

Address to the Rev. Wm. Murray, late of Dalhousie, N. B.

PREVIOUS to returning to Scotland, the Rev. Wm. Murray received the following address from the members of his congregation at Dalhousie, N. B., presented in their name by a committee chosen for that purpose, consisting of Dugald Stewart, Esq., and three other gentlemen:—

DALHOUSIE, Sept. 20, 1865.

Reverend and Dear Sir,—It affords us no ordinary degree of pleasure, although deeply mingled with regret at your departure, to bear testimony to the uniform feeling of respect and deep sense of the obligations we are under to you as our spiritual guide and adviser, as well as for the sympathy and devoted interest you always manifested on behalf of the congregation of St. John's Church in this place while under your pastoral care, and also for your unwearying exertions and aid in erecting a manse and out buildings; and now that the connection so amicably subsisting for the last six years and upwards is dissolved, we take this opportunity of conveying to you our best wishes for your future prosperity and happiness. That you may have a safe passage and happy meeting with your friends, but above all, that you may be long spared to be a faithful and successful servant in the vineyard of your Divine Master, and finally receive the promised reward, is the sincere prayer of,

Rev'd. and dear sir,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) J. MONTGOMERY, *Chairman*,
On behalf of the Trustees and Congregation.

REPLY.

Mr. Stewart and Gentlemen,—It is with feelings of pleasure and of gratitude that I have listened to the kindly address which you have done me the honor to present to me. There can be nothing more gratifying to a minister than to know that his feeble efforts to promote their spiritual welfare are not unappreciated by those among whom he labours, and when the tie that subsisted between them is broken, nothing that he so much desires, as that he should carry their good wishes with him. Believe me, gentlemen, those feelings of good will which you have so kindly expressed towards me, are reciprocated on my part. I have had every reason to be satisfied with the disposition which the congregation has all along evinced to provide for my support, and the handsome manner in which you have acted towards the close of our connection, fully supplementing your engagements, notwithstanding the badness of the times, and leaving a balance over for improvements—this has still further convinced me of the value you attach to religious ordinances, and of your desire to promote the comfort of those whom God may place over you in the Lord. Since the con-

nection must be dissolved, it is pleasing to think that it is on the best of terms that we part with each other, and as you are so kind as to express your best wishes for my future welfare, so, I assure you, is there nothing that will afford me so much pleasure as to hear of your prosperity as a congregation, and of your very soon having a suitable and devoted pastor to superintend your spiritual interests.
(Signed) WILLIAM MURRAY.

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To the Readers of the Record.

FOR the last seven years, no number of the *Record* has appeared without an article or articles from me. To-day an article that I had sent on for publication in the December No. has been returned to me by the Committee, on the ground that, at a meeting in Pictou on the 24th inst., they had decided that further discussion at present in the *Record* on the subject of the proposed Divinity Hall would be adverse to the interests of the Church. Against this decision I desire hereby to protest, and I appeal to the Synod at its next meeting, and for the following reasons:—

(1.) That it is neither fair, nor in accordance with use and wont, thus summarily to close a discussion which had been allowed to commence in the *Record*. Notice should always be given in a previous number, or contributors are exposed to injustice and discourtesy.

(2.) That more particularly the article in question was entitled to insertion, since, instead of being a reply to the extraordinary productions in the November *Record*, as might have been expected, it was simply the calm discussion of the practicability of a measure now being considered by a Committee of Synod, and on which it is the interest of our people to be well informed.

(3.) That whereas place has already been given in the *Record* to more than twenty-five columns in opposition to a scheme, the principle of which was unanimously affirmed by the Synod, only seven columns have appeared in answer, because I did not wish to occupy too much space in any one number. That is, the one side has been heard fully, and the other has not. Had the Committee declared that the discussion would only be permitted for a certain time, I, too, could have stated my case fully on behalf of the Synod, whose representative I at present am, in the October and November numbers.

For these and other reasons, I protest and appeal to the Synod, from whom the Committee derive their powers. I only trust that all the members of Committee who so decided, will be as ready to write for the *Record* as to stop others from writing.

(Signed) GEORGE MUNRO GRANT.

The Manse, Halifax, 27th Nov.