

when the oldest congregation in the Synod, declares its need of outside aid."

These words (I speak of them as far as they have reference to Wallace and Pugwash) are calculated to make a very unfavorable impression. Readers of the *Record* might infer from them that the united congregations of Wallace and Pugwash are very stingy andiggardly, or that the minister is very indolent and unacceptable. In order to remove any such construction or impression, let me give a statement of simple facts, which, I know, weigh far more with our people than the *ipse dixit* of any one individual.

1. To speak of Pugwash. It is true that in former years Pugwash was a separate and distinct congregation, having a settled minister of its own. At that time the congregation paid its minister for his *undivided labours* the sum of \$300 per annum, for which amount it depended for considerable aid on Victoria, a settlement distant from Pugwash some 12 miles, and where there are about 30 families professing to belong to our church.

Now, when Pugwash is united to Wallace, the congregation of Pugwash, numbering about 40 families, pays me for *one-third of my time and labour* the sum of \$200. And let it be understood that it receives little or no aid from Victoria, doubtless for the reason that I can give but an afternoon service once in the nine Sabbaths, and very often only once in the eighteen Sabbaths.

2. To speak of Wallace. It is also true that Wallace had a settled minister at the same time that Pugwash had one. Then the congregation of Wallace promised to pay its minister the sum of \$600 for his *undivided time and labours*. The congregation, however, found out very soon that it had assumed a burden greater than it could comfortably bear. The end of that connection between minister and congregation is too sad and well known; and far be it from me to act at this date the part of a resurrectionist. Let it rest. Now, the Wallace congregation—numbering about 80 families—promises to pay me (which promise I know shall be fulfilled) the sum of \$400 for *two-thirds of my time and labour*. Let me here add that both Pugwash and Wallace lose the days in which I am fulfilling appointments by Presbytery to

vacant charges and stations. It is the rule of our Presbytery—a rule which I shall not wait now to characterise—that supplemented ministers supply the vacancies; and thus show that it is the duty of the poor to bear the burden of the rich, of the weak to uphold the strong.

In addition to the above, permit me to give a few facts about work done and being done both by congregation and minister.

(a.) Pugwash congregation has lately, at a considerable cost, painted anew its church, thus adding to its appearance and comfort.

(b.) Wallace congregation has painted, furnished, and fenced anew its church, bought a glebe, and built a manse at a cost of some \$2000. The manse I am now occupying for the second year. A section of the congregation, viz.: Fox Harbour, has erected a very neat and comfortable place of worship at a cost of between \$800 and \$1000. Another section, viz.: Stake Road, has proposed to build a similar place of worship during the coming winter, which shall probably cost about the same amount. On the supposition that the church at the Stake Road shall be built by the beginning of the first summer, the congregation shall have expended on, and invested in, church property, over \$1000; and all within six years from the period of my induction as its minister. Pretty good for a congregation of 80 paying families; and still more so when it is remembered that the above amount is over and above the annual stipend of \$400.

(c.) Year by year the contributions, both of Pugwash and Wallace, to the Synodical Schemes, will bear comparison with those of any country congregation within the bounds of the Synod. Take as a specimen the contributions to the four schemes of Synod for the year ending 30th June last, and we find from the published accounts that they stand thus:

Wallace	- - - - -	\$81.61
Pugwash	- - - - -	54.42

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\$136.03

(d.) Divine service is conducted by me at 8 different places on the Sabbath days, preaching at two of them each Sabbath; and these churches and stations are scattered over an area of 30