

and was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Pictou, May 2, 1866. He was ordained to the ministry and inducted into the pastoral charge of the congregation of Springville and Sunny Brae, East River, Pictou, July 23, 1866. He visited Scotland, Ireland, England and France in 1869. He was translated from the East River of Pictou to Belfast in this Island, May 16, 1888. He has been for a number of years a member of the College Board, Halifax, the committee of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and the committee of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

Dr. Hector Maclean in Mull made a large MS collection of valuable Gaelic poetry about 1768. Dr. Johnson and Boswell spent a night at the doctor's house in 1773. Mary Maclean, the doctor's daughter, translated a part of the MS for them. Of Miss Maclean, Dr. Johnson spoke as follows:—"She is the most accomplished lady that I have found in the Highlands. She knows French, music and drawing, sews neatly, makes shell-work, and can milk cows, in short, she can do everything." Miss Maclean presented her father's MS collection to John Maclean, the poet, and he brought it to the woods of America with him. The poet himself made a large collection of Gaelic poetry. He travelled through the Highlands and Islands, and wrote down every valuable poem that he could find, except such as had appeared in print. His own collection he also took with him to America. Mr. Sinclair had access from his youth to the two MS collections referred to, and finally became possessor of them. The late Dr. Patterson gave him the whole of the Gaelic MS left by the Rev. James MacGregor, D. D., the first Presbyterian minister in Pictou County. The Rev. D. B. Blair, D. D., bequeathed to him the whole of his Gaelic MSS.

Mr. Alexander MacKenzie, editor of the Keltic Magazine, spent a few days with Mr. Sinclair at Springville in 1879 and published an article about him in his magazine—an article which reads like a description of some wonderful discovery made in the woods of an unexplored region. We make the following extracts: "The Rev. A. Maclean Sinclair is really most happy and comfortable in his surroundings, and all he seems to want to make him as happy as this world can, is to have at the head of his household goods a better half, congenial to his cultivated tastes, though at present his mother, a fine old lady, the daughter of the bard of Maclean of Coll, and a walking Keltic encyclopædia, keeps house for him and presides at his hospitable table. But while I envied him the beautiful situation of his manse, the happy concord of the large Highland congregation over which he presides, and the respect paid to him by everyone in the district, I envied him his magnificent and valuable library ten times more. It is almost impossible to conceive that such a rare collection of books could be met with in such an out-of-the-way place. Many people possessing good libraries know very little of their contents, but Sinclair knows every word and is a thorough master of every idea in his splendid collection; the only pity is that he does not give his vast stores of Keltic learning to his fellow country-men."

We may state that Mr. Sinclair acted on Mr. MacKenzie's friendly suggestion. He was married in 1882, and has four sons and a daughter.

Mr. Sinclair has published nine books and three booklets of