

village of only a thousand souls, there would be four or five churches of different denominations, and as many ministers. This practice diverted the power of the church from being expanded in other and more desolate fields." Fully agreeing with this statement, we are quite sure that if we had tried to establish ourselves in any place—had failed to do so, and neglected it for ten long years, we should not complain if any evangelical body stepped in and occupied the Mission; and the last thing we should think of doing, in such a case, would be to return to that place, and endeavour to prevent by interference the success of another body, which was striving to supply ordinances to people so long neglected.

Mr. McVicar, it is true, says that, although, for reasons deemed sufficient by the Presbytery, their efforts at Sherbrooke were, for ten years, suspended, they "never lost sight of this place." Very likely! But we fail to see the good which this perspective operation did to our neglected Presbyterian brethren there. We hope that we are not uncharitable, but we strongly suspect that, had we left Sherbrooke alone, Mr. McVicar and his friends would have contented themselves, up to the present time of writing, with taking bird's eye views of the place, and doing nothing more.

Mr. McVicar is, in our opinion, very much mistaken when he states, in regard to some two hundred Presbyterians in Sherbrooke, that they would not attach themselves to us even if the Canada Presbyterian Church abandoned them altogether. He will perhaps discover his error in this respect soon enough. If the Presbyterians in Sherbrooke are overflowing with gratitude to the Canada Presbyterian Church it would seem to us that they are thankful for very small mercies. It certainly is not at all clear to us that that church has taken a very fatherly care of them. Mr. McVicar states, however, that one excellent person there told him that he was ready to mortgage his farm for the support of the cause. Now we freely own that we never were able, with all our efforts,—and we may say that we have made some exertions in behalf of the Presbyterian cause,—to produce such an effect as this upon any of our adherents, either in Sherbrooke or anywhere else. Many give us liberal subscriptions, and do this freely and cheerfully, but we have never yet met with any one who was willing to mortgage his farm to raise money for us. All honour, say we, to this Sherbrooke Presbyterian. If

the Canada Presbyterian Church has many more adherents like him their success is certain, and the erection of a large church in Sherbrooke a very easy matter. It is really too bad that such adherents have been so long neglected. They are too rare in this country to be treated in such a shabby way. We certainly would treat them better. This we promise most faithfully. Meanwhile we only add that, having practically abandoned Sherbrooke for ten years, the Canada Presbyterian Church should feel greatly indebted to us for taking up the work, and this would certainly be a much more Christian acknowledgment of our success than the course adopted. A vote of thanks passed to us by a Presbytery of that body, or, better still, by the Synod, would be only doing us justice. But perhaps it is too much to expect that Mr. McVicar should admit, and frankly confess, to the failure of his own denomination in any place; and it would be much more for us to expect from any of the church courts of that denomination a cheerful, ready, and prompt acknowledgment of our services at Sherbrooke. Nevertheless we honestly consider ourselves entitled to nothing less, and, having stated our candid opinion, we leave the case in the hands of the "pensive public," referring them to the Report of the Eastern Townships Mission, to be found in this number under the head of "News of our Church," and recommending the object as one deserving of both sympathy and support.



N the course of another month the highest court of our Church will hold its annual meeting in Ottawa, to review the transactions of the past year, to see the progress which has been made, to consider the reports of the Committee on the various Schemes of the Church, and to take such steps as may be thought desirable to provide for its extension and increased usefulness. A very serious and grave responsibility devolves upon the members, and one which ought to be approached in the frame of mind which so important a task requires. We purpose in this article, very briefly to mention a few of the subjects which may probably come up before the approaching meeting, desiring to suggest them as subjects for reflection to those who shall be present, as well as to the members of the