

germs of the same evils are at work, that there is scope enough for Christian enterprise to eradicate the seeds of error, and unbind the hold of damning sin from the heart of Young Canada. What can achieve this glorious result, save and except, the gospel of the blessed God, faithfully brought to the perishing? In thus speaking, we are not oblivious to the fact that faithful men in the ministry, and loving co-labourers in the membership, are at work in these fields, and in the right spirit. Nevertheless, may we not feel that whereunto we have already attained is not perfection? May we not attempt greater things than these? Cities have always been centres of influence. Christianity early found a home in them. A power for good emanates to the surrounding regions, when the Lord has much people in the city. There is beauty in progress; in nature we watch with delight the growth of a flower; in a family the increase in wisdom and stature of a child, gives joy to the parental heart; in grace there can be no exception to this law, the vine of the church is to run over the wall, and bear the goodly clusters of much fruit. A healthy, vigorous, and progressive expansion, has ever been the aim of an earnest church. It is not in a dictatorial spirit that we write, and we may be, therefore, permitted to ask, whether all plans for consolidation and extension, are duly developed and wrought out? Is there not a danger of sitting under our vine and fig tree, cherishing a spiritual voluptuousness, incompatible with resemblance to Him who went about doing good? The great duty of "excavating the heathen" in our lanes and streets, cannot be altogether discharged by proxy. City Missionary operations require to be supplemented by the work of Christian Instruction Societies. We see no reason why a church, or a combination of churches, may not map out a destitute region to be thoroughly explored, canvassed and evangelized. The opening of a Mission chapel, if need be, need not be viewed as too great a work to attempt. Where a church is weak, the missionary character of its operations will probably gather round the hill of Zion, where they delight to meet; but when beauty and power are already secured, the waste places should be sought out—the vacant lots filled up. This will keep alive the missionary spirit, and present objects for prayer and effort, all the more interesting because we can say, "the work of our hands establish thou it." In every strong church, as a rule, it will be found that there are brethren, who possess gifts in conversation, in prayer and in teaching, which if laid out on the untilled soil of a neglected population, would yield an harvest of honour to themselves, and of glory to their Master. Thus would be called out, in some instances, talents fitted for permanent consecration to the work of the ministry. The recommendation by a church, of a young man to the Theological Institute, having thus had full proof of adaptation, would possess double weight. Nor is it our opinion that our young Brethren, having passed into the position of students for the sacred ministry, are to be so engrossed with books, that the study of living men, and opportunities of acting on the minds and hearts of others, by actual preaching, should be cut off from them. A good preacher cannot come forth full fledged and strong by a spontaneous growth. Speaking requires practise to note defects, to improve excellencies. The pent up desires which are recognised as a part of a call to the ministry, must not be shut down without hope of an utterance for years. We rejoice in a system that gives this scope. Churches in the surrounding regions may be fully supplied, and few calls may be made for pulpit services. This at once shows the benefit which may be secured by a well selected