

News of the Church.

PRESBYTERY OF PICTOU.

The Presbytery of Pictou met at New Annan on the 9th ult. Mr George Roddick, preacher of the Gospel, under call to the congregation of West River, delivered all his trials for ordination which were highly approved, and his ordination was appointed to take place at West River on Tuesday, 11th May, the Rev Jas. Bayne to preach on the occasion.

A Petition was presented from parties in New Annan connected with the congregation of Sharon Church, Tataamagouche, praying to be connected with New Annan; also, a petition from sundries connected with Willow Church, Tataamagouche, to be separated from New Annan congregation and connected with Sharon Church, and a petition against the latter union. The Presbytery approved of the object of the first two petitions, but before carrying it out appointed a committee to meet with those connected with Willow Church opposed to the union with Sharon Church to endeavour to obviate their objections, and to report at next meeting of Presbytery.

The Presbytery called for a report of what had been done by the congregation of New Annan for the payment of arrears due to the Rev Robt. Blackwood. It appeared that creditable efforts had been made, but that the matter was not yet settled up. The congregation were urged to continue their efforts and report at next meeting of Presbytery.

The Rev David Roy reported his proceedings in the moderation of a call from the congregation of West Branch, (now called "Union Church") said call had come out unanimously in favor of Mr John McKinnon, preacher of the Gospel. The said call was now laid upon the table of Presbytery; on motion, the conduct of the moderator was sustained, and the call sustained in which he had moderated. The clerk was appointed to give intimation to Mr McKinnon. Subjects of trial for ordination in the event of his accepting it, were also appointed him.

Supply of preaching was then appointed for the various vacancies under the charge of the Presbytery.

PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX,

In connection with the Presbyterian

Church of Nova Scotia met at Poplar Grove Church for Presbyterial visitation of the congregation on the evening of March first and for ordinary business on the morning of the second instant. The inquiries addressed to the different office-bearers of the Church were satisfactorily answered. The papers connected with the call of Rev Mr Christie from congregation of Central Church, West River, were read.—1st Mr Clarke's report of appointment to give notice to Yarmouth congregation. 2ndly. The minutes of a congregational meeting held thereupon with the expression of their unanimous desire that Mr Christie should remain among them. 3rdly. The reasons drawn up by a Committee, appointed at said meeting, why Mr Christie should in their opinion be continued at Yarmouth, being in reply to the reasons which Central Church has urged for his removal.—These reasons were to the effect that a vacancy would be very injurious in present circumstances to the Yarmouth congregation—that Mr Christie's labours had already effected much good and that under his charge the Church continues to prosper—that his services are much more urgently required in his present sphere than in any Eastern part of the Province—that the interests of Presbyterianism had heretofore been too much neglected in the Western part of the Province—and that every effort would be made to support the minister independently of aid from the Mission Fund of the Church or any other extraneous source. Lastly a letter was read from Rev G. Christie declining, after due and careful consideration, the call from Central Church.—Looking at all the circumstances of Yarmouth congregation the Presbytery entered on their minutes an expression of their gratification at their unanimity and intentions as respects the future, and also at the decision of Mr Christie. The usual reports of Home Missionary services were disposed of, and Mr James Murray, now under appointment at Newport, was appointed for six Sabbaths to labour at Bridgetown and Annapolis.

Mr Thomas Sedgewick, student of Theology of the third year, delivered a discourse from Titus, ch. 3rd, v. 8th, which was approved and farther exercises prescribed. Adjourned to meet a-