

tions finally closed with the Government, there being as already mentioned still some claims for arrearages and increased stipends under the consideration of the proper authorities.

The settlement of the commutation scheme was still in progress when I commenced my usual confirmation visit, on the 17th of May last.

In this journey I confined myself to what was formerly called the Home District, including the county of Halton. It lasted 24 days, during which I visited 44 parishes, and confirmed 946 of our youth of both sexes, a result very encouraging both in number of parishes and candidates, over former visitations, and highly creditable to the clergy. The marks of rapid progress presented themselves in every direction, in making gravel and plank roads, in turning the woods into rich corn fields, and in the erection of comfortable and substantial houses of durable materials, and, above all, with many new churches built or in progress.

Nor were the improvements in apparel, and in the internal comforts of their dwellings as to bed and board, less striking among the people—all was prosperity, and we had to go far back to the new settlements to get a glimpse of the deep mud holes, broken waggons, worn-out horses, and miserable shanties of former days. These journees are not without deep interest and novel incidents little known in old countries. The town of Collingwood, for instance, has grown up as it were out of the ground in a couple of years. On our visit it was teeming with inhabitants, and all industriously employed. Their advancement in opening streets and building houses, and other substantial improvements, was truly amazing. In regard to the harbour which they are constructing I am no judge, but it would seem to require a vast outlay and to be somewhat exposed. But whether this may not be counterbalanced by other advantages I am unable to say. One defect I observed, for which there appears no remedy—the site of the town is too low,