

than a century elapses before we catch another glimpse of Congregationalism in that region: then in 1775 we see a soldier of the Royal Artillery, Sergt. John Jones, a layman, preaching to a Congregational church at St. John's. This brave officer's return to England, and the offer of promotion in His Majesty's service, did not destroy his care for brethren in the West, for in 1779, an ordained minister, he returned to St. John's, and labored faithfully with the struggling colonists. Bigoted ecclesiasticism gave him a series of hard campaigns. The primitive sanctuary which had been erected in 1776 was repeatedly closed against these persistent Nonconformists; but their leader taught his assailants that he belonged to the Church militant, and would have the rights which the laws of the British realm allowed. With peaceful conditions came enlargement of the original building; and in 1786 this soldier-minister opened the first Protestant day school, and the first Sunday School on the Island. After a pastorate which was honored by Roman Catholics as well as Protestants, he laid his charge with his body down, and ceased at once to work and live, in the last year of the eighteenth century, being 63 years of age.

Then followed a number of pastorates, represented by the names of Morris, and Ward, and Evans, with others of lesser note. Succeeding Mr. Evans, in the middle of this nineteenth century, was one of the strongest factors in the religious history of Newfoundland, the Rev. Charles Pedley, four of whose sons are in the Gospel ministry in Canada, England, and Japan, one of the most widely known, Rev. J. W. Pedley, being the present (1898) chairman-elect of this Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec. Mr. Pedley's "History of Newfoundland," published in 1864, indicated his high literary ability, and his eminently successful pastorate received abundant recognition beyond the bounds of his parish. A substantial evidence of this was given at the close of that pastorate, when the citizens of the Island presented him with a memorial address and a purse of 300 sovereigns.

The names of Irad and Joseph Hart, father and son, are representative of the establishment of Congregationalism on Cape Breton Island. The former, though not an ordained clergyman, was practically pastor of a congregation in the Margaree Valley, and at the organization of the church in 1823 the latter became its first pastor.