

John McNeill

The Presbyterian.

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD



OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

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THE CHURCH IN CANADA.

OBITUARY NOTICE.

DIED at L'Original on Saturday, the 8th July, Mrs. John O'Brian, Senior, aged 68 years.

Mrs. O'Brian's parents, whose name was McMartin, were ~~Old~~ Loyalists, and formed part of a considerable body of Scotch Highlanders who, on the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, rather than forego their allegiance to the British Crown, left their possessions on the other side of the Line and moved to this Province, where they were located in the County of Glengary, then a wilderness. Mrs. O'Brian was born in Glengary near Martintown. She was brought up under the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Bethune, then, it is believed, the only Minister of the Church of Scotland in the Upper Province. She was both baptized and married by him, and was a member of the Church under his care, in full communion, from the time of her youth. Her husband and she moved shortly after their marriage, it is believed, to the Ottawa country, where they have ever since remained. They were both characterized by unwavering attachment to the Church of Scotland, and the difficulties they encountered at an early day, in order to enjoy occasionally the ordinances of Religion as administered in that Church, no doubt enhanced the value of these in their estimation. These difficulties may be somewhat appreciated when it is borne in mind that there was then no Minister of the Church of Scotland nearer than Montreal, a distance of upwards

of 60 miles, or Glengary; about 40, and to which latter place there was then no road across the Country, also that there were then no means of travelling but with a canoe by water, or afoot by land. Mr. and Mrs. O'Brian took one of their children all the way to Montreal, and carried others of them nearly as great distances by land, in order to have them baptized by a Minister of their own Church. Although her death was somewhat sudden at the last, she had been in a frail state of health for nearly a year, and this no doubt chastened and prepared her mind for an approaching change. During her illness she expressed her hearty reliance on Jesus as her Saviour, as all her salvation and all her joy. She was beloved and respected in all the relationships of life in which she stood, and she will be greatly missed in her family, in the friendly circle, and in the Church.

THE CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.

THE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA, IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

A meeting of this Ecclesiastical Court, having been called by circular from the ex-Moderator, last officiating, the Rev. John Scott, of St. Matthew's, Halifax, commenced its sittings on Tuesday, the 4th July, in St. Andrew's Church, Pictou. The fact that ten years had elapsed during which, owing to the particularly trying circumstances into which the Church was thrown in 1843, no meeting had taken

place, was felt by all assembled to invest the occasion with special interest. Divine service commenced in St. Andrew's Church at 1/4 past 11, when the Rev. John Scott presided and preached an excellent and highly appropriate discourse from the words, "The work of the ministry," in Eph. iv. 12; Immediately thereafter the Synod was constituted by prayer. The following roll of Ministers, being members of Presbytery within the bounds of the Synod, was produced, viz: Revs. John Martin, St. Andrew's, Halifax, John Scott, St. Matthew's, Do. and Francis Nicol, St. Andrew's, Newfoundland, members of the Presbytery of Halifax; and Revs. Alexander McGillivray, McLennan's Mountain, Allan Pollok, St. Andrew's, New Glasgow, Alexander McLean, West River and Gareloch, A. M. Herdman, St. Andrew's, Pictou, Alexander McKay, Rogers' Hill, and Wm. Snodgrass, St. James's Charlottetown, P. E. I., members of the Presbytery of Pictou. The name of the Rev. George W. Sprott, ordained Missionary within the bounds of the Presbytery of Halifax, was afterwards added to the roll.

The roll having been called, and the Elders present having produced their commissions from their respective sessions, the following sat down as members of Court, Messrs. John Martin, John Scott, George W. Sprott, Alexander McGillivray, Alexander McLean, A. M. Herdman, Alexander McKay and W. Snodgrass, Ministers, and Messrs. John McLean, Wm. Gordon, Duncan Mathieson and James Purdie, Elders.

The Rev. A. McGillivray was unanimously chosen Moderator for the ensuing