

them have sheep, while hire is rare and wages low. Still our dear Scottish kindred disdain to beg, although they should have to toil day and night, and live very economically.

Some were even proposing to return to Scotland, as soon as they could secure their title-deeds and sell their farms. I saw that this tendency was fraught with utmost danger and disaster if not averted in time. For the talismanic enthusiasm will pine away and perish, if other races and other sects are to be rudely thrust in for lucre's sake. I therefore laboured to revive the hope, the courage; the unanimity and enterprise of the Colony. The results already begin to gladden our hearts, and many are now thanking God and taking new courage. The regular diets of worship are thronged every Sabbath; although the houses of meeting are not indeed large. We have regular Prayer Meetings on both the roads. Already we have five Sabbath-Schools and three secular Schools in active operation. The Elders are zealous, active and devoted; the people are willing and industrious, as well as prudent and thrifty. Despite their severe privations, they have already subscribed and paid for one hundred copies of the "Record" for 1876, and have unitedly petitioned the Presbytery that their minister may not be withdrawn from them, and have subscribed liberally of their limited means, for his support. They are now making arrangements to build suitable School houses; for the Schools are held in private houses, as well as the other meetings hitherto.

The people are also resolving to do their utmost to erect a comely Church, as an Ebenezer-memorial in their midst, where they and their children, through the years to come, may devoutly assemble to worship the God of their fathers, and to learn of Him who only hath the words of eternal life.

We are now labouring to organize the congregations thoroughly, with districts and sections, each having its own S. School and Prayer-meeting, under the care of its Elder and Deacon. Additional Elders and Deacons are to be ordained when there is need. We are also preparing a complete set of Sessional Registers and Records. Since my arrival there have been two marriages, three births, four baptisms, but no death, within the Colony. I find the people kind and unassuming, yet intelligent and talented beyond many who are more ostentatious. I believe that the best talent will not be lost, if it be bestowed upon them. We hope they have generally passed their darkest day; for the seasons have been very unpropitious here in their experience.

Trusting and praying that the Divine Head will prosper the Colony and the Church.

Yours very cordially,

P. MELVILLE.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

The Rev. C. A. Doudiet has accepted an appointment to the Chair of Sacred Rhetoric and Homelitics in the Presbyterian College, Montreal, vacant by the resignation of Professor Coussirat who has returned to his native *la belle France*. The General Assembly will doubtless ratify the nomination. This will be a serious loss to St. Mathew's Congregation, Montreal, but a gain to the College, with which they may credit "the Union."

The Rev. John Rannie, of St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, Ontario, has been appointed by the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland to the vacant charge of All Saints, New Amsterdam, Berbice, British Guiana. Mr. Rannie takes his departure immediately, and will be followed to his new home with the best wishes of a large number of warm friends. Mr. Rannie commenced his labours in Chatham more than sixteen years ago, and has during these years given good proof of his ministry. Now that he is about to remove with his patriarchal family, he may well say, "I came here empty and go forth full." The Lord go with our brother, carry him safely to his destination, and abundantly bless him in the work to which he is called!

The Rev. Joseph Gandier, of Fort Coulonge, in prosecuting his missionary tour among the lumbermen of the Upper Ottawa, recently experienced just enough of the romantic to relieve the monotony of ordinary mission work. Benighted, he reached a lake in the back-woods which he wished to traverse, but he was not long on the ice when he "lost the track." He beats a retreat, finds shelter amongst a clump of trees, attempts to kindle a fire: but wet wood will not burn! He wraps up his little boy who was with