

The second series of meetings I have to report were northward, and two weeks later.

*Rugby.*—Brother Gibbs and myself found ourselves at Barrie, on Tuesday morning, 31st January, where a young friend was waiting for us with a sleigh, to convey us onward. He took us on eleven miles, to the hospitable farmhouse of Joseph Thomas, Esq., where, after dinner, we were furnished with a horse and cutter to proceed the remaining nine miles, to Rugby. This is a hamlet of a few houses, on the road to Orillia, and within six miles of that village. Here we found Bro. Sanderson waiting for us at the parsonage; and, though the members are widely scattered as regards their places of residence, we had a nice meeting. Mrs. Sanderson had her cabinet organ conveyed down; and, with the help of the young folks of the Sunday school, gave some excellent appropriate pieces. Bro. Sanderson had tried to get some hymns printed in Toronto, on very large sheets, with very large type, and found that none of the offices had any single fount of type capable of doing it; so he went to work with a *penknife*, and carved out on blocks of wood, each separate letter of an alphabet of capital and lower-case "*Clarendon*" letters; and then this enterprising firm (the pastor and his wife) printed as many hymns as they wanted—and printed them well! These sheets were hung up, one by one, as the various pieces were to be sung. The chapel, enlarged in 1869, is now a very commodious house. The pastor presided, and, after a short address, called on Bro. Gibbs and myself to speak, which we did with pleasure. An exceedingly pleasant feature of the meeting was the presentation, by a little boy, in a neat written speech, of the quarterly contributions of the Sunday School, voted to the Missionary Society, and amounting to \$8 80. The presentation was responded to in suitable terms by Rev. S. T. Gibbs. Collection, \$2 90. Subscriptions yet to come.

*Oro.*—Next day we went back to Mr. Thomas, and, after tea, found our way to Bethesda Church, near by. The weather, so far, had been very mild, the night was light, and everything being favourable, we had an excellent meeting. We had again a melodeon, and the Rugby hymns, and some good singing; the same deputation, (speeches in reverse order), and everything to cheer and encourage us. The new chapel (built 1869) is as nearly as possible out of debt. It is the best ecclesiastical building north of Barrie, and exceedingly creditable to the congregation. The collection, including the contents of Miss M. A. Thomas' missionary box, \$2 85, amounted to \$9 10. Collectors to be appointed; other collections, especially for the Bible Society, having prevented an earlier gathering of subscriptions.

*Vespra.*—The next afternoon, Thursday, February 2, we proceeded with Bro. Sanderson to Vespra Union chapel, where the church meet for worship. But we had no such weather as at the previous meetings; a tremendous snow-storm was raging, and the few who came out, came mostly on foot. Mrs. Sanderson, and several members of Mr. Thomas' (her father's) household, were to follow us in a family sleigh, and bring a melodeon with them; but the drifts and storm were such, that, after going a mile or two, they turned back. There were twenty-five present; and we had a pleasant little meeting. The deputation the same. The explanations of the order and working of Churches, formed directly on the New Testament model, were listened to with deep and lively interest. Here we had the gift from Master Harry Locke and his three little brothers, of the contents of their missionary box, \$1 02,—money, not given to them by parents or visitors, but *earned* by raising chickens, and other such independent ways. Collection, in all, \$2 27. As at Bethesda, collectors to be appointed.

These churches form a wide field, and present a growing cause; but, without the fostering help of the Missionary Society, could not do the work they are doing. But there is getting to be a "region" even "beyond" this now, and extension is still wanted. Even now, Bro. Sanderson could find profitable employment for a young man, if one could be sent.

At each of these three meetings it had been intimated that I would remain