

praise and the pronouncing of the Apostolic Benediction.

A fair congregation assembled, and continued to the end deeply interested in the solemn services of the day. The newly inducted pastor was introduced to the people of the congregation, by whom, as they retired, he was in the usual manner most cordially welcomed.

D. McMILLAN, *Clerk, pro. tem.*

THE PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

The Presbytery of Halifax met August 20th at Nine Mile River, for the visitation of the congregation of Nine Mile River and Elmsdale. After sermon by Mr. JACK, the usual questions were addressed to the office-bearers and managers of the congregation, and the information elicited, was, on the whole, such as to satisfy the Presbytery that the Pastor is doing his work faithfully, and that it is fairly well supported by the Elders and by the people generally. The Presbytery was pleased to hear that the new church that has recently been opened, and that is comfortable and commodious, is almost free of debt. The congregation has now two very comfortable churches, and is giving a salary of \$700 to its minister. It is also contributing liberally, for its means, to the missionary and Educational work.

But the Presbytery found it lacking in one thing—a manse or residence for the Pastor. That is imperatively needed, and the congregation of Nine Mile River and Elmsdale must bend their energies towards its erection at once. A Subscription list was started in the presence of the Presbytery, and it only needs that the beginning then made be followed up promptly and vigorously to provide a manse that will be alike creditable to the congregation and comfortable for the Pastor and his family.

A very unanimous and cordial call to Mr. G. S. Allen, from the congregation of West Cornwallis was sustained and ordered to be forwarded at once. The Presbytery earnestly hope that Mr. Allen may see his way clear to accept the call extended towards him. The prospects of West Cornwallis are very encouraging.

The call from Lawrence town and Cow Bay to Rev. T. H. Murray of Kempton was set aside. His delayed answer was accepted as a declination.

Arrangements were made for visiting congregations requiring supplement. All

concerned are hereby notified, that unless such congregations supply the information asked for by the committee on Augmentation of Stipends before the 1st, of October they will incur the risk of losing the advantage of the Augmentation Scheme.

The next meeting of the Presbytery to be in St. Matthews Church, Halifax, Sept. 9th., at 10 o'clock, a. m.

ALLAN SIMPSON, *Clerk.*

PRAYING FOR WHAT WE DO NOT EXPECT.

I happened once to be staying with a gentleman—a long way from here—and a very religious kind of a man he was. In the morning he began the day with a long prayer that he might be kept from sin, and might have a Christlike spirit, and the mind that was also in Jesus; and that we might have the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost given unto us. A good prayer it was, and I thought, "What a good kind of a man you must be!" But about an hour after I happened to be along the farm, and I heard him hallooing, and scolding, and going on finding fault with everybody and every thing. And when I came into the house, with him he began again. Nothing was right, and he was so impatient and so quick-tempered.

"'Tis very provoking to be annoyed in this way, Daniel. I don't know what servants in these times are good for but to worry and vex one with their idle, slovenly ways!"

I did not say any thing for a minute or two. And then I said, "You must be very much disappointed, sir?"

"How so, Daniel—disappointed?"

"I thought you were expecting to receive a very valuable present this morning, sir, and I see it hasn't come."

"Present, Daniel?"—and he scratched his head, as much as to say, "What can the man be talking about?"

"I certainly heard you talk about it, sir," I said coolly.

"Heard me speak of a valuable present! Why, Daniel you must be dreaming. I've never thought of such a thing."

"Perhaps not, sir; but you've talked about it; and I hoped it would come whilst I was here, for I would dearly love to see it."

He was getting angry with me now, so I thought I would explain.