

ever, supplied Charlottetown by their itinerant preachers, so that our readers may have an idea of the spiritual destitution of the colony, and this having been long continued, must have been attended with injurious results upon the religious condition of the people.

The congregation, over which Mr. Gordon was ordained, included the settlements of Covehead and St Peter's, besides smaller settlements around. A large number of the original settlers were Presbyterians from Scotland, and among them was some very excellent persons, who rejoiced that after having been for so long a period, some of them for thirty years, without a settled minister, their eyes again saw their teacher. But during this long period religion had decayed, a generation had in a measure grown up without the religious habits of their fathers, and many of the other settlers were ignorant of spiritual things and indifferent regarding them. Mr. Gordon immediately devoted himself diligently to the work of reviving spiritual religion in the community and bringing sinners into the fold of the Redeemer. In his labours, so long as strength remained, he was, from all we can learn, faithful and diligent, not only preaching the gospel as opportunity offered, but discharging the other duties of the pastoral office.

His labours were not confined to his congregation. There were a number of settlements around in entire destitution of the word of life, except as they heard it by the occasional visits of the travelling missionary. As much of his time as he could spare was devoted to visiting such places, particularly Princetown. One or two of his letters, written to his wife while absent on such visits, may be given as indicating the tenderness of his feelings and in some degree describing his labours:—

MALPEQUE, Monday Morning, 14th March, 1808.

MY DEAR LOVE,—

I had a comfortable journey to this place. I am very commodious in Thomson's. I preached yesterday to a numerous audience. I am about my ordinary state of health. The people in this place are well, much disappointed because you did not come along with me. I hope that you and my little daughter are well. I trust in Him who is our refuge and our strength, and in all our straits a present aid. If you find an opportunity write me a few lines. I wish very much you had been here. I long to hear from you. God grant that we may again have a happy meeting. This in great haste. Neil Shaw is waiting for it.

I am, my Dear Love, your affectionate Husband,

PETER GORDON.

PRINCETOWN, 13th June, 1808.

MY DEAR LOVE,—

I had a pleasant ride to town next morning. We had a little rain till ten, afterward an excellent day. Mr. Stewart and Woodcoch went with me. I was a little fatigued, but nothing worse. I am just about my ordinary. I preached yesterday to a large assembly, to-day the people have met to consider of the building of a meeting house. They are very harmonious. I have appointed two days of this week for examination, and promised to preach to them next Sabbath Day. I have not yet determined whether I shall return by Mr. Simson's or by the town; at any rate I will be home next week, God willing. The people here are all well, and very kindly ask for you. I saw the mason in town and gave him some directions. I hope that you will have seen him before this time. Tell Kimball Coffin that if work be needed to hire men in my name.

I hope, my dear, that you have got better. Wishing you health and happiness

I am, my Love, your affectionate Husband,

PETER GORDON.

P.S.—I have had a letter from Mr. McCulloch and two dozen of books.