

"Laws of Moral Influence," in which the writer strongly insists on the necessity of conforming to these laws in all efforts to do good. Among other things he insisted on the desirableness of securing on the part of those whom the public teacher aims to influence "a confidence that will beget affection, disarm prejudice, open the mind and heart to conviction, and render appropriate instruction resistless." The writer proceeds to describe an error into which many are apt to fall, in these terms:

"It follows, that in his efforts to do good, a writer or speaker cannot rely on the mere *power of truth*. Much has been said as to the efficacy of light and the resistless power of truth. 'Great is the truth and it shall prevail.' Only let an individual publish truth, and persevere in the publication of it, and he need have no apprehension as to consequences. But let those who reason in this way remember, that truth alone is not sufficient to control the minds and hearts of men. The rays of the sun may harden as well as melt; and it depends altogether upon the circumstances under which they strike, whether they shall do the one or the other. So truth may harden the heart as well as soften it. It may render it more obdurate and obstinate, as well as more yielding. And it depends very materially on the circumstances under which it is dispensed, whether it shall accomplish the one or the other. He who attempts to persuade by the mere presentation of truth (on supposition that he presents the truth,) conforms to but one of the established laws of persuasion. There are others to which he must conform, or his presentations of truth will in all probability be unsuccessful."—To which hints we call the attention of all whom it may concern.

Very recently, on a second visit to Musquodoboit, we had a long conversation with the minister himself, and in the course of that conversation he gave us the following facts:

"I.—*Situation, size, &c., of the congregation.*—The central Church at Little River is about 37 miles from Dartmouth, and 17 from the nearest station of the Railway at Shubenacadie. About 14 miles, mostly barren, rocky and uninhabited lie between this and the Atlantic. Most of the congregation is settled along the Musquodoboit River. The farms generally are very valuable, most of them being meadow and intervalle land. Little River flows into Musquodoboit a short way below the Church, and hence the Church being on the Road that leads up Little River, was called "The Little River Church," and so the name "Little River" extended to the whole settlement, although most of it lies along the larger River—a fact which shows the influence in more ways than one a church has on any settlement.

Taking Little River as the starting point, for it is about the centre of the congregation, there are two "stations," one on each side

of the Little River Church, distant each about 5 miles, viz: New Antrim and South School House, so called. The two extreme families connected with the congregation are distant from each other about 23 miles, but by far the greater number, *nearly all*, lie within 13 miles by 4. There are about 100 families closely connected with the congregation and Church, and about 45 more who pay a little, and attend pretty regularly, but do not connect themselves any more closely with us. As they at present raise only £100 of the salary, it will be seen that on an average the payment will be scarcely four dollars each. The fact is, however, that some pay, (I believe on hearsay,) *eleven dollars*, so that many must come exceedingly low. The worst of the matter is that very often those who pay least for Church matters, are the best able to pay. We have not been free from emigration since my settlement here. Besides young people, no fewer than five families have moved away—one of them was an active elder in the congregation. This is felt to be a great loss, specially as only two have come in place of the five, and they not formerly belonging to the Church.

There are at present 115 communicants on the Roll, of these 39 have been added since my settlement in February 1866. There have been in all 7 deaths in the congregation since that time. I have baptized 40 children since my settlement. My hope is almost altogether in the young. Even where the parents cannot be got to take an interest in the Church, I find the young *can* and *do*. There is a large rising population. This can be judged of from the large Sabbath School of last summer. At the Little River Church alone, there were 133 children's names on the roll. I have not made up the average attendance, but this I know a goodly number have never been absent at all, and the average daily attendance cannot fall below 90."

"II.—*New Church at New Antrim.*—There are only 30 families at New Antrim. Still they have begun and about finished a nice new Church, capable of holding at least 200 people. The whole cost will be about £220, besides gratuitous work. The people have not received any external aid, and yet when the seats will be paid for they will be out of debt. They expect to sell every seat. As it is they will have only about £50 to wait for to be collected from unsold seats or seats not fully paid for.

III.—*Manse and Glebe.*—It is a grand thing for a congregation to put forth such efforts. You cannot believe how much more interested the people are now in the Church. The Glebe is in all about 70 acres, 25 of which is beautiful low land, cutting at present about 15 tons of hay, but if wholly cleared capable of cutting 30 tons. The upland is very good also, excellent for oats, roots, &c. I will soon have a grand orchard—there being about 50 apple trees, just beginning to bear,