

Ireland, but most of those who came from New England were originally Presbyterian, having emigrated from the North of Ireland to Londonderry in New Hampshire. Any that were of the pure New England stock, from the entire accordance in doctrine, and the similarity in practice of the Old Puritans and Presbyterians, readily coalesced with the latter.

They were generally a pious class of people. Several had been communicants with churches of their native lands, and they had all brought with them the religious habits, particularly as to domestic training, by which Presbyterians have generally been distinguished everywhere.

The first minister who visited them was the Rev. Daniel Cock of Truro, in the summer of either 1787 or 1788, it is disputed which. He came through the woods on horseback, and preached one Sabbath day in Mr Samuel Fisher's house, where Mr Wm. Patterson now resides, on the South side of the river, about a mile above the village. He also preached at the Middle Settlement.

The next minister who visited them was the Rev. David Smith of Londonderry. He first came among them in the year 1789, and again a second time a few months later. One, if not both of these visits was in winter. On one of them he spent three weeks in the Settlement, and extended his visit to Musquodoboit, where he was the first who preached the gospel.

After Mr. Smith's visit, Mr. Cock paid them two visits. The first was in haying time of 1790 or 1791. He first preached at Mr. Robert Hamilton's where Mr. Charles Cox now resides. A little log house held all the inhabitants. His last visit was in winter, he preached at Mr. Wm. Fulton's, near where the village meeting house now stands.

The first minister, however, who supplied them regularly was the Rev. James Munroe, afterwards of Antigonish. He was originally a minister of the Kirk of Scotland, who had first gone to the United States, and thence came to this Province. On his arrival in 1792, he united with the Presbytery of Truro, then the only Presbytery in the Province, and was employed for two years

in supplying Onslow, Musquodoboit, Upper Stewiacke and Middle Stewiacke, giving one fourth of his time to each. During these two years he not only preached, but held diets of examination, holding three such meetings each year at the houses of Messrs. Samuel Tupper, Wm. Fulton and Samuel Creelman, and attended to the more private duties of the pastoral office. He also formed a session. Mr. John Johnston had been ordained as an elder in Truro. He ordained in addition Messrs. Eliakim Tupper, Samuel Tupper and Alex Stewart Esq., in Stewiacke, and Mr. Matthew Johnston, and Col Archibald in Musquodoboit. Mr. Munroe was not regularly inducted, but engaged by the year. He was himself inclined to move from place to place, and after two years of labor he went on missionary life in the Western part of the Province, and we find him next settled at Newport.

After his departure some of the people applied to Mr. (afterwards Dr.) McGregor to visit them. Most of the settlers who had come from Ireland had joined the Secession, which at an early period after the formation of the Associate Synod, had been introduced into that country. But the division which took place in the Secession in consequence of the Burgess oath, and which led to the formation of two Synods, usually known as the Burghers and Antiburghers, also extended to that country, and many of the emigrants who originally settled in Colchester had entered very keenly into the controversy between them. Several of the early settlers of the Antiburgher body in Ireland, had carried with them their party predilections to this country, so that when Dr. McGregor was settled at Pictou, they invited him to preach to them. He accordingly twice visited them in the years 1794 and 1795, as may be seen more particularly in the Memoir of him by his grandson, pp. 245, 250.

In the year 1795, the Rev Duncan Ross arrived in Pictou, and in the following season was settled at West River. From this period till the year 1800 Stewiacke received one third of his labours. This involved a great amount of physical toil. From Stewiacke to Pictou there was only a blaze to in-