

evening classes and monthly reunions, are drawing out the latent talents and virtues of our young people into vigorous activity. We are cultivating the study of sacred music and psalmody, as also of correct thinking, reading and recitation. We are greatly augmenting our Sabbath School libraries, and scattering excellent literature throughout the parish. Our eldership has been strengthened by the ordination of four additional members, on the 300th anniversary of the death of John Knox, the great Scottish Reformer of blessed memory. And in fine, our elders, our trustees and our people, show that they are not blind to the great privileges and opportunities now set before them in this the testing day of their visitation.

The congregation at Cardigan is also progressing steadily, although the situation of the kirk is most inconvenient during winter. The Sabbath School at New Perth is growing strong and influential, by Divine grace: and so is the older Sabbath School at St. Peter's Road, where a strong Scottish settlement is cherishing the blood-bought privileges of our noble fatherland. At North Cardigan, our most promising Sabbath School and prayer meeting has been called to suffer a great conflict, which, for a while, endangered its existence. But its leaders and its members (remembering that it is an old and desperate trick of Satan to raise a bitter feud around the most hopeful revivals, and to crush them by fraud or force) have resolved to overcome all infernal wiles by faith, working by charity from the Lord. This is a lesson of the profoundest importance, and should never be forgotten.

We have also opened a new station at Peake's Road; and everywhere we find a willing people. The congregation at Cardigan is about to increase its kirk session also; for it has but one elder at present, although its people are numerous, intelligent and devout.

Since I came, I have baptized 170 persons, and have endeavoured to set up family worship in every home; and to see that the children are taught to pray, and to read and study God's word. I have scattered a multitude of the best religious pamphlets and tracts throughout my three congregations, especially in

the remote and secluded settlements. And I am greatly delighted to see how well they are studied and loved, when I return to renew my visits. I then give new books to those who have tried to make the best use of their old ones. And we are now preparing to provide all our Sabbath Schools with Libraries.

It is a great mistake to suppose that a rural parish is of little importance. Our country charges are often more populous, more devoted, and immensely more impressive than city congregations in general. In this large parish, I have three congregations with three completed churches, besides two regular stations and four out-stations. In these, about 200 families claim adhesion to the good church of our fathers, and enjoy our regular visitations. You may judge a little of my responsibilities, when you hear that my ordinary work every Sunday is, to superintend our Sabbath School in Georgetown, at 10 a. m.; to preach three times, viz., at 11 a. m., at 3 p. m., and at 7 p. m., involving a journey of 12 or 14 miles: and to visit a few families pastorally, as on occasions of sickness or otherwise. I generally employ the early part of the week in pastoral visitations, (which is indeed my most delightful recreation), and preach in the evenings at the suburban stations, reserving the close of the week for study and writing. To aid in this great work, we are organizing our Lay Association, and our Christian Association.

If our labours are abundant and successful, we know well to whom alone the praise is due: "Not I, but the grace of God in me." Other men also have laboured, by Divine grace, and we enter into their labours. My excellent predecessors, the Rev. Messrs. McWilliam, Grant and Lockhead, are still fondly remembered far and near, and so also is the late Rev. Donald McDonald, of really eminent ability and devotion. Nor can we forget our obligation to the ministers of the sister Presbytery, without whose patient labours in dark and early days, the Presbyterian body would be comparatively small and slim in the Island. Now that the union is approaching, we feel returning joy and charity; and we regard this reunion as but the sure earnest of a continuous succession of Christian unions; until, at last,