

and beautiful scenery, and all that is wanting is that the attention of those who have never seen it should be directed to it by those who know where it is. It has occurred to me while writing these lines, that if our ministers, who are well acquainted with the country around them, would furnish, for the Examiner, descriptions of the lakes, rivers, mountains, and the scenery in general of their neighbourhood, it would be not only interesting but also useful in many respects. Such articles, I conceive would not be inconsistent with the character of the Examiner. God has given us a good and a pleasant land to dwell in; and the more that we know of the richness, the beauty, and the capabilities of the country, the more will we feel the goodness of our Heavenly Father. A more correct and thorough knowledge of the province, would also be thus diffused both here and in the mother country where, I believe there are not a few numbers of the Examiner read.

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NOTES OF A TOUR TO NORVAL, CHINGUACOUSY,  
CALEDON AND MONO.

MR. EDITOR,

I sit down to write out a few notes of a short Missionary tour through some of the townships of the Home District. The shortest excursion of this kind will always furnish some useful observations; and I know that you are desirous of that kind of local and statistical intelligence, which can be obtained only from an actual survey of the country and its population. I am not without hope, too, that this offering to your pages may stimulate others of my brethren who itinerate more extensively, to send you some report of their labours and observations.

The Presbytery of Toronto have recently enjoined, or recommended, every minister to devote one Sabbath, and as many week days as may be convenient, to Missionary service, every quarter. Mr. Ferguson and myself were appointed to visit the townships of Nassagaweya, part of Esquesing and Chinguacousy. We have each of us preached on the afternoon of a Sabbath, in the village of Norval. This village, more generally known by its first and less euphonious name of McNabville, is built on an extensive flat of the river Credit, forming part of the 10th and 11th lots of the eleventh or most eastern concession of the township of Esquesing. The population in it and the vicinity are chiefly Presbyterians, though they are ranged

in the separate ranks of the United Synod, the American Associate Church, and the Church of Scotland. The only regular place of worship in it, has been erected by three public spirited individuals belonging to our Church. It is a handsome and substantial frame building, situated on the high ground on the south west side of the river, and commanding a fine view of the village and vale of the Credit. The interior of it is not yet finished, and we regret to add, that it is as yet unprovided with a stove; and so must during winter be shut to all assemblages for divine worship, unless this piece of furniture be obtained. Those who have hitherto borne the expense of this erection, are well entitled to assistance towards the completion of it, from their neighbours. All our congregations have their own pecuniary difficulties to contend with, yet, we doubt not, there are several in the midst of them, who would cheerfully comply with such a call for aid as that which the church in Norval presents. Like too many of our villages that are destitute of a stated Ministry of the word of God, it has been noted for the profligacy of many of the young.

On a visit to it of a similar kind, in the spring of the present year, we found that the school master was an old man well qualified to teach, from his early pursuits in life, but broken down by long habits of intemperance, and estranged from what is good, by open and avowed infidelity.—Who cannot but deplore the condition of a community, that is familiarized with such spectacles of open wickedness, and exposed to its noxious influence, while few of the restraining and correcting influences of divine truth are operating upon it?—Second only to the want of good ministers of the gospel, is the want of good teachers in this Province. From the inadequate remuneration for teaching, few devote themselves to it, as a permanent employment, but such as have not succeeded in other professions; and as intemperance is the most common cause of wasted physical strength and broken credit, it is painful to have to confess that a great proportion of our teachers are men of intemperate habits.

But, to return to my Missionary notices. The attendance at our preaching in Norval was considerable.

On the evening of Monday the 15th, I preached in Churchville. The attendance was greater than what I have had on occasional sermons here, during the former part of the season, as the service was not commenced until after sunset. This village was for a time a strong hold of Mormonism from the countenance given to that imposture by two or three leading individuals in the village and