

form of worship, but the Rev. Mr. Wood, by his preaching and performing the other offices of his Holy Function among us in the several districts of this country, hath *removed our former prejudices, that we had against the form of worship of the Church of England*, as by Law Established, and hath won us unto a good opinion thereof; inasmuch as he hath removed all our scruples of receiving the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in that form of administering it, at least many of us are communicants with him, and we trust and believe many more will be added."

This letter reveals the character of this earnest worker. How tactful he must have been, and friendly, for not in all places in Canada have the pioneer workers of our Church gained such an influence with the people. These settlers, being of Puritan stock, were much opposed to the Established Church, and the missionaries had uphill work to keep together even their own flock. Many of the settlers in Nova Scotia were being greatly influenced at this time in their religious beliefs by preachers of different sects. There sprang up Baptists, New Lights and Methodists. William Black, the founder of Methodism in Nova Scotia, had come from England, fresh from John Wesley's teaching, and he held evangelistic meetings in almost every settlement. In Annapolis township, during the next few years after Mr. Wood's death, he laid the foundation for a strong Methodist centre. Edward Moulton, an earnest Baptist preacher, also won many converts through the Annapolis valley, and at the present time the Baptists far outnumber any other religious body in that part of the province. Only the most conservative Anglicans remained true to their Church. Many of the Rectors would have nothing to do with the "Dissenting" ministers, whose methods of presenting the Gospel proved more attractive to the younger generation, so that many descendants of the first Church of England families have been lost to the faith of their fathers.