

pear in circumstances corresponding at least with what he thought his income was to be. In making these arrangements, he has come under obligations which the promises of his people led him to believe he would be able to meet at the proper time. Can he meet these engagements, when the parties on whom he depended for the means have so grievously failed in implementing theirs?—Can he count upon the parties from whom he has made his purchases exercising the same forbearance towards him, which must have been exercised by the ministers referred to towards those who had so sadly failed in fulfilling their promises to them? Even should he meet with a similar forbearance, is it right for his character—is it for the credit of his congregation—is it consistent even with the honour of religion, that the extent of this forbearance should be thus put to the test? The scriptural injunction is, "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another." It would be a matter occasioning the deepest distress to an honourable man of the world to fail in meeting his pecuniary engagements; and what must be the agony affecting the mind of a minister of the gospel, when he may feel himself thus forced into a position at once discreditable to himself, and calculated to bring a reproach upon the religion which he professes?

Nor are the minister and his family the only sufferers. They may be the first to feel the distress; but the most serious part of the evil may be found at length reaching those through whose oversight, or criminal neglect, it may be that these distresses have been occasioned. It is impossible, in the very nature of things, that, while harassed by the anxieties necessarily involved in a position such as has been referred to, a minister can prosecute, with the desirable calmness of mind, those studies which are to prepare him for his ministrations to his flock. These ministrations will be affected by the disturbed character of his own thoughts; and with whatever sincerity and earnestness of heart he himself may pray in behalf of a people who are leaving him to starve, there may be a voice nevertheless in these very prayers which may speak loudly to the condemnation of those in whose behalf they are offered up; and the Lord, in righteous displeasure, may leave them to experience that, in withholding more than is meet, they have been securing leanness to their souls. It is from a concern there-

fore for the best interests of our congregations themselves that we would endeavour to arouse them upon this subject—that we would call upon them to bethink themselves of their duty with respect to it—that we would remind them that one thing is needful—and that we would exhort them to appropriate out of that worldly substance with which God has favoured them a due proportion, for the maintenance of those ordinances in attendance upon which they may be enabled with joy to draw water out of the wells of salvation.

CALL TO MR. FORBES.

The Presbytery of Cape Breton have moderated in a Call from the united congregations of Strait of Canso and River Inhabitants to the Rev. William Gordon Forbes, who was licensed by the Presbytery of Halifax last year, and who, since that time, has been labouring as a missionary in Cape Breton.

FREE PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

According to appointments made at their last ordinary meeting, the Free Presbytery of Halifax held a meeting at Cornwallis on Thursday the 16th, and another at Lunenburg on Thursday the 23rd current, in order to deal with these congregations on the important subjects of the Sustentation of the Ministry and the Professorial Fund.

At the latter meeting, Mr. John Alexander Ross, Student in Divinity, appeared, and was publicly examined in his knowledge of the Greek language, and in Theology, Chronology, and Church History. He acquitted himself very creditably; and the Presbytery sustained the examination as a part of his probationary trials.

The following supplies were appointed:

Sept	26th.	Dartmouth, Mr. King.
"	"	St. John's, Mr. Lyall.
Oct.	3rd.	Dartmouth, Mr. King.
"	"	St. John's, Mr. Forrester.
"	"	Goodwood, Mr. Munro.
"	"	Sackville, Mr. Lyall.
"	10th.	Dartmouth, Mr. King.
"	"	St. John's, Mr. Lyall.
"	17th.	Dartmouth, Mr. King.
"	"	St. John's Mr. King.
"	24th.	Dartmouth, Mr. King.
"	"	St. John's, Mr. Lyall.
"	31st.	Dartmouth, Mr. King.
"	"	St. John's, Mr. King.
"	"	Musquodoboit Harbour, Mr. Lyall.