

amongst them. Some of you, we know, feel keenly your present spiritual destitution, and even weep, when you remember the privileges which you enjoyed in the land of your fathers, when you went with the multitude to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise. But, take it not as a mockery of your sorrow, that we bid you hope for better days. The soil which many of you are now clearing, and the climate to which you have removed, teem with promises of plenty to you, and to your children. And an enlightened acquaintance with the spiritual economy of God may warrant the belief, that ere long the most forbidding moral desert shall flourish and blossom like the rose! The places in these Provinces which are most favoured as to spiritual privileges—alas, at best small and imperfect clearings, in surrounding wastes, were yet only a few years ago, without ministers and churches, and, now, through the Divine blessing, on the exertions of the settlers themselves, assisted, as in many cases they have been by the government, or the church at home, they are, what they are. Do not ye then despair of yet enjoying a stated ministration of the word and ordinances of the Gospel. Above all things, guard against becoming indifferent about them.

Ah, many on their first coming to this country, thought that all the temporal comforts which it afforded or promised them were *nothing*, because of the want of schools and churches for their children and themselves which they encountered: and yet of these, not a few have been found willing to forego the education of their children for the profits of their labour; while they have sunk into an apathy about divine things through their eager pursuit of the world, and

destitution of religious principles: so that, after the lapse of a few years, when the Gospel has come to their doors through the labours of Missionaries, or Ministers, their relish, or concern for it, have altogether vanished. We would have those of you then, who are sensible of your spiritual privations to exert yourselves to the utmost, to obtain the ministrations of the Gospel. Invite the occasional service of the Ministers who are nearest to you. Endeavour to associate yourselves in your several neighbourhoods for procuring the labours of a Missionary or stated Pastor. And where these cannot be obtained, you may do well, to meet together on the Lord's day, in a school house, or private dwelling, for prayer, and praise, and other spiritual exercises. For God will meet with you, and bless you, if you do indeed seek to know and honour him; and you will thus be in the way of keeping alive religion in your families and neighbourhoods, and of preparing also for a more abundant and effective administration of its ordinances. The infant settlements of this day, should know, that some congregations which have now acquired a *measure of vigour* and stability, had their origin in little companies that for a time, went Sabbath after Sabbath, from one log house to another, to sing and pray, and read the Bible with the exposition of its truths, by some of the worthies of our native land. If there be among you Elders, honour their office by inviting them to preside in your devotional meetings; and, if there be not, we recommend you to lay your case before the Presbytery, within whose bounds you reside, and seek their direction and assistance. They may see fit, to organize you into congregations, and ordain Elders amongst you. They may direct Missionaries to visit you, or send from