

the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia in connection with the Church of Scotland.

DANIEL MCCURDY, *Moderator.*
JAS. CHRISTIE, *Synod Clerk.*

REPLY.

His Excellency replied that extreme pressure of public business had prevented him from preparing a written reply. He found no difficulty, however, in frankly expressing the great pleasure which it afforded him to renew in Nova Scotia the agreeable relations which had always subsisted between himself and the members of the Scotch Church in other colonies. He had ever found them noted for loyalty and that attachment to the rational freedom secured by British institutions, which the Address just presented so well expressed. He could not but respect a Church whose members had so often given in times of danger and trial, distinguished proofs of fidelity and attachment to their Church and the faith of their fathers. The deeds which their self-sacrificing spirit had enabled them to perform, were amongst the proudest records of Scotland. Therefore it was a special gratification to find that, notwithstanding the deep and earnest convictions which attached them to their own particular tenets, they nevertheless were amongst the most liberal thinkers here, in respecting the convictions of others, and extending the liberty of thought which they claimed for themselves.

So far as he had yet been enabled to judge, there seemed to be in this Province a most remarkable and fortunate exemption from the worst of all evils—religious animosity and strife. He trusted that so desirable a condition of society might be maintained during his administration. He would endeavor to perform his share of the duty of promoting that spirit of mutual charity and forbearance which harmonized equally with truest Christian courtesy and the strictest maintenance of individual opinion.

His Excellency having further made his personal acknowledgments for the kind terms in which the Address had alluded to himself, the members of the Deputation were severally presented by the Hon. the Chief Justice, and shortly afterwards withdrew.

Newfoundland.

Presentations to Rev. G. W. Stewart.

DURING the absence of Rev. Mr. McKae in Scotland, St. Andrew's congregation in St. John's, N. F., received supplies for two months from Rev. Mr. Stewart of Musquodoboit, who discharged his duties among our people at that place with much acceptance. We insert, with pleasure, the subjoined documents:—

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, }
10th August, 1864. }

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

We, the undersigned, on behalf of St. Andrew's Church congregation, cannot allow you to depart from us without this public expression of the deep sense of gratitude we owe you for your faithful, and, we trust, beneficial ministrations, during your short stay with us.

To the Presbytery of Halifax, Nova Scotia, we are also under deep obligations for this and former visits from their number, and we would wish you to convey to them our grateful thanks for their kindness.

That our Heavenly Father may guide and

prosper you, and extend your usefulness in the spread of the everlasting Gospel—and, wishing you a pleasant return to your own pastoral charge—is our sincere prayer, begging your acceptance of the accompanying purse of sovereigns.

We are, Rev. and Dear Sir, on behalf of St. Andrew's Church congregation,

G. BROWNING.

GEORGE G. GEDDES.

WILLIAM BOYD, *Secretary St. A's.*

REPLY.

MESSRS. BOYD, BROWNING AND GEDDES:

Gentlemen.—This address now read by you to me, from the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Newfoundland, expressive of a deep sense of their gratitude for, and so highly complimentary of, my ministerial services to them, during the absence of their pastor in Scotland; and, being accompanied with a purse of sovereigns (a pleasing and an acceptable gift at all times), has certainly taken me with an agreeable surprise. It would manifest, on my part, a degree of indifference to an act of kindness and sincerity, which I feel I do not merit, did I not accept; which, I assure you, I do, and no words of mine, on this gratifying occasion, can adequately give expression to my inward emotions.

The short stay of two months, during which I had the privilege of ministering to you in holy things, I have every cause to be thankful to the Divine Giver of all mercies for the ability, fidelity and earnestness with which I was enabled to discharge the sacred functions of my mission, and the effects of which, it is to be hoped, have been to all blessed. I can assure you that I was greatly encouraged “to hold out the word of life,” by the great attention and uniform attendance of the congregation, during the different diets for divine service; and it is my fervent prayer that all our meetings and devotional services, either in the sanctuary, in the prayer-meeting, or at the sacramental table, have been accompanied with mutual blessings of God's grace, both to teacher and taught, and a season of refreshment from the presence of the Lord abundantly experienced, a strengthening of faith in the cordial truths of the holy religion of Jesus deeply manifested. To the few, may a greater desire have been cherished “that the fire may ever be burning” on the altars of their hearts, and “the flame never shall go out” in their lives of love to God, zeal in the cause of Christ, an active, a saving faith, and earnest praying that God may bless His own Church; and, to the many, may it have been solemnly impressed, “that wisdom is the principal thing,” and that the great aim of their lives, henceforth, shall be “to get wisdom.”

It will afford me the greatest pleasure to convey to the Presbytery of Halifax your expressed thanks for the visit of members on a former very trying occasion, in which you, as a congregation, were most unfortunately placed, during which, I have learned, with pleasing satisfaction, the noble stand you magnanimously maintained, and your adherence to the principles of the “Kirk of Scotland,” though at a great pecuniary loss; yet I hope you can look back now, with gratifying feelings, that you did your duty manfully, and that the righteousness of a good cause and the blessing of God made you successful.

I hope that your worthy pastor may shortly return after my departure, from his Fatherland, renewed in health, and that he may long be enabled to discharge the duties of his sacred calling amongst you with marked success, and that the “blessing from on high” may rest upon him and you, in all your mutual relations, in the life that is present, and that which is to come.

I cannot close without tendering my grateful acknowledgments to the members of session for