

had them set up, a great number of them together, in their dancing ground, and when struck with the fist they give a hollow sound which is heard at quite a distance. I don't think they have them on any island south of this. The natives of Erakor have all moved across to Iramyou, the small island where Mr. Morrison built his new house. The church is also built on this small island, so that is much more convenient than formerly. After school they all cross in their canoes to their plantations. We are very happy to have the Annands settled so near us. They have a very interesting station, and it is equal in beauty of scenery to any in the group. Their station comprises two small islands, Fila and Meli, and they are literally swarming with natives. But it is particularly interesting on account of the great number of fine-looking little children. I say fine looking, because I was very much struck with their appearance. Indeed all the natives of these two islands are regarded by all the missionaries who know them, as a race somewhat superior to any in this group. What a blessing it would be to those dear little children, as well as what an immense advantage to the cause of Christ if the Annands could only get such control over them before they grow up as to be able to keep them from the foreigners.

You were all, no doubt, very sorry to hear of the loss of our noble "Dayspring," and then, so shortly after the death of the father of this mission. It seems as if our number in this Mission is never to be very large, for as soon as one comes another goes. I hope, however, that there is yet a bright future before us, and that Christ will have these islands, one and all, for His possession before long. If the Church at home is supporting us to the same extent with her prayers as she is with her contributions, we cannot but succeed.

I need not give you any account of our meeting, as you will have the minutes as soon as this letter. We feel very grateful to you for your kind offer in regard to our letters, and we are taking advantage of it. We receive the *Record* regularly. I don't think any number has gone astray. But I am very sorry that we don't get all the numbers of the *Witness*. We would feel much more lonely were it not for the occasional visit of these two old friends.

I remain, yours faithfully,

J. W. MCKENZIE.

THE neat little building lately erected at Bay View, the first Presbyterian Church in Digby County, is now free of debt.

MINUTES of Mission Synod will appear in our next.

News of the Church.

Presbytery of Halifax.

The Presbytery of Halifax met in Poplar Grove Church on the 20th January. There was a very full attendance of ministers and elders. Agreed to hold regular quarterly meetings for the transaction of business—on the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December. Moderation in a call was granted to Milford and Gay's River, Rev. James Maclean to preach and moderate on Wednesday, Feb 4th, 10½ a. m. Moderation was granted to Noel, Rev. John Gauld to preach and moderate on Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 11 a. m. Moderation was also granted to Kempt and Walton. Mr. Mowitt to preach on Wednesday, Feb. 4th, at 10½ a. m. Mr. Thomson to preach at St. Croix and Ellershouse for the last three Sabbaths of February. Mr. Sutherland was appointed to supply West Cornwallis during February. Rev. D. S. Gordon was appointed to make inquiries as to how much could be raised at Digby, Bay View, &c., for the support of a Catechist next summer. Mr. Dickie to make similar inquiries respecting the Eastern Shore. The City ministers were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the case of Bedford.

The subject of Union being brought up as remitted by the Synod, the following resolution moved by Rev. J. K. Smith, and seconded by Rev. P. G. McGregor, was adopted unanimously:

"That this Presbytery heartily approve of the Basis of Union and accompanying deliverances sent down by Synod and declare their willingness to proceed to the consummation of a Union of the four negotiating bodies."

The Clerk was instructed to issue a Circular to Sessions and Congregations calling attention to this subject and requesting their replies by the next meeting of Presbytery.

Rev. J. H. Chase addressed the Presbytery on behalf of the Supplementing Fund. Dr. W. McCulloch also spoke briefly on the same subject. The Presbytery thanked the brethren for their addresses and agreed to urge every congregation to contribute to this scheme according to their ability; and also to inquire at next meeting if every congregation had done its duty in this matter. Mr. McGregor brought before the Presbytery the claims of the Aged and Infirm Ministers. Agreed to recommend ministers whose congregations had not yet contributed, to attend to this Fund within the next three months. The Presbytery enjoined on all Ministers to have their Statistical Returns in the Clerk's hands before the 20th Feb., so that the Presbytery