

that she came *three* times, laying emphasis on the three, and people said it was a shame, and hard hearted of him to send her away. Thus error leads astray, and oh how easily, when the heart of man seconds the advice.

On Feb. 13th, I visited the Irois Forest. This is a penal settlement, where convicts are employed in cultivating the land. It is three hours steam south of San Fernando and as the steamer goes further south, one can remain two hours at Irois and take the boat on her return. On my arrival, Mr. Stollinger, the superintendent, caused a horn to be blown, and in a short time all the gangs came in. There were present at service about 100—about 65 Calcutta coolies, half a dozen Madras, seven or eight Chinese, and the remainder Creoles. I spoke principally in Hindustani, but gave the substance in English for the benefit of the minority. All were very attentive. This settlement was established in 1864, and this is the first service conducted by a minister, ever held in the place. I spoke to some, who were there for attacking their manager and breaking one of his arms. One of them said he was not sorry for doing it; others said they were. These—14 in number—pride themselves on not being in for petty mean things, such as stealing, and on this account affect a superiority over their fellow convicts. Aristocracy in a penal settlement!

This letter has been written hurriedly in spare moments, and I am afraid it is not very readable; but you must make allowance, for I never was so busy in my life. I give to the languages every moment that I can spare. We have taken Selal, the best scholar in the school, to live with us, and he is a great help to me, in ascertaining the words understood by, and in common use among the coolies. Sometimes the dictionary gives twenty words, only one of which is in common use among the coolies. It is now the bustle of the crop season, and meetings cannot well be held during the week on the estates. But I am preparing for the coming opportunity.

Yours very sincerely,
JOHN MORTON.

News of the Church.

Statistics.

For many years the efforts of Synod to have the statistics of the Church upon its table, at its annual meeting have been defeated by a want of punctuality which it is painful to contemplate. We, therefore, remind all whom it may concern, that before this the returns should all be in the

hands of the Clerks of the respective Presbyteries.

By the Clerks they are to be tabulated, during the present month, and placed in the hands of Rev. Professor McKnight, on the first of May. Were this order attended to, they might, as one table, be printed in the June *Record*, and be on the Synod table for reference and use. Are we again to have 10 or 12 blanks reported and wait till next November, before these can be received and the table published?

New Churches.

Your last number contained interesting notices of the opening of four new churches in two congregations. With the account given of the two in Antigonish county, one at South River and the other at Lochaber, no fault can be found save that it is rather meagre for want of fuller information. Having been present at the opening of both, and deeply interested in the whole proceedings and in the prosperity of the people, I will, with your permission, furnish some additional particulars.

Both buildings are large, of the same size, built on well selected sites fronting on beautiful lakes, and both are ornamented with lofty and finely proportioned spires. Mr. Grant, the architect, is from New Glasgow, and has faithfully fulfilled his contract for £2000. The general finish, painting, pulpit, seating and heating are superior to what is usually seen in the country, and equal to the best of our city churches.

OPENING OF KING'S CHURCH.

The day appointed for the opening of the Goshen and South River Church, now called "King's Church" in honour of our good Professor, was the 2nd day of February. The day was bitterly cold, yet all seemed to find their way to the place of worship. The aged and the young were there. Not a few were there who have seen more than fourscore winters, such as Messrs. Forbes, Grant and McKimmon, men who I trust will soon be worshippers where no temple is seen—these with many others assembled to join in the hallowed services of the day.

Rev. D. B. Blair, after devotional services, addressed them in the Gaelic from the words in Acts vii. 47: "But Solomon built him an house," and Mr. Ross, of Pictou, followed in a short address in the same language. Mr. Blair's sermon was well received and worthy of the occasion, the speaker having full command equally of his subject and of the audience. The Gaelic, when used by a speaker so well versed in it, and so earnest in using it for the glory of the Master as Mr. Blair, can-