

To make the labors of the missionary efficient, his sphere of operation ought to be of very moderate dimensions. Two, or at most three, adjoining townships would be quite enough, and I would have him entirely independent of pecuniary support from the people of his charge. By this means he would feel perfectly at liberty in his intercourse with them, and he could all the more readily urge it upon them to contribute of their substance for the cause of Christ, seeing that he himself was not to benefit thereby in any degree. Such collections would go into a common fund, and be employed to furnish the gospel to other desolate settlers. From every such missionary sphere it is surely not unreasonable to hope that £100 pounds might be contributed annually, and thus £1000 from Scotland would reproduce a similar sum here, and the first sum of one thousand pounds, now become two, would again double itself, and might so go on enlarging. But might we not expect that Scotland would furnish an annual "augmentation of stipend?" Beginning with a £1000, we may hope that as the work extended the interest would increase, and when at length some of our missionaries should return to parishes at home, we might reasonably look for a much larger supply of both men and money as a consequence of their personal statements. At first sight, it may be thought injurious to the interests of Canada, thus to sanction the return of her missionaries; but I am persuaded it would operate in a manner quite the reverse, and I am satisfied that the Province would receive a much larger number of permanent ministers by thus inviting missionaries over on trial. This plan, while it hinders none who would come at present, opens a door to many who will not come otherwise—and the probability is that for every one who should return to Scotland, you would receive two in consequence of his representations. Have the kindness to write to me early and tell me what you think of all this, and pray state your views fully.

Believe me yours very truly,

J. D. BRYCE.

P. S. As the above observations have been confined to the *introduction* of religious knowledge into the destitute settlements of Canada, permit me here to remark the importance of having the ministry when settled, properly supported. A minister, in order to his full influence in society, ought to have a respectable income, and in this country speaking generally, not less than £200 a year. In some cases he should have more, while in a few, less might suffice.

ADDRESS

Delivered by the Reverend Henry Esson, at Montreal, on occasion of the Funeral of the late Lieutenant Weir, on Friday, the 8th December, 1837.*

MY CHRISTIAN BRETHERN,

In the contemplation of the melancholy and afflictive event which has this day spread a general and deep gloom over the whole community, it is impossible not to feel how utterly inadequate are any feeble words of mine to express the emotions which penetrate and oppress our souls.

A brave, generous and amiable young soldier has fallen a martyr to his country—has fallen by an untimely and tragical death. But yesterday, as it were, we beheld our now lamented brother in all the fulness of life, of health, of hope, looking forward, in the natural buoyancy of youthful spirit, to a length-

* The particulars of the death of this lamented young officer are thus related by Lieut. F. J. Griffin, of the 32d—the same regiment in which Lieut. Weir had served:—

"Lieut. Weir was sent by land, from Montreal to Sorel, at day-light on the morning of 22d Nov., with despatches for the officer commanding at that post, directing him to have the two companies of the 68th Regiment, under his command, in readiness to meet a force which was to be sent from Montreal by steam-barge, at two, p.m. on the 22d, under the command of Colonel Gore, to arrest some individuals at St. Charles. The roads were so bad, that Lieut. Weir, who travelled in a caleche, did not arrive at Sorel until half an hour after Colonel Gore had arrived from Montreal, and marched off with his whole force to St. Charles, via St. Denis. Finding this to be the case, Lieut. Weir hired a fresh caleche at Sorel, with a driver named La Valee, (whose deposition has since been received), and started to join the troops. There are two parallel roads to St. Denis, which converge four miles from St. Ours. By mistake, Lieut. Weir took the lower road, (the troops having marched by the upper), thus he passed beyond the troops on their line of march, without seeing them, and arrived at St. Denis, about seven, a.m. His expression of surprise at not seeing any soldiers on his arrival at the village was, I was told, the first intimation Dr. Nelson had, that any were on their march in that direction. Preparations were then made to oppose their entrance into the village of St. Denis, (where, in fact, no opposition had been expected),—the result is known. Lieut. Weir was made a prisoner, and closely pinioned. When the attack was commenced, he was ordered under a guard, consisting of Captain Jalbert, two men named Migneault, one named Lecour, and a driver, a lad, named Gustin, in Dr. Nelson's waggon, to be taken to St. Charles.—On arriving opposite Madame Nyott's house, in the outskirts of the village, the bonds with which Lieut. Weir was fastened became so painful, and his hands so much swollen therefrom, that he insisted, as much as lay in his power, on their being loosened. This irritated his brutal guardians, and he jumped out of the waggon and sought refuge under it; he was then shot twice with pistols, which took effect in his back and groin, and stabbed with a sabre through the wheels of the waggon in various parts of the body; he was then dragged from beneath the waggon, by the straps which confined his arms, and finally butchered."