

for this meeting. The several ministers in the town were present, and took a part in the proceedings, and in every way but one our meeting was a perfect success. But our collection was completely balked, as our worthy chairman and esteemed friend departed from the programme. However, it was only a mistake, and after all I think we should not estimate missionary meetings by the few dollars contributed, but rather by the interest awakened or increased in the work.

The day following I went to River John, and on Friday to Truro. On Saturday, 22d October, Mr. Smith drove me to Maitland, to Mr. Currie's, who gave me some valuable instruction in my studies. That evening I addressed the Young Men's Christian Association in Maitland Village, and the Sabbath School on Sabbath morning. At 12 o'clock I addressed Mr. Currie's congregation in Maitland, and a branch of it in the afternoon at the Five Mile River. On Tuesday evening I addressed a meeting of the Bible Society, and on Thursday went on to New Glasgow, and that evening lectured to a full meeting in Rev. Mr. Pollok's Church, and received a collection of \$25.

The same night I went down to Pictou, and the next day came on to Halifax, to remain, I trust, during the winter, in order to qualify myself, by the study of medicine and theology, to occupy a more important and useful position in the New Hebrides Mission. Hitherto I have been making myself generally useful in the mission cause, but now I must devote my time to diligent study for the next six months. The collections which I have received this summer at the close of my lectures amount in all to \$144.55. Since I came home in June 1869, I have addressed over two hundred meetings, and I do not remember of ever holding a meeting but by request, and from all, and in every place, I have ever received uniform kindness. True, some ask questions about the natives at times, when I feel more like sleeping and giving rest to my vocal organs, but I must remember these matters are new to them, and also interesting. Hence I believe I have always given the information at all times asked for.

I need not say that the friends of the mission would do well to commence, if they have not done so, to make ready articles of clothing for the natives. Don't have much made up into garments; let much of it be unmade. Nova Scotia homespun of any colour under the sun, undressed, is admirable; but white for the men, and brown, or plum colour, for the women, is best if it can be had; if not, any other colour you like, though it be like white without color. For pity sake, don't send knitting needles, stocking yarn, bell toppers, (*i. e.* beaver hats,) or fishermen's boots, for they are worse than useless, dear friends. However, I need not throw out this hint to you, for better mission goods or more suitable than those you sent by Mr. Goodwill I never saw.

In much haste, yours ever,

Oxford House, Halifax, Oct., 1870.

HUGH A. ROBERTSON.

I now beg to close by promising a new Hebridean Sketch in my next, and by mentioning a very few of the articles most useful for the natives in the shape of clothing:—For the men: a white or grey Nova Scotia flannel, *i. e.*, homespun kilt; a check cotton shirt, and a common chip or straw hat. For the women: a cotton skirt, a jacket with short sleeves, and a hat. Then for general use, you require hatchets, knives, fishing hooks, saws, hammers, &c., &c.

Yours very truly,

Halifax, Nov. 29th.

HUGH A. ROBERTSON.

### VACANCIES IN THE PRESBYTERY OF ST. JOHN.

It has been more than once suggested that a short account of our vacancies should appear in the *Record*, in order that all who are interested in the work of the church may know how sadly in need of faithful workers we are at present in this corner of the Master's Vineyard. A statement of the vacant charges in