

circular I am told it was, saying that if it was not paid, all religious services among them would be suspended—a threat which was immediately executed.

THE CHURCH WAS LOCKED,

and from September till June there was no service in it, and indeed no pastoral ministrations of any kind on that island. Every reader of history knows what in past ages was the power of such an interdict, and the state of a people visited with such a suspension of religious services. But we are now living in the 19th century and measures that were so powerful in the 14th are now treated with indifference. Instead of these people being overcome with terror by the thoughts of this terrible doom, they became more determined than ever to maintain the truths in which they had been taught. And though by the order of the Bishop, the church was this summer again opened for worship, they did not feel any better reconciled to the incumbent.

Such was the state of things on my arrival. My duty seemed plain, to preach to them the simple gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in public and private, and as they were daily looking for the arrival of the Bishop, to wait the development of events. Accordingly after preaching on Sabbath evening as mentioned, I intimated preaching for the next evening, when again a number gathered who seemed interested in the word and gladly received the tracts which I distributed.

On Tuesday 26th I took boat to Grand Entry, five miles distant, where I met the *Beaver*, in which I proceeded to Grindstone. On the following day I circulated word of preaching in the school-house there on the next (Thursday) evening, but just at the time for commencing service, there arose a thunder-storm, in consequence of which the people did not assemble.

That day the Bishop of Quebec arrived unexpectedly to everybody. He had come in the Canadian government steamer, which had carried him round all his stations in Gaspé and Labrador. Some of the principal men at Grindstone were now on Bryon, where were also the leading men of Grosseisle. Arrangements had been made to give them notice as soon as word should be received of his arrival, on receipt of which they were to come over immediately. But his visit was so hurried

that with the weather they could get no word of his presence till he was gone. No inquiry was made into the state of matters, and no attempt to adjust difficulties. So far from this those who got an opportunity of speaking to him were given to understand that nothing would be done for them, and they were left more dissatisfied than ever.

TO RETURN TO MY OWN WORK,

On Friday I gave intimation of a service for Saturday evening at the school-house at Grindstone, at which a number both of English and French were present. On Sabbath 31st, as the Bishop was holding a service in the forenoon I held none at that time, but preached in the afternoon and evening and also again on Monday evening, 1st Aug. I concluded to return to Grosseisle and had sent word that, subject to all the contingencies of travelling in these regions, I would preach there on Thursday evening, the 4th. On Tuesday I received notice that there was a boat up from that quarter, which would return on Wednesday. But on that day the wind was unfavorable and I received a message that she would not go till it changed, and a little later another message that she was going but that it was expected she would be out in the Bay all night. I have in travelling been obliged to put up with inferior accommodation. But I rather murmured to

SPENDING THE NIGHT ON THE WATER,

in an open boat, loaded with herring, neither salt nor fresh but suited for lobster bait. True, we hear of the Master in his travelling spending a night in just such a situation, and if it had seemed necessary, in order to fulfil my appointment, for me to have availed myself of this mode of conveyance, I would have done so. But as there seemed every prospect of another opportunity I declined this with thanks.

A good lady undertook to find me a conveyance, and Thursday morning a young man was ready with a boat to transport me on my way. I may say here that every boy on the Magdalene Islands is able to manage a boat. Accidents are rare, but occasionally very sad ones occur. My host at Grosseisle lost two sons, aged 18 and 11, in the following painful circumstances. They had got a new boat, which they were anxious to try, and went out in somewhat of a gale. In passing points sudden squalls come from unexpected di-