

The Settlements in this Bay separated by water are so numerous and seattered too far apart to be united, too small to be constituted individual Missions, and yet too important to be neglected, that a proper system of visitation would entail more expense, labor, and suffering than can be expected in the present crippled state of the Diocese,—and without regular visits and the oversight of the Missionary, a people such as ours may be pardoned for not duly appreciating and acknowledging the Sacred Office of the Ministry. Ignorance and apathy must be removed, before faith and love can take root and flourish. The care of this world has swallowed up all thought for the next in men far wiser and better than ours, and whose position and circumstances render such conduct the less excusable.

I have been kindly received, and attentively listened to, while many wishes have been expressed for the constant and regular visits of a Clergyman. Subscriptions have been cheerfully offered for my scanty services, and as I now think of those services, I feel the reproach to the Mission, that they are not more frequent and fuller, and did I not know the utter inability of the duty being performed, the consideration would fill me with grief and shame. I have visited and held services in 25 different Settlements, Baptized 37 children, Married 8, Buried 8, and administered the Holy Communion publicly 19 times.

The Mission has suffered a great loss by the death of its former Missionary, Rev. J. G. Mountain, M.A., whose sympathy and counsel were my constant and valuable aid. His interest in the welfare (both spiritual and temporal) of his late flock, continued unabated, and promised to be of the greatest importance to them and myself. The lamented death of our dear Archdeacon was more a bereavement to me who had so often profited by his better knowledge—but by the removal of one so dear to this Church and Mission as the late Rev. J. G. Mountain, the loss and I believe the grief to them and to me has become mutual.

To both these good men I have been again and again deeply indebted, and I believe that their works and labour of love have stimulated and encouraged many of their less gifted brethren in the ministry in the trials and difficulties which beset the Missionary work. They have led the van in the Church militant and fought a goodfight, and however much we lament them we ought not to murmur that they are the first to be welcomed by the Great Captain of our Salvation, and the first to receive their Crown.

Since September the Schools have been closed. Mr. Shepperd (who has always shown himself ready for any good work,) having