

The Monthly Record.

APRIL, 1880.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Our readers will be pleased to learn that our friends in P. E. Island are taking an increasing interest in the RECORD. We have received a new order for thirty copies from that fertile land. We should like much to see a closer bond between us and the adherents of our church once ministered to by the Rev. Mr. McDonald of revered memory, and now under the pastoral charge of the Rev. John Goodwill. We trust that soon a presbytery of our church will be established there and that thus the well understood wishes of their late pastor may be fulfilled. The field is sufficient for two or three ministers. Our only doubt is as to the possibility of securing two or three Gaelic speaking ministers in Scotland where they are in such demand, and where it is said a danger exists that some churches in the Highlands may have to remain empty for want of ministers possessed of a knowledge of the Gaelic language. Nevertheless if men can be had the Colonial Committee will send them out most willingly and assist in their support if that should be necessary. In his report to the Colonial Committee Mr. Sprott estimates the number of our adherents in P. E. I. at five thousand. If this number of people were situated in a town it might perhaps be possible for an active minister to take charge of them with the aid of an assistant, but scattered over a large tract of country it is quite impossible for one man to do them full justice; especially in these days, for the young who cannot attend their own church every sabbath are likely to drift away to other denominations and thus forsake the church of their fathers. It speaks volumes for the loyal attach-

ment of this people to their church that in these days of changes and novelties, they should still so faithfully adhere to the venerable traditions and religious spirit of their fathers.

We trust that Mr. Goodwill may soon secure one or two fellow-labourers in that extensive and most interesting field over which his arduous labours extend. We are not surprised to learn that the work is telling upon his strength, and that he is not so able as formerly to endure the fatigue and exposure incurred in his travels from place to place in his vast field of labour. To generate and kind hearted a people as those to whom he ministers have proved themselves to be, will doubtless do all they can to lighten his labours and will heartily second his efforts to secure additional labourers. Our readers in this Province are so desirous of hearing from Mr. Goodwill that we are induced to publish the following extract from a letter lately received from him. We trust that Mr. Goodwill himself will not complain of the liberty we take in giving our readers the benefit of it.

THE MANSE, KINROSS.

March 12th, 1880.

TO THE REV. J. W. FRASER.

MY DEAR SIR,—I now drop you a few lines and enclose seven dollars for the RECORD. I may state that as the price of produce was so low last fall, very little money is in circulation among the farmers, and this increases the difficulty of getting subscribers for the RECORD, but still I have succeeded in getting a few in several places to send for parcels and expect to get some more in other parts of my field of labours.

It may be of some interest to you to hear something about the state of matters here. I may in the first place state that I do not feel able to stand the same amount of labour and toil as I had undertaken during the last four years, and therefore find it necessary to curtail my labours more or less this winter. In