

vented from running and the mails have been stopped. I had made it a point to allot a Sunday to Acton, and, losing my opportunity, I returned by the first train that ran to Quebec,—reserving Acton for another visit.

8TH APRIL.—Since I wrote the former part of this letter, two gentlemen have arrived from England for whom I had been looking to fill appointments under the Church Society. The first of these, Mr. Robert Mitchell, arrived on the 2nd of March and staid with me till the 8th. As he was of age for Orders and supplied with all requisite testimonials, and I had marked him down for Acton, I decided to accompany him to that place, and thus it turned out very well that I had been prevented from reaching it before, since it was evidently advantageous that I should introduce him to the people, and take part, personally, in the arrangements to be made for his establishment among them. I also thought that it would be desirable to ordain him in that part of the country, and I fixed the Ordination accordingly for Sunday, the 10th March, at Richmond, within an hour, by the train, from Acton. (At Acton there is as yet no Church.) Mr. Mitchell passed a most creditable examination, conducted partly in Quebec, with the help of the Rev. Mr. Housman, and partly at Melbourne, (close to Richmond,) where he was put into the hands of the Rev. S. S. Wood—these two gentlemen being of the number of my Chaplains. Upon proceeding with him to Actonvale, which is the name given to the town laid out at the Acton copper-mines, I took him, according to invitation, to the house of Mr. Merrill, the principal proprietor of the place, in whose house I preached twice and confirmed three persons on the 11th March. Nothing could be more kind and cordial than the reception which we met with, on all hands, in Actonvale. Mr. Mitchell has become an inmate of Mr. Merrill's house. The place, as the Board must be aware, constitutes an important station for the Church, and is likely to become a great and thriving town. There was one interesting circumstance, though marked by a mortifying disappointment, in this visit to Acton. The service had been appointed in the afternoon, and a considerable number of persons had assembled accordingly, some of them having come from a distance of a good many miles. But the labouring miners (*i. e.* the Protestants among them) sent a message requesting a postponement till half-past six, that they might be enabled to attend after the close of their work. As I felt that I could not well keep the other parties waiting till then, I proceeded to the performance of service at once, and sent word to the miners that I would hold a later service expressly