

The result is that the parents get ministers of other denominations to baptize their children, the families go off to other churches, or to the world and often do little good anywhere, whereas, an occasional visit from a neighboring minister of their own denomination to dispense sacraments, would keep them together, and working, until growing stronger they would become a congregation. One of the most important duties of Presbyteries is a careful, watchful, guardianship of their bounds, some of the ministers visiting them as often as practicable. Were this work faithfully done it would not make much additional work and would add greatly to the healthy growth of our church. Some Presbyteries are taking up this work in good earnest and its benefits are already seen.

Mrs. Christie, widow of the late Rev. T. M. Christie has come home to Nova Scotia with her family. Another sad home coming. More than two years ago, she came from Trinidad, with Mr. Christie in failing health, obliged to give up his work there. Prospects seemed to brighten a little as a door for work opened in the mild climate of California. But only for one short year he labored when he was again obliged to give up, and soon he passed from all earthly toil to an Eternal rest, and once more she brings home her little ones leaving the remains, dear in their very dust, under a green mound, in a valley of Baca, in a far off land.

Rev. Dr. McLeod has retired from the ministry after a service in it of fifty-two years. For several years he has been practically retired, unable through failing health to work, but had not formally done so. He was the oldest minister not on the retired list, in the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

There is but one older minister in the whole church than Rev. Dr. McCulloch, and, though half century pastorates are often found in Scotland it is probable that there is not, nor has been, in the history of the Presbyterian Church in Canada a pastorate in one congregation to equal in length that from which he has just retired, begun in Feb. 1836, ending, Oct. 1885.

## HOME MISSION BOARD.

The semi annual meeting of the Home Mission Board was held in Park Street Church school-room on the 3rd November,

Present, Messrs McMillan, Simpson, Laird, Russell, J. McKay, Dickie, Grant, Laing, and Munnis.

Catechists reports and bills were submitted from the following Presbyteries: Halifax, Truro, Miramichi, Victoria and Richmond. When the remaining Presbyteries report, action will be taken upon the different claims by the sub-committee of the Board.

Of the four mission stations in the Truro Presbytery three had borne all expenses. From Miramichi only \$100 was asked from the Home Mission Fund. In the latter Presbytery the station of Escuminac after paying the catechist in full, presented him with some \$70 or \$80. At Kouchibouguac, besides bearing all expenses some \$7 or \$8 was raised for the Schemes of the Church.

The board seeing that there would be a considerable deficit in the Home Mission Fund this year after all claims were adjudicated upon and settled, agreed that a statement should be published, showing the state of the funds. During this season four preachers have arrived from Scotland, one of whom is under call and two more are expected shortly.

The following appointments to the different Presbyteries, of the 12 preachers under the direction of the board was made for the month for December.

Miramichi.—J. H. Cameron and A. O. Brown.

St. John.—J. Witelson and D. Fiske. Sydney.—Archibald Boyd.

Lunenburg and Shelburne.—James Thompson.

Truro.—J. A. McLean.

Pictou.—Thomas Stewart.

Wallace.—T. C. Gilmour,

Halifax.—A. L. Wylie and J. M. Allan.

P. E. Island.—Roderick McLean.

On Friday, Oct. 23rd, Mr. James McClure was ordained and inducted into the pastoral charge of the congregation of Clyde River, and Barrington.