

at McPherson's, six miles from Shields' and eleven miles from Brandon, at half-past five p.m. On the next Sabbath he preached at McMillan's, twenty-two miles from Millford, at half-past ten a.m., and at Millford at four o'clock p.m.

He also visited all the families in the district once, and the greater part of them twice, reading and praying with them, distributing tracts, and speaking to them personally regarding the interests of their immortal souls, being fully persuaded that it is the duty of a missionary to preach not only in public, but also from house to house. In carrying on his work your missionary has been very much saddened at times to notice how rapidly even professing Christians become cold and indifferent regarding spiritual matters when left without a preached Gospel, and is strongly impressed with the necessity of supplying settlements, as far as possible, with the means of grace from the moment of their existence.

Mission work in this new country has many obstacles to contend against, and, in order to be successful, must be prosecuted with great tact and prudence.

Here, even amongst Presbyterians, there is the widest diversity in thought and feeling. From Scotland itself we have representatives of the Established Church, the United Presbyterian, and the Free Church, who have forgotten in some instances to leave behind them the bitter prejudices which exist in many places of the old land, and cannot understand that in this country we are all one. Then again there are a few Morrisonians who, although really Arminians in many points, yet have preferred to cast in their lot with us. Calvinistic Methodists also, from Wales, have their representatives here, and prefer our Church. Amongst the settlers from the older Provinces of Canada

there are many different phases of thought, arising from the different localities and the different circumstances in which they have been brought up. To fuse these diversities into one harmonious whole is no easy task, and demands many of the highest qualities both of heart and intellect. In addition to this there are obstacles of a local kind which retard the work to a greater or less extent.

As there are no churches yet, our meetings were often held in private houses. Sometimes the man who has the most suitable house for service is not very popular, and consequently his neighbours refuse to attend. An elderly lady excused herself from attending service because, in her opinion, preaching in a private house was a solemn burlesque on religion. Bachelors who have to do their own washing and ironing, and in consequence are not able to present as nice an appearance as they would like, often stay away on this account. In Souris City we held service in the store of Mr. Harrison, a Methodist, who generously placed it at our disposal. This proved a stumbling block to some, because they could not help looking around upon the goods and wondering what the prices were, and made this an excuse for remaining at home. Then again we have a sprinkling of sceptics, who are full of objections to the Bible.

One young man, who was brought up in the Presbyterian Church, but who spent several years in the California gold mines, where ideas of a very different character were instilled into his mind, rejected the Old Testament as an immoral book, but admitted that there were some good moral teachings in the New Testament. He thought Ham was altogether too severely punished for a very trivial offence, whereas David did not get half what he deserved, and Elisha must have been a monster when he cursed