

own house. It does not look well for individuals or churches to be blowing their own trumpet, and should those whom it may concern, wish to know more about the church at Speedside, Eramosa, they are referred to our last minister, Rev. Chas. Duff's statement, as published in the *CANADIAN INDEPENDENT* of July, 1867, near the bottom of the 66th page.

JAMES PETERS.

Speedside, Eramosa, May 8th, 1868.

[The above proclamation is issued by the writer, on his own responsibility, as Deacon and Secretary of the church since 1845.—Ed.]

Dr. Carruthers on Montreal in 1867.—The Revd. Dr. Carruthers, formerly of Montreal, but for over twenty years past of Portland, has communicated to the *Christian Mirror*—the Maine Congregational paper—the impressions received during a recent visit to the former city. A few extracts will be interesting to our readers. Speaking of church-extension, he says:—"The Methodists have done nobly in the way of extending their influence and multiplying their effective organization in this great emporium. With characteristic sagacity they have selected the best possible sites for their religious edifices, and have uniformly built them of such a size as to indicate the expectation of success. Within the last twenty years, they have more than tripled their churches in the city, putting to shame the miserable policy, so adverse to all experience, of seeking strength in the concentration rather than in the expansion of moral power. If there be any exception to the general rule, that 'the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light,' the exception is to be found in the ecclesiastical designs and doings of the Wesleyan community. May the God of Israel still bless and prosper them! Congregationalism is nearly where it was twenty-five years ago, there being but one organized church of that body with a mission chapel sustained by it at the opposite extremity of the city. The Congregationalists are numerous, rich, and liberal, and, though not as yet lengthening their denominational cords, are certainly strengthening their Christian stakes, so as to bear a much heavier pressure than they have hitherto borne, in the way of evangelizing the city and vicinity. It will not do to quote Montreal otherwise than as an exception to prove the rule, as illustrating the expansive power of Congregationalism. Some allowance must be made for the extensive preference given by Scotch and English immigrants for their hereditary ecclesiastical forms of Episcopal and Presbyterian government, but every Ecclesiastical organization, to preserve its purity and power and even its existence, must be aggressive. Zion church is yet, we trust, destined to see a numerous progeny of similar organizations scattered over the expanding city of Montreal."

Of the Ministerial Association, he remarks:—"It was also the writer's privilege to attend the first of the Winter Meeting of the so-called Ministerial Association comprising—Presbyterians of various churches, [Methodists,] Baptists and Congregationalists—in all, quite a phalanx of earnest laborers in the vineyard of the Lord. The Association has existed for more than a quarter of a century, and has been productive of much real good, not only in the way of cultivating fraternal feeling amongst the Ministers themselves, but also of originating and carrying forward many philanthropic enterprises which might not else have ever been projected or sustained. It was indeed delightful to renew acquaintance with a body, several of whose original members still survived, and which still held forth the principles and breathed the spirit of its founders. It has been and is a pillar of strength to the Protestant cause, and a standing proof of the essential unity that underlies the subordinate diversities of form and order. Schemes, suggestions, hints springing from some warm heart have here 'effloresced,' as Chalmers would have said, into deeds of extended and enduring usefulness. Societies that might not else have existed have here their origin, and hence drawn their chief moral power. The management of these ministerial meetings (held weekly in Montreal) demands much practical sagacity. They may degenerate into mere gossiping assemblages, and result in any thing but intellectual