

The rural districts of the Province must be regarded, for years to come, as strictly fields of Missionary labor, and the Ministers engaged in their cultivation as *Missionary Pastors*. The Brethren, who now occupy these Stations, are strictly pioneers,—they have much to clear away and remove, that those who follow may have a less obstructed path. They are engaged in laying a good and secure foundation, on which their successors may, more easily, safely, and extensively build. They are now scattering the good seed, of which it will be the more delightful work of future laborers to reap an abundant harvest.

The work in which they are engaged, is thus, arduous and trying, and requires much patience and perseverance. For in addition to the natural dislike of the human heart to the humbling doctrines of the Gospel, there prevails to a fearful extent, unscriptural opinions of almost every shade, by which the most important truths of the Gospel are falsified and perverted.

Other bodies of Christians are making vigorous and continuous efforts to extend their denominational limits; and, so far, as such are engaged in diffusing the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and Him Crucified, and in bringing sinners to repentance, we cordially wish them, *God-speed*. We prefer no invidious claims,—we repudiate sectarian jealousy. Vast is the field of labor, and sufficiently extensive for every Evangelical effort that can be put forth for its cultivation. With all Evangelical Christians, however distinguished by denominational differences, we are *one*. One in Christian affection, and holy purpose—engaged in the same spiritual warfare, and aiming to achieve the same blessed and glorious triumphs.

The whole of the Congregational Churches, now existing in “*Union*” in Eastern Canada, have been planted within the past twenty years. Twenty years ago, and we had no *denominational* existence, nor even one solitary Church under Pastoral care in this region. Now we number twenty-four organized Churches, and twenty ordained Pastors. In thus looking back with gratitude on the past, we cannot but feel encouraged for the future. And though we are yet but few in number, and feeble in resources, our growth and prosperity will be promoted, under