

interest and promise. It requires but to be faithfully cultivated to yield a rich harvest. To the missionary or minister, who is prepared to give himself earnestly to self-denying and sustained physical exertion as well as mental effort, I can scarcely conceive a more inviting field.

## THE CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.

We are sure that our readers will peruse with much interest and satisfaction the following extracts from the *British Colonist*, (Halifax,) of January 13th.

### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

#### APPOINTMENT AND ORDINATION OF MISSIONARIES.

Whilst the different religious denominations in this Colony are laudably and zealously engaged in promoting the interests of their respective Churches, in opening new Missions, in building Churches, in appointing Ministers, in forming and supporting District and Missionary associations, and other good works,—it is pleasing to find that the Church of Scotland is not unmindful of her numerous members and adherents in this part of the World. A very large increase has taken place in the number of her Clergymen in Nova Scotia within the last six months. Early in the month of August the Rev. Dr. Ritchie and the Rev. Wm. Sutherland arrived as a Deputation from the Parent Church to the Ministers and Congregations in this and the neighbouring Colonies. About the middle of Sept. the Rev. Alex. McKay arrived as Missionary to his countrymen in Pictou. In the beginning of October other two Missionaries reached our shores,—the Rev. Mr. Murray, appointed to Bathurst, N. B., and the Rev. Wm. Snodgrass, as successor to the Rev. Robert McNair in Charlottetown, P. E. Island. On the morning of last Lord's Day we had the pleasure of welcoming other three young Ministers, who have volunteered their services as Missionaries from the Church of Scotland to Nova Scotia: the Rev. Geo. W. Spratt, of Misquodoboit; the Rev. Alex. McLean of the East River, Pictou; and the Rev. Allan Pollok, of Glasgow. These three Ministers have been fellow students at the University, are all intimately acquainted with each other, and have come to this Colony (the native country of two of them) with a sincere and anxious desire to promote the spiritual welfare of its inhabitants. Coming with these views, and sanctioned with full authority as Ministers of the Gospel, we have no doubt they will meet with that encouragement and support to which they are so well entitled in all places where they may be called to labour; and we trust that through the Divine assistance and blessing they will be instrumental in refreshing and winning many of our destitute Churches, and be honoured to win many souls unto Christ. We extract the following account of their ordination, and the stations they have been appointed by the Colonial Committee to occupy in Nova Scotia, from the *Glasgow Chronicle* of the 22nd ult.—

**ORDINATION OF THREE MISSIONARIES AT DUNOON.**—On Tuesday last the Presbytery of Dunoon held a *pro re nata* meeting in the parish church of Dunoon for the purpose of ordaining the Rev. George W. Spratt, Rev. Allan Pollok, and the Rev. Alexander McLean, who were licensed a few weeks ago, and who in the course of a few days proceed as missionaries to British North America—the Rev. D. McIntosh, of Kilminnan, Moderator. After going through the usual trials,

and answering the questions put previous to ordination, the Presbytery proceeded to ordain the three Rev. gentlemen. The Moderator offered up a most impressive prayer, and afterwards addressed the young Ministers in very eloquent and affectionate terms. We understand that the Rev. Mr. Spratt has been appointed to Halifax, Mr. Pollok to Wallace, and Mr. McLean to Pictou. The whole party sat together on Saturday next, the 25th, by the steam-ship America, and will be in the field of labour in ten or twelve days afterwards.

**NOTICE.**—We have been requested to intimate that the Rev. Allan Pollok will preach on the morning of next Sabbath in St. Matthew's Church, and in the evening in St. Andrew's Church; and that the Rev. Mr. McLean will officiate in St. Andrew's Church in the morning, and in St. Matthew's Church in the afternoon at the usual hours.

#### LATE DEPUTATION TO LOWER PROVINCES.

Since the foregoing paragraphs from the *British Colonist* have been in type, the January number of the *Home and Foreign Missionary Record* has come to hand. It contains so interesting an abstract of the proceedings of the late Deputation to the Lower Provinces that we have made room for it at the cost of excluding a few selections in type, lying over from our last issue. We are persuaded that our readers will peruse this document with emotions of lively gratitude towards the Colonial Committee, who were prompted to send out the Deputation so opportunely:—

The Deputation sailed from Liverpool on the 24th of July, and reached Halifax on the 4th of August. They stayed there four or five days, and preached in the two churches connected with the Church of Scotland, viz. in St. Matthew's, of which the Rev. John Scott is minister, and in St. Andrew's, of which the Rev. John Martin is minister. In each of the churches public worship was performed by the Deputation twice on Sabbath, and the Rev. Dr. Ritchie preached also on a week day in St. Matthew's.

During their stay at Halifax the Deputation received an Address from the Lay Association in support of the Church of Scotland, expressive of their warm attachment to the Church, and of the satisfaction with which they regarded the visit of the Deputation. This Association is a most useful and influential body, including many of the leading citizens of Halifax. The Hon. Alexander Keith, Mayor of the city, is President of the Society. They have done good service to the Church, and to the religious interests of the Colony. They are fortunate in their Office-Bearers, and much of their success is owing to the ability and zeal of their excellent Secretary, Mr. Archibald Scott.

From Halifax the Deputation proceeded to Pictou, a distance of about 100 miles. There they stayed for several weeks. In the county of Pictou, the adherents to the Church of Scotland number about 10,000. They are chiefly a Gaelic population. They are settled over a wide territory, and form 10 different congregations. At the late Secession many of the pastors of these congregations removed to charges at Home; and since that time there has been only one Gaelic minister from the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, Mr. McGillivray of McLennan's Mountain. To him the Church is under no small obligations. He has laboured alone with much zeal and success in the midst of no ordinary difficulties and discouragements. It is hardly possible to exaggerate the services of this devoted man. He has

truly borne "the burden and heat" of many weary days in that portion of the Lord's Vineyard. But he has the unspeakable satisfaction of having successfully ministered in word and doctrine to many thousands who gratefully appreciate his services.

The congregation in the town of Pictou has enjoyed for some years the ministrations of the Rev. Andrew Herdman. He is not able to preach in Gaelic, but the congregation there nearly all understand English. Mr. H's ministrations are highly acceptable, and he most deservedly bears the character of a faithful and devoted servant of Jesus Christ.

With the assistance of these brethren the Deputation on reaching Pictou lost no time in proceeding to preach the Gospel, and to dispense its ordinances. Arrangements had been made for dispensing the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at New Glasgow on the first Sabbath after their arrival. In that town there is a large congregation connected with the Church of Scotland, including the most intelligent and influential of the inhabitants. The church has been vacant since the Secession. The communion services were attended by crowds of people, many of them from great distances, who longed to hear the Word of Life, and to partake of the holy ordinance, and who hailed this occasion as indeed a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

On the following Sabbath the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed at Salt Springs on the West River. The congregation there is one of the largest in the county of Pictou, and is formed chiefly of Scottish Highlanders. There was a numerous attendance during all the communion services, and on Sabbath it was estimated at not less than 5000. This is a most interesting district. The church has been vacant for the last nine years, but it did not appear that there was any considerable division caused by the late Secession. The people are intelligent, pious, and well-conditioned. They are principally Highlanders from Sutherland and other northern counties. They are most devotedly attached to the Church of Scotland; and, if anything has served more than another to deepen that feeling, it is the severe trial through which she was recently made to pass. Again and again the Deputation were assured by these people, that the violence of her detractors had been eminently instrumental in binding them more closely together in support of that Church which from their earliest years they had regarded with reverence and affection.

There has been recently erected by the congregation at the West River a new place of worship, which is a very handsome and commodious building. It may be mentioned as an interesting fact, that the Deputation found in the hands of many of their hearers at the West River copies of the Holy Scriptures, which had been given to them by the Duke of Sutherland, bearing kindly inscriptions; and that the people highly appreciated this mark of his Grace's concern for their best interests.

On the two Sabbath immediately following the communion at Salt Springs the Deputation dispensed the holy ordinance in the town of Pictou, and at the West Branch of the West River, to very large congregations. In the latter place the attendance exceeded perhaps that in any other district which they had visited. The congregation there includes many well-known friends of the Church of Scotland, among whom Mr. Holmes, one of the representatives for the county in the Provincial Legislature, deserves to be honourably mentioned. They have been without any stated ministrations for about nine years.

It will be seen that in the course of four successive weeks the Deputation were enabled to administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at New Glasgow, Salt Springs, Pictou, and the West Branch of the East River, the services on each occasion extending over five days. One or other of them also visited and preached in several other important localities within that time, including