

have not already become subscribers to the "Record," and if you think it desirable that an agency should be established here I will be happy to undertake it. I may mention that the people of Tabusintac have given many proofs, since my arrival amongst them, of their warm attachment to the Church of their fathers, and of the high value they put on Gospel Ordinances—as well as of their sincere desire by every possible means to "strengthen the hands and encourage the heart" of their minister. During last summer they repaired the church and manse at an expense of above £100 currency and they are now engaged in providing fences for a garden, and for the grounds adjacent, and in making preparations for the erection of a suitable barn and stable as soon as that will be practicable."

Report of St. Andrew's Church Ladies' Benevolent Society, for 1857.

It is again presenting you with the usual Annual Report, your Committee would cherish the hope that the members, supporters and friends of this Benevolent Society are still alive to the claims of the poor and needy, and that the exercise of their continued benevolence on behalf of such, will not be withheld. Your Committee have endeavored to appropriate the Funds committed to their charge last year, for the relief of those for whose behalf they were intended—principally for the sick and for the aged poor. They would venture to cherish the hope that the means of relief entrusted to them for distribution, have been applied judiciously, with due economy and strict impartiality. And now, in again appealing for renewed means for relieving the destitute, feeding the hungry, and clothing the naked, your Committee are well aware that it may be urged "That charity applied under the auspices of benevolent societies or by individuals, is now unnecessary, since there is a legal provision provided for the poor, and fenced by law." In answer we would say, that relief by compulsory measures, and administered by corporate bodies, and extended by legislative enactments, is, from these very circumstances, but generally adapted to cases of distress and want. In making such a remark, your Committee would not wish to convey a wrong impression on this subject. Relief by means of legal provision, is, no doubt, suited to the general purpose intended, and therefore demands due support; but, from its very nature, it will be ill adapted to the precise circumstances of many cases of destitution. It will not reach many of those minute and delicate instances of distress which often meet the eye, and appeal to the heart, but oftener, perhaps, pine unseen by a brother's eye, unrelieved by a brother's hand, uncheered by human sympathy, and "Weeping the more because they weep in vain," silently yield to sorrow and despair.

In this Society—for carrying out the objects of which, your pecuniary aid is from time to time solicited—no relief is given to any one, till the real necessity of the case brought under notice is known. By adhering to their plan of personally visiting the objects of distress in their own abodes—by inspecting as well as by relieving—your Committee trust they are able to discriminate between real and pretended want. In this way, too, the relief afforded has not been denuded of that tenderness which ought to exist between benefactors and the recipients of their bounty. We have endeavored to impress them with thankfulness to God, "The Giver of all good and perfect gifts," and that it is because of the graces and virtues of the Gospel of Peace and Good Will, that others are found interested in them; that the alms given are not the results of cold calculation, but the results of the Divine maxims of the Bible. In this way the poor and destitute have the consolation of being acknowledged as brethren—shareers of the same nature, and children of one Great Parent; they

will thus see that they are objects of attention, and that they do not suffer and die unnoticed and unpitied by the influential and opulent.

Your Committee, in the execution of the office which they have endeavored to discharge, have always given such advice and counsel to those whom they thought proper to relieve, as their condition and necessities seemed to require. And where and when it appeared called for, they have pointed out the duty of seeking proper employment, and reminded them of the words of Scripture, "That if any would not work, neither should he eat." Thus your Committee have every reason to believe that the means of relief afforded by the liberality of your friends and supporters, have not been applied in vain; and in some instances at least, the hope may be indulged that industry has been stimulated, honesty encouraged, and frugality fostered.

It will be at once observed that this Society's operation is on a small scale, and its sphere of usefulness necessarily limited; yet, "despite not the day of small things." The vast nation is made up of individuals—the great river is swelled by tributary streams—and so, also, every exertion and exercise of benevolence tends to deepen the great channel, to widen its range, and to embrace the vast brotherhood of mankind. Let us, then, awaken to truth and duty. If the mild and benevolent spirit of the Gospel have a seat in the heart, it will not remain concentrative there, but it will be expansive. As surely as the sinner converted feels the power of that glorious "Liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free," so surely does it flow forth in love and kindness to all, especially to those "who are of the household of faith." For the exercise of our virtue in this respect, God has left amongst us the poor, who are never to "cease out of the land." In the Inspired Word He has often expressed Himself as especially remembering the poor and needy. He has unfolded the duty of the rich toward them, and has taught us that "To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction," is a mark of "pure and undefiled religion." The Divine Saviour in the days of His flesh, went about doing good.

"He glowed with social tenderness,
And felt for all mankind."

And shall His followers have none of His spirit? True, the weakness of humanity will not allow us to keep pace with such an example, but who can doubt that the more we "love the brethren," the more we have of the mind of Christ?

And now, in submitting this Annual Report, renewing their appeal to the liberality of their supporters, and pursuing their labors, your Committee would desire to cherish the sentiments of the Psalmist, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh in vain."

As will appear from the account annexed, the Committee, during the past year, have expended for groceries, £7 13s. 3d., fuel, £8 12s. 6d. The relief in cash has been given at different times and in small amounts, amounting to £2.

Mrs. Thompson, *Pres.*; Mrs. Forsyth, *Treas.*; Mrs. T. Forrester, *Secretary*. Committee—Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. A. Keith, Mrs. A. McLeod, Mrs. Hays, Mrs. Downe, Mrs. Calder, Mrs. McKenzie, Mrs. McLean, Misses Burkett, Mitchell and Thompson.

St. John's Church, Moncton, N. B.

The friends of the Church of Scotland throughout the Province and elsewhere, as well as the members of other denominations, who kindly lent their assistance towards the erection of the above edifice, will be pleased

to learn that it is now finished and ready for occupation.

If we may be allowed to offer an opinion as to the situation, style, workmanship, and finish of this church we would say that in every one of these particulars it is a highly creditable affair to all parties concerned; and we hope it may long remain as a standing memorial to the exertions of those who have been instrumental in having it built, as well as a rallying point around which the friends of Presbyterianism in this section of the country may in future, convene, as our forefathers did in distant lands, to hear the doctrines of the New Testament expounded in a manner which they believed to be evangelical. The dimensions of the church are 60 feet long by 40 in width. There are 56 very comfortable pews capable of containing 300 people; the reading desk is a neat little structure, painted mahogany, with steps on each side painted black marble, the whole giving a good effect to the eye and making a fine contrast with the painting of the pews, which is a dark drab with black walnut tops and side arms.

The framing and outside work were done by Mr. George McKenzie; the interior by Messrs. Knread and Tuttle; the painting by Mr. R. McLellan. The cost we believe will be between £1000 and £1100.—*Westmorland Times*.

Opening of St. John's Church.

Last Sabbath having been appointed for the opening of the above place of worship, the services were held at the usual hours. Some time before 11 A. M. the church was filled to completion, so that when the Rev. W. Donald (of St. John), and the Rev. Wm. Murray, pastor of the congregation, took their seats in the reading desk, it might be said that the whole of the available space was fully occupied. The exercises were commenced by singing the 100th Psalm. Mr. Murray conducted the preliminaries, and Mr. Donald preached an able and appropriate discourse from the 5th Psalm 1st verse. A collection was made to assist in defraying the expenses in finishing the church, when Mr. Donald concluded the morning service.

In the afternoon the church was again filled as before, and the services conducted as in the forenoon. Mr. Donald preached from Matthew 5 ch. 6 v.; and we believe we are warranted in saying that the discourse upon this occasion was one of the ablest ever delivered in this part of the country. The anthem selected for the morning was "I have set Watchmen upon thy walls;" that for the afternoon, "This is my rest for ever." Perhaps we may be excused from offering an opinion as to the merits of the few amateurs who conducted the music, for, having been one of the number, we willingly leave others to form their own conclusions. On Monday morning