

earth to Heaven. He doubted not, that, if influenced by love to Him, they would remember His words, "If ye love Me, keep My Commandments," would render prompt obedience to their parents, would not take God's name in vain, and would abstain from telling lies, and from keeping the company of wicked boys. At the close of the 2nd division the Rev. Mr. McGill addressed them in a most appropriate manner, assuring them that they had given much delight by the manner in which they had sung and conducted themselves, and warmly recommending to them to make farther improvement in Sacred Songs. At the close of the 3rd division the Queen's Anthem was sung, while the audience stood up. Thereafter Mr. McGill closed the evening's proceedings with prayer. The audience, we understand, were much gratified with the neat appearance and orderly behaviour of the youthful company, and with the unflagging interest which they manifested in performing their exercises from beginning to end. A hope was generally expressed, that such reunions may take place at more frequent intervals. We may add that the hymns selected for the occasion were printed, accompanied with the music, and that Mr. Becket, the publisher, has thrown off a number of copies with a view to their circulation in Sabbath Schools for the encouragement of Sacred Music.

CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.

COLONIAL SCHEME.—We are happy to learn that a collection is to be made in St. Matthew's Church on the morning of Sunday next, in behalf of the Colonial Scheme of the Church of Scotland. Our Province has reaped so much benefit from its operations that it is unnecessary to say a word in its favour. We trust that the congregation will mark its sense of the Colonial Committee's exertions by a handsome collection.—*Halifax Guardian.*

LAY ASSOCIATION, WALLACE.

We have on several occasions urged on our readers the advantages and necessity of forming Branch Lay Associations in support of the Church of Scotland, and we have frequently heard expressions of surprise and regret that no such auxiliary to the Parent Association has as yet arisen in the Province. We take much pleasure in extracting from the *Halifax Guardian* an account of the Annual Meeting of the "Wallace Branch Lay Association in support of the Church of Scotland" on the 18th of February. The Chair was taken by Alexander Macfarlane, Esq., President, and the proceedings were opened by prayer by the Rev. Mr. Herdman, of Pictou. The Annual Re-

port was read by the Secretary as follows:

The Committee of the Lay Association of Wallace beg to submit the following as their Annual Report.

The necessity that existed of having a suitable place of worship in Wallace was the first consideration that occupied the serious attention of your Committee, and, after a careful examination of the old building, it was deemed unfit to be repaired; whereupon the office-bearers used their best exertions to bring about the building of a new and suitable church, and the success which has attended their labours is beyond their anticipations. Although midsummer had approached ere any decisive step had been taken towards the work, a building may now be seen on the site of the old one; and, as far as it has progressed, no pains has been spared to provide both materials and workmanship of the best quality; and ere our next Annual Meeting they hope to see a respectable and well finished church in this place, as a result of the organization of the Association. While dwelling on the subject of the building of the new church, your Committee consider it their duty to notice particularly the very handsome manner in which they have been assisted by the Parent Lay Association of Halifax, not only in furnishing them with a large amount of materials for the building, but also in providing so much of the valuable services of eminent clergymen for destitute congregations during the past summer. They consider that a repetition of such services would be of incalculable benefit to the community, and would impress upon the Association to endeavour to procure the same until such time as a resident Minister can be obtained.

It is with pleasure your Committee would bring before the Lay Association the friendly manner in which the Rev. Wesley Beals and the Trustees of the Methodist Church have granted them the use of their church on every occasion that they have required it.

In glancing over the list of members, it is gratifying to find that it has more than doubled during the course of the year, and now numbers upwards of 100 members. The Office-bearers have to regret that the state of the funds did not warrant them to order the publications voted at the quarterly meeting in May last; but, now that there are funds in hand, they would earnestly recommend that copies of the "Presbyterian," and copies of the "Missionary Record," be ordered without delay for distribution among the members of the Association.

The Office-bearers would earnestly impress upon all members to increase their exertions, not only in strengthening the hands of the Office-bearers, but also in carrying out individually the principles on which the Lay Association was organized; and in this way your Committee would look with humble confidence for the continuance of the blessings and support which have hitherto been vouchsafed to the Association, and without which all its labours would have been in vain.

The whole respectfully submitted.

The Treasurer's Accounts were next submitted, showing the state of the funds to be as follows:

To amount of collections and subscriptions,.....	£24	19	0	
		Cr.		
By payment as per Account..21	5	10	
	Balance in hand	£3	15	2

It was then moved and seconded that the Report and Account be received and adopted.

The proposal to have the *Presbyterian* and *Record* extensively circulated was then considered, and it was unanimously resolved that the Secretary order 8 copies of the *Presbyterian*, 7 copies of the *Missionary Record*, and 5 copies of the *Galic Record*, to be distributed among the members of the Association. The election of

Office-bearers for the ensuing year was then made as follows, viz:

- Alexander Macfarlane, Esq., *President.*
- Mr. Donald McCauly, *Vice-President.*
- Robert Purvis, *Recording Secretary.*
- Mr. Donald McKay, *Secretary & Treasurer.*
- John Simpson, Kenneth Nicholson, Donald McKenzie, Neil McIver, Kenneth Nicholson, *Committee.*

The proceedings were then closed with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Herdman, Minister of St. Andrew's Church, Pictou.

ROBERT PURVIS,
Recording Secretary.

It gratifies us to perceive from the last number of the *Guardian* that Branch Associations have been lately formed in Pictou, New Glasgow, and other places for promoting the interests of Religion in connexion with the Parent Church.

MICMAC MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Agreeably to public announcement made, a united meeting for prayer on behalf of the Micmac Mission, consisting of the several congregations in Halifax interested therein, took place in St. Matthew's Church in this city on Thursday evening, the 13th February. A large and respectable congregation attended at an early hour. It was deeply interesting to see on such an occasion both the body of the church and the galleries well filled with an attentive audience. After an appropriate hymn and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Martin the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Crawley according to appointment. He reminded the audience that the Church of Jesus Christ, consisting of every community of sincere and faithful worshippers, were called to the enjoyment of the high honour of sustaining Missionary efforts by their prayers and intercessions, which was shown by reference to several scriptures; to the exercise of which duty many encouragements were briefly mentioned. Reference was then specially made to the present labours of the Society's Missionary, the Rev. Mr. Rand, from whose letters copious extracts were read. Mr. Rand, it appears, has been during the winter, and continues to be diligently and most laboriously, occupied in constructing an English and Micmac Dictionary, a labour which, it was shown, was most needful in order to perpetuate the knowledge, which Mr. Rand has obtained, of the Micmac language, as also to enable others to acquire it.

A few extracts from his letter follow: "You will form some idea of the labour necessary to accomplish this work," writes Mr. Rand, "when I tell you that under the single letter A I have occupied the greater part of a book half an inch thick, made of paper of the size of ordinary letter-paper." "The letter K will, I think, extend over double that space." "The Committee will know well how to appreciate the importance of this work." "There is not the excitement and the thrilling incident of Missionary excursions." "Day after day, week after week, and month after month wear away, and all I can say is that I have inserted so many words in the Micmac Dictionary; and, when I rise at midnight from my task with my head and breast-bone aching, and kneel down to pray for forgiveness, and for a blessing on the dull monotonous labour of the past day, it is sometimes, I confess, no easy matter to realize what connection all this has with the salvation of the soul of the Indian who is now perishing in ignorance." "This winter I began with A, and last evening got to the end of E. I will take months to get through K. It may be years before I shall have so far perfected it as to call for aid to publish it." "I may add, that, while I am absorbed in my Dictionary, it does not prevent other Missionary work."

Mr. Rand goes on to propose the expediency at some future time of a Micmac Missionary establishment, to be situated possibly at Dart-