

minister, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." He went forward in the evangelical strain in which he had begun, recommending Jesus Christ to the believing reception of the sinner, and to the increasing faith of the saint; expounding the design and use of the law, and, at the same time, holding forth the grace and glory of the gospel; urging the unconverted to strive and enter in at the strait gate and press along the narrow way which leads to everlasting life; and the believer to forget the things that are behind and reach forth to the things that are before, pressing towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus the Lord.

After a ministry of seven years from the date of his ordination at Tempo, he resigned the pastoral oversight of the congregation there, with the view of proceeding to Canada, to which he had been designated by the Presbytery of the bounds as a missionary. He left the place on the same day, 1st of May, 1849, passed through Belfast to Liverpool, from which he sailed on the 8th for New York, where he arrived on the 14th of June. On the 21st he had reached Toronto, where he officiated on the following Sabbath. From this period he was abundant in labors in his adopted country as he had been in his native land. The spiritual destitution existing around him called forth his Christian sympathies, and with devoted earnestness, he gave himself to fulfil the ministry he had received of the Lord Jesus. He had placed himself at the service of the Church in Canada, and his leading aim was to promote her interests. For a considerable period he fulfilled appointments to Norval, to Streetsville, to East Toronto, and other places till finally he was inducted at Brampton, in October 1849, where he ministered thirteen years, earnestly seeking the salvation of souls and the edifying of the Church in love, not two Sabbaths out of the pulpit from sickness till the latter part of 1862, when he was loosed from his charge by the Presbytery of Toronto. After preaching a few months in Milton, and taking charge for a short time of the grammar school in Streetsville, he removed in January, 1866, to the neighborhood of Arthur, a thriving village in the county of Wellington, to a farm he had there purchased. While here he was engaged as a missionary by the Presbytery of Guelph to preach in Arthur and Kenilworth, an adjacent station, and when the congregation became so strong that they wished to have a minister duly ordained over them and to be removed from the list of mission stations, and placed on the list of vacant congregations that they might have their proportion of supply from the probationers' roll, Mr. Holmes had work assigned him at North Luther, and other congregations in the field. Such work he was always ready to undertake, even when his health was beginning to decline, and he could no longer bear discomforts similar to those he had undergone in former years. By the supply he was able to give, stations were encouraged and fostered.

Towards the close of 1871, Mr. Holmes removed with his family from the neighborhood of Arthur to the township of Erin. As one who has consecrated himself to serve the Lord Christ, he was desirous of receiving appointments to such work as might be assigned him. He travelled frequently to North Luther, he preached his last sermon at Everton, five weeks before his death, from Rev. xx., 1-6., dwelling particularly on the last clause of verse 4th, a book in the study and exposition of which he appears to have taken special delight, and from almost every verse of which he preached in the course of his ministry. He officiated, also, in some of the neighboring congregations, proving himself to be a workman not needing to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.