

other is coming out soon to our assistance he might embark for Sydney and stay at least a month or two by the way to refresh the spirits of this poor people. It will be no difficulty to get to Halifax from Sydney as there is a very extensive coal trade carried on between them and vessels may be obtained almost every week through the summer.

The soil in this place is good and when it is cleared it brings forth plentifully.

There a good number of cattle upon the Island exported from England which thrive well. The herbage grows to an amazing height. Potatoes wheat and rye likewise grow well.

I could not but remark with what profusion the God of nature has scattered his bounties even in these impervious forests. Places where the wood was barely burnt down were covered with the most astonishing crop of strawberries and other kinds of ground fruits. The husbandman is everywhere invited to redouble his diligence in clearing away the woods and wherever this obtains he meets with an abundant recompense for his toil.

Along the banks of the Great and Little Bras d'or the land is particularly fertile and good. Even in its present state of cultivation it is sufficient for the support of many hundreds of families, and in a few years it will be sufficient for the support of as many more. The lakes and bays and streams of water everywhere abound with fish and these of the most excellent quality.

But why should I wish to see this Island more fully peopled with inhabitants. The present inhabitants are perishing for lack of knowledge and unless the dispensations of gospel ordinances is introduced speedily among them it will soon become the land of darkness and shadow of death. Mr. McGregor once visited this Island and baptized some children. If we had other laborers sent out amongst us we might give them some supply of sermon but in our present circumstances this is impracticable.

At present I am in the township of Douglas the inhabitants of which have given me a call. The congregation is upwards of 40 miles in length and my labors must be great. I have to preach in three different places, one half of my time in one of these and the other half divided between the other two. I do not intend however to take charge of the whole. The labour would be far more than what I am capable to endure. I intend taking charge of the one half, but to give as much supply to the other as I can over-

take till they are provided with a minister of their own.

My trials for ordination are finished and the ordination is to take place in the month of June. We have sent you an address and petition for further help in the work of the ministry and I earnestly beg that every means may be employed for our speedy relief. There is nothing here to intimidate any person to come over and preach the Gospel of Christ. I have seen the people and they are kind and generous. I have travelled through part of the country and the roads are much better than I expected. I have felt the heat and it is agreeable. I have been upon the sea and have suffered no shipwrecks. I have likewise seen the greatest part of the winter, and can say that the cold is not intolerable. But instead of anything to intimidate there is much to invite ministers of the Gospel to this quarter of the world. Multitudes are crying for relief they would set their faces heavenward but have no minister to point out the way thither. Two ministers are needed for St. John's, one for Amherst, one for this part of the country, and several more for other parts with which I am unacquainted. How distressing is the case of the Presbytery when petitions are laid before them, and they are obliged to tell the petitioners some of whom have come from great distances that they can give them no supply of sermon this year.

A SKETCH OF PRESBYTERIANISM.

IN ST. JOHN'S, NEW FOUNDLAND.

BY REV. A. B. DICKIE.

The Island of New Foundland is the oldest of the British North America Colonies and in its capital St. John's, Presbyterianism has long had a foothold. That foothold it has ever retained and though its progress has not been rapid yet it has been marked. Forty three years have passed away since the blue banner was unfurled and hundreds now rally around it. During the 43 years many husbandmen wrought to gather in spiritual harvests and whilst no revival movements are recorded yet zealous laborers toiled diligently in their isolation and fruit appeared.

A Presbyterian congregation was formed in the year 1842 called St. Andrews in connection with the Church of Scotland. Previous to this time the members thus organized belonged to the Congregationalists. The newly formed congregation only waited a short time for