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The commencement of this part of the service was to me novel and rather scenic as a Preacher in advancing to take the place in the pulpit which I was resigning, sung as he approached, a few verses beginning in a somewhat extemporaneous strain.

And now my friends I do you pray,
To listen to what I am going to say.

In what followed he was joined by some of the congregation.

Our countrymen in the Bathurst District are perhaps better supplied with ministers in any other part of the province, and yet there are whole townships where they have no opportunity of hearing the word of life. One lady who had been ninety years in the country, told me she just heard sermon twice in the year, and then she had to go fifty miles for the purpose.

On Sabbath, Oct. 21st, I preached in a private house about the middle of Beckwith. The audience composed for the most part of highlanders amounted to about 250 persons. I have never seen a more attentive congregation. They seemed almost to hang upon the lips of the preacher.

In the afternoon of the same day, I preached in the centre of Ramsay to about 200 people, and had every reason to be gratified with the apparent attention of my audience. The size of the congregation, especially considering that the place is nearly 60 miles back from the St. Lawrence shewed the eagerness of the people to hear the preaching of the gospel. It may be said indeed, that the way in which a preacher is received in these back townships, is apt to prove a snare to him, for the people put such a value on his services and testify in so many ways the high esteem in which they hold him, that unless he keeps a strict watch over himself he will be apt to forget that he is but a poor and feeble creature, whose very best attempts at serving Christ are mean and inadequate, and run to fancy himself "some great one." The people of this township have got a considerable sum subscribed for the support of a minister, for whom they are about sending to Scotland. They intend also to procure a glebe and build a house for him, so that he is likely to be comfortable in temporal things.

On the following day, I preached in Pakenham according to previous appointment. About forty persons were present. I have seldom found a larger congregation than this during the day, except on Sabbaths. The people are busy with their work, and though they may have no reason to expect to have another opportunity of hearing the gospel preached for six months to come, still they seem in general unwilling for the sake of the gospel to lose half a day's work. It is true, they often lose a day cheerfully for the sake of objects which they would not themselves say, were of any great importance. Considering the gospel to be a thing neither of profit nor of pleasure, they will attend the preaching of it, only when there is nothing else to occupy them. This I fear is true of a large proportion of the people, in most parts of the country, and nothing can more forcibly shew the necessity of bringing the gospel to such a people, without waiting till they send for it, of almost forcing it upon them instead of delaying till they invite them to their doors—of providing and bringing into action among them the external apparatus of the gospel and not leaving it to themselves to send for it when they finally are ready to receive it. There is much more encouragement however, and a much better prospect of success, in sending the gospel to such persons than there is in sending it to the heathen; for setting aside the facilities afforded by similarity of language, manners and habits, the diversity of which in the case of the heathen, renders the mission to them so expensive and so difficult; there is for the most part in the townships of Canada a body of men who are willing to become coadjutors in the cause, and who in fact with a little assistance are able to support a gospel ministry, which may not only be the means of edifying their own souls, but may bring the tidings of salvation home to the hearts and consciences of that larger portion of the community, who, if left to themselves would never be brought within hearing of the "joyful sound." Individuals thus anxious to provide spiritual instruction both for themselves and for their more careless brethren, ought surely to be encouraged, and if even heathens, who are not only regardless of the gospel, but full of the most hostile feelings against it, are yet held to be fit subjects of christian benevolence, how much more impressive is the call "come over and help us" which proceeds from those, who have not only the claim of close brother-