

Church in Innisfil. It was addressed to Mr. Leslie and is without date, but the names and circumstances referred to by Mr. Climie, fix its date with sufficient accuracy. It will be read by many with much interest. [*Ed. "C. I."*]

DEAR BROTHER IN CHRIST,

Perhaps you will be surprised at the liberty we take in addressing you as we are unknown to you by face, but hearing that you were acquainted with your Bible, and knowing that you subscribed largely toward the erection of our meeting house, and nearing of your love to the poor friends of the Lord Jesus, we were encouraged by these circumstances to lay our case before you for your consideration and advice. We would have written you long before this time, but Mr. Paul thought it was best to wait till he introduced the subject to you in person, and he would then communicate with us; but as we have waited in suspense and never received a letter from him yet, and hearing that he is in Essa, we now think it sinful to delay any longer, and therefore we now proceed to ask advice from every quarter that we think we can obtain it in a Scriptural manner, in order to assist us in procuring the ordinances as Christ instituted them in all their primitive glory and excellence; and in order that you may be the better acquainted with our situation, we will now proceed to give you a short narration of facts concerning the rise and progress of the Church of Innisfil.

Three years ago one of us who now leads our worship came to this place, and from the acquaintance that some of the neighbours had with him in the place that they last moved from, they wished him to commence a meeting on the first day of the week and lead the worship, which accordingly he did. After some time some gave evidence of knowing, to say the least, more than ever they had done before, and some who had a profession previously in the Presbyterian connection, began to call in question the foundation they were building on formerly. The way our leader led the meeting was in substance as follows: he sang praises, prayed, and read a chapter in the Old and another in the New Testament, and then wished the people to make remarks or ask questions on some of the portions read, but as all universally declined, he gave a few words of exhortation. From this on he instructed us regularly, as there was no other instruction in the Township at the time, except by Arians, and some of those who had been led astray by them, now attended the meeting led by our leader, and maintained the faith they once laboured to destroy. About this time the Arian teachers took their leave of Innisfil and have never preached here since. Shortly after this a Presbyterian, a farmer, arrived here from Ireland, who gave evidence of loving the Lord Jesus, who attended the meetings; and as there were now four males with whom our leader could fellowship, he called on them in turn to pray in the meeting. Our leader then proposed that if there were any way that could be devised for further edification it ought to be done, upon which our friend from Ireland proposed that there should be a verse given out to be studied through the week, and each to make remarks on it as he was able. Accordingly after our leader's discourse was over some of us made remarks as scripturally as we could—our course of instruction for some time was chiefly taken up with considering what the Bible told people in such a situation as we were in to do.

In this state of things we heard of Mr. Merrifield being in Toronto; those of us who embraced the independent principles were truly thankful, and looked on it as an opening in Providence for the further enjoying of the Lord's ordinance which He instituted for the comfort and edification of His body. Accordingly one of us was delegated to wait on Mr. Merrifield with a letter to make known our situation, and ask his advice and assistance. Our delegate was received by Mr. Merrifield and the brethren in the house with him, in a truly Christian manner; he said he was glad to hear such accounts, but at the same time he said that he could not advise at present as he was expecting letters daily from England that might present encouragement different from the then present aspect of