

From the *H. and F. Miss. Record* for Oct. we extract the following remarks introductory to the publication of the details alluded to; and it affords us satisfaction thereafter to present our readers with some additional intelligence of the further progress of the Deputation:

The readers of the *Record* have already been informed that the Colonial Committee have sent their third Deputation to visit the congregations in connexion with the Church of Scotland in the Lower Provinces of British North America. The Deputation consists of the Rev. Dr. Ritchie of Longforgan, and Mr. Sutherland of Dingwall.

The object of this Deputation is neither to collect information for the Church at Home, nor to give information to the Church Abroad; for both Churches are now sufficiently acquainted with each other's condition and prospects. Its sole object is to preach the Gospel for three months and to minister the sacraments to our vacant and desolate congregations in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and, if possible, also in New Brunswick. Are our readers really aware of the circumstances of our adherents in those districts? Have they fully taken in their spiritual necessities, and the responsibility of the Church in reference to them? Let us state a few facts.

The district of *Pictou* is reached in a single day from Halifax, where the steamer first touches the American shore. In and around this district alone there are in round numbers about ten churches and congregations, and as many thousand souls, in connexion with the Church of Scotland. How many ministers have we to officiate regularly among these?—Two! In *Prince Edward's Island*, separated from Pictou by a channel of about fifty miles, we have four churches, and a large body of adherents. How many ministers have we there?—Not one! In *New Brunswick* we have also four or five vacant churches. Now this miserable state of things has existed for nearly ten years. During all this time our firmest friends in these Colonies have plied the Committee with petitions for ministers, bonds for their stipends, remonstrances against our apparent supineness, and pleadings for that aid, which, unless granted by the Church of Scotland, they would be compelled to ask from some other Church. What could the Committee do? *Five missionaries*, they rejoiced to know, would be labouring, please God, in those districts during the coming winter. But could nothing be done in the meantime to supply the destitution, manifest the good-will and sympathy of the Church, and cheer the hearts of our suffering and most patient friends? The Deputation was suggested, and cheerfully granted by the Committee. Men more fit in every respect for the work could not be found. They sailed in July; and, after receiving a hearty welcome at Halifax, they immediately commenced their labours. These have been most precious to the people, and heart-stirring to the deputies themselves. One thing is quite certain, that had not the Church adopted some such means to aid the congregations Abroad, the probability, if not the certainty, was, that, disgusted with our indifference, numbers of them would in a body have joined other Churches. Who would have blamed them? As it is, they are deeply thankful for our care of them, and can now hold on till the missionaries arrive in December.

(From the *Gleaner*, Chatham, Miramichi, of September 25.)

#### DEPUTATION FROM THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

It was announced in last week's *Gleaner*, that the Rev. Mr. Sutherland, one of the Deputation from the Church of Scotland, had reached Chatham on the afternoon of Friday the 24th, having preached in Richilucto on the preceding evening. On Saturday he went to Black River, and, after visiting several of the settlers there, preached both in English and Gaelic. On Sabbath he de-

livered most eloquent and impressive discourses at Newcastle in the forenoon, and Chatham in the afternoon. The illness of his respected Colleague, the Rev. Dr. Ritchie, having thrown a greater share of labour on Mr. Sutherland in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island than would otherwise have been requisite, necessarily shortened the time of his stay in Miramichi.

On Monday morning, previous to his departure by the Mail for Fredericton, an Address was delivered to him in St. Andrew's Church, Chatham; and, while the Courier was exchanging mails at the Newcastle Post Office, he was driven up to the Manse, where a few of the Elders and Trustees of St. James's Church waited upon him, and presented an Address, which was accompanied with a small contribution to the Funds of the General Assembly's Colonial Committee, as an expression of gratitude for their kindness in sending out Deputations to these Provinces.

We give below, in the order they were presented, the two Addresses, and the Replies of the Reverend Gentleman:—

#### ADDRESS OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

To the Rev. William Sutherland, a Member of the Deputation from the Church of Scotland to the British North American Provinces.

Reverend Sir,—

We, the undersigned, for ourselves, and in behalf of the Elders, Trustees and Congregation of Saint Andrew's Church, Chatham, beg leave to offer you a hearty and sincere welcome, as one of the Deputation from the loved Church of our fathers, and to express our heartfelt gratitude for this fresh expression of our Church's solicitude for the spiritual welfare of her expatriated children in these Colonies.

Warmly attached to the venerable Church of Scotland, within whose pale most of us have been brought up, we have witnessed her recent prosperity with no ordinary delight. We have seen how that the good "hand of our God" has been peculiarly upon her, ever since the sorrowful hour when so many of her sons saw fit to separate from her, and that an unseen Helper has been enabling her to put on anew "her beautiful garments," and appear, as of old, Scotland's chiefest glory.

Situated at so great a distance from the Parent Church, and thinly populated as these Provinces are, it were no great wonder though a lack of Clergymen were experienced in many parts. If it had not been, however, for the Secession of 1843, which called away so many of our Ministers to larger and more lucrative fields of usefulness, the circumstances of the Church in these Colonies would be widely different, and her prospects more promising.

The hearts of those congregations, however, which have long been deprived of Gospel ordinances, have been wonderfully sustained, and their hopes, that their "cry for help" would ultimately be answered, have been wonderfully animated, by the unremitting exertions of the Parent Church to fill up the "waste places of our Zion" as speedily as possible; and this circumstance seems to have led not a few of them to cling to her even with greater fondness than during the days of her greatest prosperity.

Reverend Sir, we fully appreciate the sacrifices made by yourself, your Reverend and distinguished colleague, by your families and congregations, during your absence; and we respectfully tender the expression of our warmest acknowledgements, requesting that you will be pleased to communicate our sentiments to those parties respectively.

And now, Dear Sir, we bid you affectionately farewell, praying that during your journeyings through this wilderness land you may be preserved from every danger; and, when your "labour of love" in America has been completed, may you have a safe and speedy passage across the Atlantic, and ultimately enjoy a happy meeting with your family and friends in the land of your nativity.

Signed on behalf of the Congregation.

WM. STEWART,  
Minister of St. Andrew's Church  
JOHN MACKIE,  
JOHN MACDOUGALL,  
ALEXANDER FENTON,  
ALEX. McLELLAN,  
ALEX. LOUDOUN,  
GEO. JOHNSTON,  
JAMES CAIE,

Chatham, 20th September, 1852.

REPLY.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave most gratefully to acknowledge this mark of your kindness, and I am truly gratified that you regard our mission as a proof of the solicitude of the Church of Scotland for the spiritual welfare of her children in this Colony.

I have every confidence in the deep sincerity of your expression of warm attachment to the Church of your Fathers. In all my journeyings in this country I have found the same sentiments prevailing among the great majority of our countrymen. They are fondly attached to the Church of Scotland. Their earliest and their holiest associations are connected with it. The spiritual privations to which they have been subjected have taught them still more to prize that Institution through which the ordinances of the Gospel are freely and fully dispensed in their Native Land.

You refer with satisfaction to the growing prosperity of the Church at Home. We have indeed much cause of thankfulness to her Great Head for the favour shown to our Zion in the trial through which she was made to pass. You will rejoice to learn that her several Schemes for extending the Redeemer's Kingdom are now prosecuted with as much efficiency as at any past time in her history; and that she is earnestly and successfully engaged, at Home and Abroad, in diffusing that Spiritual Kingdom which is "not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

It is with very painful anxiety that the Church has regarded the spiritual destitution which has for a long time prevailed in this part of the Vineyard. The demands at Home have hitherto been very urgent in consequence of the vacancies caused by the late Secession. These, however, have now been nearly all filled up, and we may reasonably expect that a supply of faithful Ministers will soon be ready to enter on the many interesting fields of labour in this country. The harvest truly is great and the labourers are few. Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He would send labourers into His Vineyard.

I beg to thank you for your kind allusion to our families and flocks. I shall gladly convey to my much esteemed colleague the expression of your sympathy and regard. I can assure you that we shall always look back on our engagement on this mission with peculiar pleasure; and we have most reverently and most thankfully to acknowledge that the good hand of our God has been upon us, and that "hitherto the Lord has been our helper."

Farewell; and may the God of our Fathers bless and prosper you.

WILLIAM SUTHERLAND.

#### ADDRESS OF ST. JAMES'S CHURCH

To the Reverend William Sutherland.  
Reverend Sir,

We, the Minister, Elders and Trustees of St. James's Church, Newcastle, Miramichi, beg leave to express our pleasure at seeing you amongst us as one of a Deputation sent by the Church of our Fathers to preach the Gospel and dispense the holy ordinances of our Religion among such congregations in the Lower Provinces as have been for a length of time deprived of the benefits of a settled Ministry. We rejoice at your visits to this country as a substantial proof of the interest which the Church of Scotland is taking in the spiritual welfare of those who have left the home of their fathers to settle in this distant land.