

kindly observations in the same kindly spirit in which they are offered. And of this I am persuaded, that when the things of this world cease to interest and engage our attention, amid the all-absorbing hopes and fears of eternity, in the review of our earthly career, we shall enjoy a most consoling, cheering, and hopeful aspiration, from any efforts we shall have made, to protect society from the evils of religious strife and sectarian rancor."

It is quite unnecessary to say, that the Chief Justice's excellent advice was unheeded, or to dwell upon the bitterness of feeling occasioned by this unhappy discord—a bitterness, as usual, expressed most intensely, and fostered most perseveringly, by the disappointed party. The upshot was, that a Free Church was erected, and the small body of Presbyterians, resident in St. John's, has since continued divided. The expenses of the lawsuit, which were very considerable, were divided between the plaintiffs—those continuing adherents of the Established Church,—and the defendants, or Free Church party. These, together with other matters, contributed to the accumulation of a heavy debt, which, owing to a variety of unfortunate occurrences, was not paid off, until the last year of Mr. Nicol's incumbency. Then, by one effort, the needed amount was contributed, and Mr. Nicol, at his regretted departure, carried with him the satisfaction of knowing that the church property was free of all incumbrance.

The place of worship—a very handsome, well-lighted building,—has recently been painted and repaired, at a considerable outlay. It is thoroughly well finished in all respects, with the exception of ornamental tops to the seat backs. These were intended to be made of mahogany; and abundance of wood has been provided for the purpose; but, from one cause or another, it has only been fitted to a few. In the front gallery is a seat set apart for the Governor, should he choose to occupy a pew in the Scotch Church. The present governor, however, is a consistent member of the Church of England, and therefore, his seat, like a great many others, is unoccupied.

The situation of the church is commanding, but somewhat inconvenient, being in fact almost at the summit of the ridge of hills, upon the side of which, St. John's is built. As a consequence, in winter, access is often difficult, the pathway being frequently one sheet of ice. We have not yet succeeded in having it lighted for evening service, with gas. But this is in contemplation; and, though the situation will render it a matter of expense, the people, who are noted for their liberality, will have it effected as speedily as can reasonably be anticipated.

At New Year's, a parcel was handed to the minister of the congregation, accompanied by the following graceful note:—"The ladies of St. Andrew's Church have much pleasure in presenting their esteemed pastor, the Rev. Donald MacRae, with a pulpit gown and cassock, which, they hope, he may long be spared

to wear, and in the wearing, wish him blessing which maketh rich, and addeth sorrow."

The gown is perfectly plain, but of the best material, and cost between seventeen and eighteen pounds, Halifax currency. The young men of the congregation have, in like manner sent for a gown for the precentor, who long and ably officiated, on the good old-fashioned plan of singing in the desk, beneath the pulpit.

Such actions as these—and they are specimens of which many similar could be mentioned—will show how much genuine kindness of feeling, not evaporating in words, exists among our limited numbers.

When your next Synod meets, it will appear from our statistical tables, that, according to our numbers, the proportion of communicants, the general attendance at the place of worship, the number of Sabbath-school children, the liberality of the people, etc., will compare favorably with other congregations. Enough for the present. I am sure that I have your good wishes and prayers for success. They are reciprocated. May you prosper in every good word and work; and may your hands be strengthened by the speedy arrival of ministers suited for your extensive and untrodden field of labor. Ever yours,

A CORRESPONDENT

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN HALIFAX.

I am happy to inform you that our ecclesiastical and missionary affairs are going on prosperously in this city. Our congregations are thriving and united. The new church for the accommodation of St. Mathew's congregation is rapidly advancing to completion, and is expected to be open for public worship in the month of September. The ladies of St. Andrew's congregation, are busily engaged in collecting funds and preparing articles for a bazaar, to paint and improve their church, which is to come off in June next. A very spirited and harmonious monthly meeting of our Home Mission Association, was held last week, when nearly twenty pounds were handed in to the Treasurer, and sums voted of twenty-five pounds for Musquodoboit mission, twelve pounds ten shillings for Sackville mission, and twelve pounds ten shillings for Little Thomas mission. Arrangements were made to increase the number of the collectors to aid the funds of the Association. I am happy also to inform you, that a deep interest appeared to be felt in favor of our mission to Truro, which is in a prosperous condition. Mr. Wilson preached there last Sabbath day to respectable audiences. Mr. Jardine has been engaged to preach there on the first Sabbath of April. Mr. Martin the Superintendent of missions, intends to preach there about the middle of April, and visit our friends at the Folly Mountain, in Londonderry, who have formed themselves into an organized society.