

visit elsewhere. There has been a decided improvement in Richmond in the attendance of divine worship, so that there is a fair prospect of the unhappily divisions in the congregation there being healed. At the celebration of the Lord's Supper in June, not less than sixty sat down to the sacred feast. It is to be hoped that before another year they will have a labourer settled among them; the extent of the settlement, and the greatness of the labour demand this.

In Northampton there has been some falling off in the attendance, owing to the diminution and irregularity of service caused by Richmond. Service has often had to be late in the evening; and it is not less interesting than impressive to see the crowd collecting at the little church by the river side, bringing their candles with them.

My little flock at Woodstock, in common with the other inhabitants, suffered severely by a most destructive fire which laid in ashes the whole business portion of the town. This has delayed for the present the effort to erect a suitable place of worship, and has prevented the increase in their contributions for the support of the Gospel, which I had fondly hoped for. But I trust that, in a year or two at the furthest, they will recover from this shock, and that our little town will be more prosperous than ever.

There is now a reasonable prospect of the railway being completed to this place next year; and it is hoped that it will open up the resources of this excellent farming region.

On a general view of the labours of the year, I cannot but take courage for the future. There has been solid but not very showy progress made in the work of building up the Gospel cause. To give you some conception of the extent of the work, I may mention that I have travelled more than four thousand miles in the way of ministerial duty during the twelve months, preaching two and three times on alternate Sabbaths, besides twice, and, for a time, thrice during the week in the winter. This, in addition to attending two Sabbath schools, and visiting, represents a large mass of work. Indeed, the labour is excessive, and the field too large for one missionary. Fatigue and exposure last winter, brought on a severe illness, by which I was confined to the house for three weeks; and it is with some degree of dread that I look forward to the coming winter. But my hope is in God whose cause I serve, in the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. The climate is naturally healthy, and, where the exposure is not excessive, the keen air of winter is bracing for the system.

I submit this report through the hands of the Presbytery within whose bounds I labour. With fervent prayer for the prosperity of our dearly loved mother Church, and the success

of that Scheme over which you preside, I remain, &c,

HENRY J. M'LARDY.

To the Rev. the Convener of the Colonial Committee.

OUR CHURCH IN GUIANA.

For several years the conduct of certain members of the Presbytery of the Church of Scotland in British Guiana, has been a matter of painful notoriety. In this teeming tropical country our Church has been fortunate in one respect in securing ample provision for its ministers—the Crown allowing we believe the very handsome sum of £500 sterling per annum to each of the ministers in that colony. We regret to be compelled to state that repeated and long continued complaints have been sent to the Parent Church both by the people and the officials of the Colony respecting the improper and disgraceful conduct of certain clergymen in that Presbytery. At last meeting of Assembly it was resolved to deal with this matter in a firm and dignified manner, and accordingly commissioners were appointed to visit the colony, sift the business to the bottom, and deal with delinquents in a spirit of justice. The Rev. Messrs. Irvine and Munro, as will be seen below, have just finished their painful labors, and we are sure that every true lover of our Church will rejoice that they have had the courage to purge this Presbytery and to show the world that if clergymen forget the sacred responsibilities of their office, they will like other people be amenable to punishment. It will be recollected by many, by most of our readers, that the Rev. George Harper of the parish of St. Clements, Berbice, who has been suspended from the office of the holy ministry—was only three or four years ago a missionary under the Presbytery of Pictou. In many respects he was very far from being an ornament to the Christian profession—and though possessed of good talents, his levity, his indifference to his duties—his whole appearance were suggestive of any profession rather than that of a clergyman, and yet there can be no question, that a system of foolish and delusive laudation, which made its way from Nova Scotia to the Colonial Committee was the principal cause which led to this individ