

Mr. J. Henry Chase, student in Theology, was examined with a view to admission to the Hall for the second year. His examination was sustained. The Presbytery adjourned to meet on the evening of 17th October in the College Hall.

The Presbytery met again on Wednesday evening, the 17th October, in the College Hall. There were present, Revs. Dr. King, P. G. McGregor, A. Stuart, Professor McKnight, ministers; and Dr. Forrest, D. Blackwood and R. Murray, elders.—After sermon by Rev. Dr. King, the call to Rev. John Forrest was read, and was subscribed in the presence of the Presbytery by 71 members and adherents of the congregation, 58 being communicants. The Presbytery agreed unanimously to sustain the call, which is to be forwarded to Mr. Forrest. An application from South Cornwallis congregation for aid in raising their pastor's salary was read, and in consideration of the small number of members of Presbytery present, was reserved for a future meeting. The Presbytery adjourned to meet again in the College Hall on the third Wednesday of November, at 11 a.m.

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met in the Rev. Mr. Blair's church, Barney's River, on the 1st October, for the purpose of visiting that section of his congregation, and was constituted by Rev. Mr. Walker, *pro tem.* There were present besides the moderator, the Revs. A. P. Miller, D. B. Blair, J. McKinnon, K. J. Grant, C. B. Pitblado, John Sutherland, A. M'L. Sinclair, and Alexr. Robertson, elder.

The formula of questions put to the minister, elders, session and financial managers was most satisfactorily answered. It appeared from the searching investigation entered into, that this section of the congregation is in a very prosperous condition.—The minister is instant in season and out of season—not sparing himself in any respect in order to promote the spiritual and eternal welfare of his people. The elders are diligent, faithful and conscientious co-workers with him. They carefully watch over the congregation and give considerable attention to prayer meetings and Sabbath schools. Marked progress has been made in financial affairs. Besides manifesting an average degree of liberality in behalf of the church, they have of their own accord steadily increased their minister's stipend.—They began by paying him as their share £40 a year. Last year they paid him £64, and in compliance with the Presbytery's request there are good grounds to believe, that in future they will pay not less than £80. This sum they are as able to pay now, and more so, than they were the £40

at the commencement. By thus increasing their minister's stipend they give him tangible evidence, that while he is constantly and faithfully labouring to promote their eternal welfare, they are not unmindful of his temporal comforts, and they present other congregations an example worthy of imitation.

The ministers of this church have hitherto been kept by their congregations too much at the point of extreme necessity. While, in the rapid improvement manifested in every industrial department of life, men with inferior talents and far less acquirements have been amassing wealth and surrounding themselves and families with all the comforts and enjoyments of life—the ministers of our church with scarcely an exception have been compelled to drag out a beggarly existence. Their families are not recognized by their inferiors in society except patronisingly, just because their outward appearance does not correspond with their social position. The evident result of all this is threatened danger to the church. The source of ministerial supply is in danger of being exhausted. The number of our divinity halls is largely decreasing.—Young men of talent, educational refinement and piety, are unwilling to submit to the grinding poverty and anxiety for the necessities of life, to which they see the largest proportion of our ministers subjected, and they turn aside to other occupations.—If this state of things be permitted, the gospel ministry will sink, "priests will be made of the vilest of the people," rude and half educated men will fill our pulpits, and the glory of an educated ministry will depart from our church. There is then an urgent necessity that the stipends of our ministers be raised to an amount sufficient to secure for them comforts and conveniences corresponding to their social position. This is but reasonable and right.

The Presbytery met the next day in James' church, New Glasgow, and was constituted by the Rev. G. Walker, moderator, *pro tem.* There were present besides the moderator, the Revs. David Roy, G. Patterson, James Thompson, J. McKinnon, and Alexr. M'L. Sinclair; and Messrs. Donald Ross and James Arthur, ruling elders.

The Rev. P. G. McGregor being present was invited to correspond.

Mr. John McKenzie, student, Green Hill, applicant for the McKenzie Bursary, being present, and furnished with satisfactory certificate of moral character, was examined as to his motives in devoting himself to the gospel ministry, and in his literary acquirements, and granted a Bursary for this year.

The Rev. Alex. Sutherland reported that he had, on the 25th ult., in Earltown con-