

every word you speak, every line you write, every mile you travel, every act you perform for the advancement of His cause on earth, and He will remember them all on the last great day !

THE LATE REV. PETER GORDON.

(CONCLUDED.)

MR. GORDON arrived in Halifax about midsummer of that year (1806). Here he preached for six Sabbaths to a congregation that had just been organized. Having preached also one Sabbath at Windsor and one at Shubenacadie, he proceeded to Pictou, in which place or its neighbourhood he preached for two or three Sabbaths. The Presbytery were then especially anxious regarding the condition of Prince Edward Island, and we believe that from the time he left Scotland, this was contemplated as his field of labour. He accordingly proceeded thither and commenced his labours by preaching at Tryon on the fifth Sabbath of November. He proceeded thence to Princetown, where he spent the following month. Here Mr. Gordon staid that winter, but he itinerated through the various Presbyterian settlements on the island, making this place his head-quarters. Next summer he received calls from both the congregations of Princetown and St. Peter's, but preferred the latter, and his ordination was appointed to take place in October. In consequence of the lateness of the season and the distance and difficulty of travelling, the ordination services were held in Charlottetown in the Episcopal Church. It may be remarked, however, that the Presbyterians had a right in that building. When it was being erected the Episcopalians applied to the Presbyterians for assistance. Mr. Rae and others freely rendered aid, but only on condition that they should have a share in the property. This right was conceded to them, and they always refused to relinquish it. The Bishop was anxious that they should do so, as he could not consecrate a building which was partly Presbyterian. But Mr. Rae maintained the rights of the Presbyterians with true Scottish *dourness*, and the Church remained unconsecrated. It stood where the Old Court House, now occupied as a Post Office, stands. It may be mentioned, however, that Mr. Desbrisay, the Episcopal incumbent, was a man of such enlightened liberality that he freely accorded to Presbyterian ministers the use of the Church. Here then took place the first ordination in Prince Edward Island. But we are without any farther particulars of the event.

At the time of Mr. Gordon's entering upon his labours, the island was both physically and morally in a very backward condition. Unless just in the neighbourhood of Charlottetown there could scarcely be said to be a road throughout its whole extent. What passed as such were mere bridle paths through the woods. The principal travelling was along shore, while the creeks and rivers, which are numerous in the island, had to be crossed in canoes, while the horses swam or avoided by making a long circuit round their heads. The settlements were far apart and the settlers widely scattered. Hence Mr. Gordon's ministrations involved that large amount of physical toil, which in a greater or less degree, was the lot of all the early ministers of these Provinces.

He was the first Presbyterian minister ever settled in Prince Edward Island, and we believe that, except Mr. Desbrisay, there was not in any part of it a single settled minister of any other denomination. The Methodists, how-