasion of the presentation:—

### Address

TO THE REV'D. JOHN McMILLAN, MINISTER OF THE CONGREGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT.

*Dear Pastor:*—The members and adherents of the Congregations under your charge have seen with regret the great inconvenience you suffer, and the expense you incur, in the discharge of your duties among them.

Desirous of remedying these circumstances, they have raised a subscription among themselves, with which they have purchased a Horse and Harness, of which they now request your acceptance as a mark of their personal esteem and of the high respect they entertain for you as their Pastor.

In performing the pleasing duty (by appointment of the subscribers) of delivering to you the Horse and Harness, the undersigned fervently pray Almighty God that you may be long spared for the performance of your professional duties amongst them, that by His Grace you may be rewarded by being the means of bringing many to a true and saving knowledge of His Son our Lord and Saviour, and that after a long life thus spent in the service of God, you may hear at last that blessed invitation, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

In the name and on behalf of the Congregations, we are, dear Pastor,

Your obed't and affectionate Serv'ts  
in the Lord,

JOHN CRUICKSHANK, Elder,  
(Signed) SAMUEL TAYLOR, Elder,  
HUGH A. HURLEY,  
THOS. JAMZON, Session Clerk.

Little River, Musquodoboit,  
29th October, 1866.

### REPLY.

Little River, Musquodoboit,  
29th October, 1866.

TO MR. JOHN CRUICKSHANK, AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

*My Dear Friends:*—I need scarcely assure you that it is with feelings of the deepest emotion I beg to tender to you, and through you to the other members and adherents of the Congregations, my sincere thanks for the noble animal and the splendid set of Harness which you have just presented to me. I accept them with the greatest pleasure, not only because they are valuable to me in themselves, but especially because they form a pleasing