

Wherever I have gone, I have received kindly treatment and hospitable entertainment, and have been helped on my way after a godly sort. In all our journeyings, Dr. Smith and myself have been preserved from accidents and sustained in strength. All has been accomplished that was hoped for—the appointments made for us have been kept—some extra work has been done, and we have come hither to the day named before we left England, and are grateful to the Hand that has led us through! Were Dr. Smith and myself both to present reports, probably they would differ much, because of the different spheres visited, and the different objects contemplated; as you have said, the one going with a *kinsman's greeting*, the other having business to transact and failures to detect, as well as loving feelings to cherish and utter. I found the *ministers*, in general, *able men*, and in more comfortable circumstances, than I expected, indeed better off, *apparently*, than many of those who in England help to provide the funds. The chapels are neat, adapted and well kept; but there seemed to be a want of vigorous life in the churches and the absence of aggressive effort. The chief characteristics of some places is feebleness, which has continued so long that the people are contented to be feeble. The *church funds* as a rule are not well maintained, yet I could not regard this as the result of inability—the plea of poverty urged by some on behalf of such churches, is disproved by many outward signs. A long habit of reliance—help taken for the support of gospel ordinances as a matter of course, and to be continued, has rendered some churches seemingly unable to exert themselves, and forgetful of the duty of those who are taught to communicate, *i.e.*, impart to him who teacheth in all good things.

I found some things wanting to be set in order. In many places the *buildings* though neat and good, need *paint*, alike to preserve and to adorn. The *land* remains unenclosed, and the house seems to lie waste. It costs but little to fence and to *plant* around a country church, but the fir tree and the pine, the maple, and the birch greatly beautify the place of God's sanctuary. I was pained to notice the want of *sheds* for horses. I could not worship God in comfort—I should be distracted and distressed in thought, if my horse was exposed to storm and heat. "The righteous man regardeth the life of his beast."

The want of missionary spirit, the contentedness of Congregationalists to be regarded as a *sect*, instead of representing the free, spiritual and aggressive life of the church, caused many pangs of regret. In some places we are weaker now than we were 20 years ago—not relatively only, but in fact; the work we have neglected to do, others have performed, and whereas I have been told, in some towns we are weak because other protestant communities are strong, I found in one such town of nearly 3000 inhabitants, one church would contain all who worship in public on Sabbath evenings—proving the need and scope for evangelistic agencies. The statement made by the Treasurer of the Colonial Missionary Society, that some of the churches have sunk into the condition of *annuitants*, which at the Annual Meeting of the British North American Mission in Toronto, awakened such strong expressions of dissent, I find to have been *fully justified*, and the surmises of neglect and selfish ease have been verified. The time had come for a change of policy, and pecuniary grants to some stations, which though long years have proved fruitless, should speedily cease.

I stated at Toronto, that the aim and controlling principle of the Colonial Missionary Society, in carrying on its operations in the British Provinces, was to originate, and not, in permanence, to sustain the Congregational