

occasion, a meeting would be held to take steps for repairing the Church, Upper Settlement. Accordingly, we met in the afternoon of the following Wednesday, but owing to the day being very stormy, and travelling difficult, only a few attended, and the matter of repairing the Church was in the meantime postponed. It would appear that the sum of £40 has already been subscribed for that purpose, but as it would require about double that amount to do all that is necessary, a fresh effort requires to be made. It is to be hoped that it may be successful, and that the building may soon be put in a satisfactory condition. Surely a pound or two spent in so good a cause as the furtherance of the Gospel in one's own neighbourhood, and for one's own benefit, by those who are able to afford the same, could hardly be better employed—would scarcely ever be missed—and certainly never regretted.

I may here take the opportunity of mentioning, that some of the leading people with whom I conversed upon the subject seemed very anxious that the Presbytery should, if possible make arrangements to hold Districts of Catechising in the Barney's River District, some time during the ensuing winter. In answer to these suggestions I replied, that I had no doubt this would have been done before now, had the means at command been sufficient for that purpose; but that I believed their wishes would certainly not be lost sight of, whenever a suitable opportunity occurred of carrying them into effect. And I need scarcely say that the same remark applies as well to other districts where the people manifest a very proper feeling, by expressing themselves strongly on this subject, the importance of which can hardly be overestimated.

While I staid at Barney's River, the weather continuing rough and stormy, I was uncertain how to act, when through the kindness of Mr. Alexander McGregor, Elder, Big Island, Merrigomish, I was able to reach Lochaber by the end of the week, he undertaking to accompany me the whole distance which is very considerable, while part of the road is at this season none of the best. I preached in the Church at Lochaber, on Sabbath the 25th November. Considering the state of the roads, the attendance was very good; and I have every reason to believe that if a Missionary could be got for these Districts, much might be done to strengthen the cause of the Old Kirk among the highlanders of Lochaber, the most of whom would probably never have forsaken her, if a proper opportunity had been afforded them from the first of showing their attachment.

To the kindness of Mr. McPhie, South River, Antigonish, I was indebted for conveying me to East River, St. Mary's (a distance of 30 miles from Lochaber) where I preached on Sabbath the 2nd December, in Mr. Camerons house, there being at present no Church of ours in that quarter, although I was glad to find that a small Church (capable of holding about 200) was in course

of erection. It is very creditable to our people to have proceeded so far with their building without assistance or encouragement; and as I am told that several of our adherents who were concerned in the erection, have now with their families left the country, the remainder of the work would seem to fall somewhat heavily upon the others, who are at present few in number. I was informed that twenty pounds would go far to finish the Church, and it is of course desirable that this should be done as soon as possible, as it is now a year and a half since it was first commenced, and as it may be prejudicial to the building to remain as it presently stands in a half finished state.

And I may take the liberty of stating that I do not know a case, where the funds of the Colonial Committee could be better applied, or where the Presbytery would seem to be more justified in making an application for assistance.

It may be proper for me here to state that I have felt it to be my duty, on every proper occasion, both publicly and privately, to recommend our "Monthly Record," a copy of which ought to be subscribed for by every adherent of our Church in the lower provinces, and I have reason to believe that the increased number of subscribers for the next year, will show that my appeals have not been altogether in vain. Those who have themselves subscribed ought to recommend it to others, and do their endeavours to get new names added to the list, as they cannot fail to see that its conductors are labouring with might and main to forward their best interests. And I was much pleased to find that all with whom I spoke on the subject, seemed convinced that our paper was worth more than double the sum charged for it. Some of them observed to me that they would have become subscribers from the first, if they had known to whom to apply for a copy. To obviate difficulties upon this score, I would beg respectfully to suggest to the managing Committee, that a List of Agents for the different districts be made up and published in the January Number, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Altogether, though the season was not very favourable to pleasant travelling, I must confess that I was gratified with the result of my Missionary tour through the settlements of Barney's River, Lochaber and St. Mary's, embracing a circuit of upwards of 100 miles. One thing only I lamented, and that was the comparative spiritual destitution of our people in these localities, although they are satisfied that everything has been done to supply their wants, consistently with the demands of our other congregations. Our friends are far more numerous than one would suppose, and only require attention on our part to strengthen their attachment. I am satisfied that if a suitable Missionary were to labour steadily in these districts, the numbers might very soon be doubled. Everywhere the people are beginning to find, that our Scottish Judah is very far from being that dead and

rotten thing which they, who ought to have known better at one time represented her to be, but that she is indeed a church of Christ, of growing strength and increasing usefulness, both at home and abroad, showing even now by most evident tokens that she is not without the blessing of her Divine Head, under whose gracious smile she is yet destined to accomplish still greater triumphs in spreading the glory of His great name, who in times past has been her guardian and protector amid the rolling billows of contention, which have so often beaten against her in vain. I have not been very long in this colony, but the more I extend my observations, the more I am convinced that those who have forsaken us have been labouring under a complete delusion as to our true character and pretensions as a Church. Of this I may here mention an instance. I was lately conversing with a person on the melancholy results of the disruption in these colonies, when he observed that he knew for certain that many now regretted the steps they had taken in leaving the Established Church of Scotland, with which, as the venerable Church of their fathers, all their better and holier feelings were interwoven; but that, being mostly poor people little read in Church History, they had been induced to do so from the very ambiguous title assumed by those who at that time had seceded from her, which had led not a far to the natural conclusion that some arrangement had been made at home, by which they were to have the ordinances of religion sent among them free of all expenses on their part; while, on the other hand it was asserted that we, who remained true to the Church, had the design of imposing burdens upon them greater than they were able to bear! "I am convinced," he remarked, "that this is far from being the case, for the wealthier people at home connected with the Establishment have shown the greatest regard for their poorer brethren in the colonies, by sending out Deputations and Missionaries to labour among them, whom they are willing to support until the people themselves are able to do so; at the same time very properly expecting of them to pay as much as they can reasonably afford for the support of Gospel ordinances, which is the plain and obvious duty of every man to do according to his abilities. So that," he continued, "if there is one Church *frat* than another it truly is the Established Church of Scotland!"

Missionary to Moncton.

From "The Presbyterian."

MR. EDITOR,—Yesterday I received a copy of the *Westmorland Times*, of date Nov. 15, published at Moncton in New Brunswick, out of which I have taken the following paragraph:

"We are pleased to be able to state that a letter has been received by the Rev. Mr. Henderson, of Miramichi, from the Secre-