

On Thursday, the 2nd Oct., the new Presbyterian Church at New Langholm, Cascumpec, P. E. I., took fire about 12 o'clock, the carpenters and other workmen being on the spot at the time, but so rapid was the conflagration, that not even the Bible which was placed in the pulpit for Divine Service on the following Sunday, could be saved. As there was no insurance effected, and having cost £400 to £500, it is a severe loss to the settlement, besides the disappointment. Mr Henderson, the contractor, is a severe loser, having lost all his tools in the building.

We sincerely sympathize with the congregation of Cascumpec and their young pastor in this trial. We are happy to learn that though to some degree "cast down," they are not disheartened by it, and are taking active measures for the erection of another place of worship.—We trust that the other portions of the Church will assist them in the work, and thus illustrate the words of inspiration, "Whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it."

One word as to the cause of this event. It is supposed that it originated from some persons smoking. Surely not without cause did our Synod warn its ministers and members against such a practice.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY, WEST RIVER, PICTOU.—The Annual Meeting of this Society was held on the 11th inst., when the usual business of the Society was transacted. Very little, however, has been done during the past year in furtherance of the objects of the Society, and its efficiency appears to have been gradually declining for several years.—This circumstance was considered to be chiefly the result of the want of more systematic arrangements in carrying out the objects of the Society, and of insufficient information throughout the Church respecting its operations and design.—The members of the Society were, therefore, impressed with the necessity of adopting a more comprehensive and efficient scheme than heretofore, which might be productive of more desirable results. Taking also into serious consideration that, as the missionary operations of the Church are becoming greatly extended, both at home and abroad, additional funds will be required in or-

der to enable the Church effectually to carry out her schemes, they felt that their duty to the great Head of the Church required them to put forth vigorous efforts for the purpose of augmenting the funds referred to, and also of lending their humble services in awakening among the people a greater interest in missionary enterprises. In adopting such a course they are only following the example of the students of the parent Church in Scotland, almost all of whom hold missionary meetings with good effects both to themselves and to the people, by exciting an interest in missionary schemes and collecting funds. Some possibly may be disposed to think that the people in connection with the Presbyterian Church in this Province are already contributing liberally for missionary purposes, and that there is danger of enthusiasm on the subject; but no apprehension need be felt in this respect, while many of the human family are regardless of their eternal interests, and great numbers of them are entirely ignorant of the truth as it is in Jesus.

From such considerations the members of the Society unanimously resolved to adopt the following plan for the ensuing year; viz., that each individual visit the respective congregations annexed to his name for the purpose of delivering addresses on missionary subjects, and receiving contributions in aid of the missionary schemes of the Church; also with the view of awakening a greater interest in those important objects, always, however, co-operating with the pastors of the several congregations.—Mr Daniel Fraser,—the congregations of Mabou, Antigonishe, and Merigomish;—Mr Isaac Patterson,—those of Pictou, Tatamagouche, River John, New Annan, and Primitive Church, New Glasgow;—Mr Samuel F. Johnston,—those of Parsboro, Economy, Lower Londonderry, and Upper Londonderry;—Mr Thomas Sedgewick,—those of Musquodoboit, Shubenacadie, Nine Mile River, and James' Church, New Glasgow;—Mr James Murray,—those of Halifax, Truro, Onslow, Stewiacke, and Green Hill;—Mr John D. McGilvray,—those of West River, and East and West Branches, East River. The other congregations to be visited, if practicable. Mr Robert Laird,—those of Prince Edward Island, as far as practicable.

ROBERT LAIRD, Secretary.