

and Mr. Whitwell—performing Divine service and preaching at Dunham on his way—arrived with his family at Philipsburgh, Missisquoi Bay, St. Armand West, on a beautiful evening, the 10th October, the same year, and met with a cordial reception; the parsonage house, however, being incomplete. The people said, that having put up a house, they left the out-buildings to be erected by the minister; upon whom also fell the expense of finishing the house, together with filling up and levelling the premises. This, however, did not weigh upon his mind so much as the building up and increase of the church, and the spiritual welfare of the people. The church itself, unfortunately here, as he had found elsewhere in the Eastern Townships, was at a distance from the village—about a mile and a half—to settle the contention between two interested parties generally, without in fact, pleasing either. Still the people attended in large numbers, attracted probably by novelty, as it is said, though not with rigid truth, “new besoms sweep clean;” not only parishioners but people from surrounding districts. And as a proof that the Gospel took effect, by God’s blessing, it may be stated that during the first year, there were baptized and received into church-fellowship, nine adults, most of them heads of leading families in the village; and that at the first confirmation held by the good Bishop Stewart,—though it is but just to remark that there had been no previous *triennial* visitation, from Bishop Mountain’s continued affliction—75 persons, several of them adults, received that rite; thereby renewing their baptismal engagements; and that in the same church sometime after, 65 communicants partook, at one time, of the Lord’s Supper. To God alone be all the praise.

To render the means of grace more general, Divine service was performed regularly for some time, every Sunday afternoon, at Pigeon-hill School-house, and occasionally at others. On Sundays the house was generally well filled. Being now and then invited to perform funeral service and preach in Stanbridge, led to an application to afford the people public worship “occasionally” on the Sabbath, at the village of Bedford. Though unwilling to deprive his parishioners of their spiritual food, compassion towards those who were without a shepherd, induced the clergyman to establish fortnightly service at that village, which was continued about seven years to very good congregations, when they agreed to erect a church; and the Rev. David Robertson was removed from Matilda, U. C., to the new mission of Stanbridge, East and West.

On Saturday, the 22nd April, 1843, the spire of the parish church of St. Armand West was blown down, doing much damage to the building, which was before very ill-placed, and inadequate for the wants of the people. The rector, the Rev. R. Whitwell took advantage of this accident to urge the removal of the church to the village of Philipsburgh, where after working hard at raising the necessary funds, he had the satisfaction of seeing the present substantial and commodious edifice completed. And at this time being disabled from public duty by an attack of chronic bronchitis, he provided himself with an assistant, the Rev. W. Jones, now incumbent of Granby, and was thereby