

actual suffering and starvation. One considerable family have had to live a good part of the season, therefore, on maple sugar and milk, and leeks and cow-cabage. I have had since the opening of spring to keep in bread no less than from thirty to forty persons, which I did by taking and superintending a contract for the erection of a mill, for the sake of giving employment to those who were totally unable otherwise to provide for themselves and families, while I reaped very little benefit from it. I consider this to be a part of mission work under existing circumstances. Flour is from five to six dollars per barrel, and clothing of all kinds at exorbitant prices.

"I have had several applications to go elsewhere, but while the indications of Providence remain as they now are I cannot. I dare not think of leaving, although my labours are most arduous. To be obliged to travel through the bush the distance of eleven miles, or else to row a boat that distance (which the weather will not always permit me to do) is no easy task; but as the hearts of all men are in the hands of the Lord, I must just submit to His dispensations, and plod on after the old way. I have always felt a peculiar delicacy about saying a word respecting money matters, I cannot therefore, give to either of the Committees a single hint about the matter. I can dig, but to beg I am ashamed.

"I am satisfied that I have here a most important mission, and should I leave it I know of no one who would be willing to take my place. The crops here this year are abundant, but the people will require all, and more than all, to meet their liabilities incurred during three years of scarcity bordering on famine; I cannot, therefore, anticipate anything from those for whose especial welfare I labour, and am consequently compelled to make up deficiencies, as far as possible, by working with my own hands. I hope, through the blessing of God upon these labours, I may, by-and-by, be able to get on a little more comfortably without foreign aid. At my two chief stations my congregations are good. The country is filled with settlers, and I feel happy in the reflection that a foundation is being laid that will tell upon coming generations when I have long gone to my rest. Taking the present, with the future in view, I do not think I could have selected for myself a more important mission. The Lord has blessed my labours in the conversion of souls, and among the number three of my own daughters, which is an abundant recompense for my poverty and toil. Few ministers know what it is to cultivate such a field as this, and fewer yet would care to have it to cultivate, but a stanza of a poem I just now read, termed the 'Old Man's Counsel,' is applicable—

'The back for the burden is fitted, they tell,
And faith they are right when they say it;
But each labour grows light if you stick to it well,
And a burden the more you delay it.'

"My labours this summer have been greater than on any former occasion. From Sabbath morning till Saturday night—from the dawn of morning until dark—I have known no relaxation, and I begin to feel the sad effects in feebleness of frame and depression of spirits. I feel that I am growing old too fast, and that I shall be obliged to curtail my labours in one way or other, or in a short time be worn out and useless. My chief regret is, that I shall be compelled to give less time to mission work and more to hard physical toil. Nevertheless, my trust is in God."

The last statement concerning British North America refers to the church at St. Johns, Newfoundland. It is introduced by the remark, "The following letter presents a most affecting record of the struggles, disappointments, anxieties and privations, occasionally endured by Colonial churches, arising from the removal, sickness or death of pastors; and the great value and necessity of such a society as the Colonial Missionary Society, to minister to their exigencies, and to keep up a supply of suitable pastors." We would fain hope, yet scarcely venture to believe, that this observation indicates that the committee in London are beginning to appreciate the facts