

of the settlers not as yet living on their claims, consequently to get a congregation the people have to come long distances, and in winter travelling on the plains is neither pleasant nor safe, for should a breeze spring up it is difficult to find the way even in familiar places. Then the time of the winter happened to be very stormy and cold, the congregations became small, and as we could not obtain a suitable place in which to hold the services, we closed them. As an instance of the danger of journeying on these plains after night during winter, I will tell you what happened with me one night when returning home from Poplar Heights. The snow had been drifting furiously all day, and as I left the bush to strike out across several miles of open plain, I discovered with alarm that it was impossible to see only a few yards around me. As no lights were visible from any of the houses, I knew not which way to steer. My position was an unenviable one with the prospect of being out all night, and the ther-

mometer at 35 below zero. I found my beast was not taking a direct course, so fixing my eyes on a cluster of stars which I thought must be in the direction of home, I struck out, and after driving for a long time, came to a stable and house which, strange to say, was where I wanted to go. I escaped with a few frost bites, and all were thankful that night as we praised God for such a deliverance.

The roads this winter have been very bad; every time I have left home this winter to go out to Poplar Point, I have had to either break the road through marshes where there is three feet of snow drifted up, or else run alongside the pony so as to reach my appointments in time. There is no travelling done between Woodlands and Poplar Point, neither is there between Baie St. Paul and Woodlands; but I find no difficulty in walking fifteen or twenty miles, or taking a run of eight or twelve miles, though at first I found it very hard. My health never so was good as it is now.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

From the Rev. WILLIAM SWANN, dated Fogo, Green Bay, Newfoundland, February 17th, 1876.

THIS being my first direct communication with you, a brief statement of the extent of this Mission and the status of Methodism thereon, will perhaps be not altogether unwelcome or uninteresting.

The station comprises four regular preaching places, and others which are visited occasionally.

Fogo,

where I reside, is a rocky barren place, almost entirely destitute of cultivation, and entirely dependent on the cod and seal fisheries for subsistence. The harbour, with adjacent coves contains a population of about 1,000, the majority of whom are Roman Catholics and Episcopalians; the latter numbering about 500. The

Methodist population numbers 190. We have a small church which is tolerably well attended on the Sabbath by our own people. Also a Sabbath-school attended by all our children who have access thereto; distance of residence preventing others from attendance. Our society numbers 25 members and 4 on trial.

It has not been my privilege to witness much spiritual prosperity during the years of my labor here,—and our immediate prospects, both spiritually and financially, are rather gloomy. Last year the fishery was a comparative failure, and unless seals are got this year I shall have to sustain a considerable circuit deficiency. Since its establishment, Methodism has done much to improve the morals