

their children must relapse into barbarism! Verily there needs some enlightenment of the public mind in the country on these topics.

Proceeded another eight miles to St. Remi. This village is small but there has been erected recently a very large Parish Church. It is a remarkably massive looking structure; the year of its erection or consecration, 1840, is inscribed on its front. I am told the tax on the habitans for this church was excessively heavy—nearly a dollar and a quarter per acre, which on one hundred acres amounted to \$125. Though time was afforded in which to pay this by instalments, yet the pressure on people so poor must have been severely felt; besides which, they have to pay their annual tithe. These ecclesiastical establishments are always oppressive, whether Roman Catholic or Protestant. What a wondrous change will be effected when by the action of registration, titles are rendered secure, and British Protestants, who escape all these burthens, become owners of the land. A large majority of the Canadians are quite prepared to sell to them, whilst the farms being already cleared and under culture, are precisely adapted to those who understand nothing of the woods.

In driving towards the borders of the French country, one is soon aware of the transition from that to the English, by the removal of the houses from the road side into the midst of the farm. The British farmers usually choose some commanding position at a distance from the road on which to erect their houses and other buildings. This is observable in passing out of the one to the other, some miles before reaching Norton Creek. It became excessively cold towards evening, so that I was glad to find myself near the abode of a hospitable friend, with whom I remained till next morning. This friend occupies a very neat and comfortable stone house, there are a stone mill, and several dwelling houses besides at this spot. The stream is of size, depth and rapidity enough to furnish very efficient mill power.

March 15.—Proceeded early this morning to the part of Russeltown called the Flats. There a place of worship was to be opened in connexion with our denomination, and I had engaged to preach the sermon in the forenoon. There is an interesting narrative to give concerning this house, but at present it is only observed that it has been in course of erection for many years, but that it is now finished, only it requires painting. This forenoon a very large congregation assembled. Considering the drift of the preceding day, and the cold of this morning, I was agreeably surprised to see such an audience. The place was filled. The service was solemn and delightful—a marked and intelligent attention was given to the word of truth. After a short interval, the Revd. Mr. Muir, who with the Rev. Mr. McPherson, (ministers of the Kirk of Scotland residing each some 12 miles from this spot) was present, conducted service in the afternoon and delivered a suitable and decidedly evangelical discourse.

After these services I met the people in my official relation to them and to the Colonial Missionary Society. I found that Mr. Gibbs had completely won their esteem and affection by his enlightened and solemn discourses, as well as by the kindness of his general demeanour; and that they were unanimously very desirous indeed that he should remain amongst them. It was also happily apparent that our young brother was much encouraged in his work. My conference with them lasted for upwards of an hour; it was of a very pleasant and satisfactory nature. We spent the afternoon together at the residence of Mr. Forbes. Messrs. Muir and McPherson were very cordial in their expression of desire that the good work might go on and prosper. They are obviously right-minded and excellent men.

The erection of this place of worship on its well chosen site, has been effected at the expense of much toil, anxiety, and expense, on the part of Mrs. Forbes, of whose persevering zeal it certainly forms a striking monument. It was projected in the winter of 1827-28; and being soon there-after commenced, Mrs. Forbes visited Montreal and the United States for aid. She expended all the aid she obtained and all she could herself afford upon it, and after severe toil, she had it roofed and covered in. Thus it lay for years, Mr. Nall having left this place in 1834 or 5. During this period of stand still, the most vigorous efforts were made by a pious and estimable young minister of the Episcopal church, of high church principles, to induce an alienation of this property to the Episcopal Church. Amongst other motives urged, the promise was given that the place should be finished by a fund in possession of the Bishop, and that a clergyman *would cost them nothing*. All would not do, however; Mrs. Forbes and some others stood firmly, and very generous aid was afforded by the ministers of the Church of Scotland above mentioned, so that the place was retained, and the voluntary principle was found strong enough to finish it, only that principle acting on the consciences of the friends of the cause, must abstract from them some seventy-five pounds to pay off the debt.

Mr. Gibbs preaches here, and at the upper part of Russeltown, about 8 miles distant. The members of the church reside chiefly at the latter place. He has also a very encouraging station at English River, about 8 miles in another direction. His prospects of usefulness are highly encouraging.

Wednesday, 16th Feb.—Drove through Hemmingford. I know not what it is elsewhere, but this part of it is poor. At Scriver's Corner there is an attempt at a village; say two taverns, a blacksmith's shop, a place of worship, used sometimes by Methodists and sometimes by Episcopalians, and one or two other buildings. This is near the lines and there are some troops stationed here. I learned that a Roman Catholic Church and a Presbyterian, are being built in the neighbourhood. It would appear that