

ception which ev-

from pastor, patiently to their vain-glorious boast-
thy, who, but became indignant when the Church of
our their fathers was maligned, with which their ten-
derest recollections and holiest feelings were
intimately bound. That which was designed
to shake their constancy only confirmed their
attachment, and with greater tenacity they
clung to the Church which was the object of
their fathers' love and ceaseless prayers.—
Time has demonstrated the wisdom of their
choice, while it has opened the eyes of others
to the misrepresentations which misled them.
A speech of one of the Church's bitterest op-
ponents, a few weeks before he seceded, and
seasonably reprinted by the Lay Association
at Halifax, contrasting strangely as it did with
his expressed opinions and sentiments after
the schism, revealed the spirit which actuated
that unhappy movement. Though forsaken by
their ministers, the pious old unsophisticated
highlanders of Nova Scotia were from time to
time refreshed by the ministrations of the
Rev. Mr. McGillivray, who spread his labours
over hundreds of miles, and day and night, in
the peaceful spirit of his Master, he persever-
ingly sought to promote the spiritual interests
of the people. He was untiring in his efforts;
it was said of him, he often in his missionary
exertions tread out their horses, but the indef-
atigable McGillivray could never be tired.—
He did much to confirm the minds and com-
fort the hearts of his forsaken countrymen.—
He has now the gratitude of thousands, and
the noble satisfaction of having generously
promoted their best interests at the expense
of both his time and his pecuniary means.

Your Deputation visited Prince Edward Is-
land, where Mr. Snodgrass presides over a large
and an attached flock. Dr. Mathieson preached
on a week-day evening to such as could be
brought together on a short notice; Mr. Mc-
Kid remained with Mr. Snodgrass, it being the
season of communion, to assist him on that in-
teresting occasion. In his journal Mr. McKid
thus expressed his sentiments: I arrived at
Charlottetown on Friday, 21st July, and met
the most cordial welcome from Mr. Snodgrass;
next day preached, in preparation for the com-
munion on Sabbath; I assisted in the solemn
duties of the day and on Monday preached
again. I found the congregation in Charlot-
tewtown large and prosperous, bearing evidence
of the faithfulness of the ministrations of the pre-
sent incumbent, and his predecessor the Rev.
Mr. McNair, whose missionary zeal is well
known to the Church at large. The attendance
in the several acts of worship was large, and
the spirit of devotion and deep religious
feeling was such as to recal to my own mind
those associations, connected with communion
seasons, in the land of our forefathers, which
were refreshing to my own mind, and, I hope,
beneficial to all concerned. After the service
on Monday a congregational meeting was
held where I was privileged to bring before the
meeting the object of your Deputation.—
Several members of the congregation delivered
their opinions, which were quite in accordance
with what had been expressed in other
places.

Dr. Mathieson returned to Nova Scotia to
assist Mr. McKay at the dispensation of the
Lord's Supper at Earltown. Mr. McKay's
labours are extended to three large congrega-
tions, distant from each other fifteen and twenty
miles, each of which requires the undivided
labour of a minister. His health giving way
under his constant burdensome toils, he has been
induced to accept a call from the congregation
of Belfast, P. E. I. where his ministrations

will be confined to a narrower circle. Belfast
is an interesting field, as well as Georgetown,
yet without a pastor. The congregations at
Rogershill, Earltown, Cape John, deeply regret
Mr McKay's departure, and the sad prospect
of remaining again for an unknown period with-
out the stated ordinances of worship.

Your Deputation was deeply impressed with
the depth and solemnity of the religious feelings
that pervaded the various congregations to
which they ministered, which was of a far
higher order than any thing they had witnessed
in these Provinces; nor was it only in the
house of God that they were devout—they
carried the spirit of Religion into the business
of every-day life; in all our intercourse with
them a seriousness of deportment, and an
earnestness of religious feeling without a taint of
fanaticism, reminded us of the religious character
of the rural parishes of Scotland, some thirty
or forty years ago.

Your Deputation cannot help thinking that
this earnest piety was kept alive and cherished,
during ten long years of deprivation of settled
Gospel ordinances, by some fine old patriarchs,
who were found in every settlement, and for
whose counsels and examples the people cher-
ished the profoundest respect. Rich in Bible
lore, sincere and earnest in the love of Christ
and His people, the instruction of these véné-
rable men came home to the heart with un-
ction and power, and cherished family religion (in
the larger acceptance of the terms as compre-
hending every social and domestic duty) among
a simple minded people, and awoke an earnest
longing for and the enjoyment of the public
ordinances of Religion, whenever they could
be obtained. Of the salutariness of their in-
structions, and their moral influence over the
people, your Deputation had frequent opportu-
nities of witnessing. On one occasion both
the scene and the circumstances were of the
most interesting nature. One of your De-
putation, being engaged to assist at the
dispensation of the Lord's Supper, had nearly
thirty miles to travel, and, though there were
religious exercises on the day on which he had
set out on his journey, these being in Gaelic,
(to him an unknown tongue) he had no desire
to be in the field early in the day. He accord-
ingly gave instructions that the person who
was to convey him to the ground should come
at nine o'clock, A. M. but instead of that hour,
he came at six, and every moment was impa-
tient to start. We were out at half past nine
at a rapid trot, and, having driven a considerable
distance, found a relay of fresh horses, that
greater speed might be obtained. Ignorant
of the driver's purpose he was frequently exhorted
to slacken rein; but the only reply was we will
be late, and another admonition to the noble
animal to renewed speed. Winding among
little hills covered over with wood, now plung-
ing into deep ravines, then treading our way
over some lofty summit, the whole was pictu-
resque and beautiful, to which a lovely day
lent additional charms. At length the mystery
of our rapid flight was unveiled. About
three o'clock, P. M. we came to a beautiful
sylvan spot, where there were numerous
vehicles and horses tied to the trees, and a
little further on in a sweet retired grove a con-
gregation, numbering from 1500 to 2000, lis-
tening with profound attention to the men, who
one after another, at the call of their minister,
who presided, addressed the people on a topic
which had been announced for discussion in
the morning. The congregation seemed to
take little notice of our arrival, but observed
the same riveted attention to the speaker; not
a movement made, not a whisper heard, but

the wind among the trees and the voice of the
speaker echoing through the deep forest, a
voice which in prayer was impassioned fervor,
chastened into tones of reverence and
humility. And the Psalm—Oh that peace
as it rose in wild irregular notes from two or
three hundred voices struck home to our hearts and
our sympathies with a power that never
will be forgotten. It was now five in the afternoon,
thus it had been with them since eleven o'clock
A. M.; with the same profound stillness, and
marked attention they had listened to the words
of everlasting life. Previous to our witnessing
this interesting spectacle, we confess we were
rushed rooted prejudice against such system-
atized lay instructions, as being fraught with
danger to the peace of congregations, and
great provocation to spiritual pride, but
our minds dispossessed still, unless when
speakers are men of profound humility and
sound discretion, as well as of deep piety,
where this is the case, we cannot help thinking
that such patriarchs are an invaluable help to
Christian ministry, and preserve a healthy
spirit of piety in the community. In coming
ing afterwards with these men, we found
of a right stamp, men taught by the Word
Spirit of God, and in the consciousness of their
own insufficiency giving utterance to their
religious sentiments in simple language, to us
whose thoughts had been accustomed to run
the same channels as their own.

The same devotional stillness and devout
characterized all the days of their solemnity,
and on the Sabbath, as the symbols of the
Bread of Life were spread out on rude pa-
tables, covered over with linen of snow whi-
tiness, and surrounded with blooming flowers
mingled with many gray-haired pilgrims, we
we not hope that that green spot in the field
was but a type of a greener spot in the field
of life, when the pilgrims to the heavenly Jeru-
salem rested and found themselves refreshed at
the wells of salvation.

Such is the general character of the people
spread over many an extensive field for some
labour, in Nova Scotia, thousands and tens of
thousands, earnestly panting for the Bread
of life, and the Water of life. Our young men
on that field, earnest, active, indefatigable
they are.—what are they among so many
They strive actively with one heart and
mind for the spiritual progress of their people,
and the prosperity of the church. Several
of them minister to two, three, and even to
congregations, each of which would require
undivided labours of one man. In such cir-
stances, with health broken, but with
unsubdued, they contend with almost insur-
mountable difficulties, and much even in their weariness
they have effected. Surely the condition
of that interesting people will appeal with effect
to the hearts of ministers and preachers in Scot-
land, and bring into the field more labourers.
They will not be without support either
spiritual or pecuniary sense. Their people
have cherished in the hearts of their people
spirit of independence. The assistance they
have received from the Parent Church, a
way of salary of ministers, in many instances
they have remitted by an equal amount to
Colonial Fund, while they have been taught
one of the best proofs of the power of truth
on their hearts is the liberality of their hearts
giving of their carnal things to them, and
minister to their spiritual things. It
appears to your Deputation that such a system
practice as this it will be well for the Synod
to inculcate both in the ministers and people
of these Provinces; unquestionably there is
need for it.