

Church government you cannot learn in a day, or a year ; it takes time and experience to become accustomed to the variety of minds and dispositions of individuals with whom you come in contact. It is really a pleasure and a comfort to meet with this people and church in Associational work ; the church, although small, ample provision for Sundays worship is generally arranged by Deacon Butler, when the Hillgrove brethren who would give us the use of their building. The gatherings on these occasions are unusually large. Fathers Preston, Thomas, Neale, Smithers, Carvery, Jackson, Wilmot, Frances and Bailey have all had the pleasure of addressing large audiences here. These brethren have all forded the river, one by one, and have met many on the other side to whom they administered the sacred rites over here. After the church had been organized in Bear River in April, Father Preston went directly to Digby, and organized this church in May of same year.

The sisters of the church take a lively interest in the work, and do their part in promoting its welfare. They also maintain a Sabbath School, which Brother Butler superintended for many years, the charge of which he handed over to Brother W. Miller on his return from the United States. The churches generally, although small in membership, have proved a great blessing to every community in which they are located. Vice, intemperance, and immorality of every kind takes its flight when brought into a nearness with the church. The church of God has ever been a beacon light to the weary mariner. A few years ago a shipwrecked mariner climbing over a scraggy mountain peak in the South Seas, expecting every moment to be devoured by savages, was asked by his comrade from behind, "What do you see ahead?" "Nothing but a church steeple." "Ah ! said he, we are all right, there are christians here." And so