

It requires an increase of teachers, and increased resources for their support and efficiency; and the Synod must be prepared to meet these its wants.

Certainly no higher or more important question can be agitated in any of its dioceses than this—*How is Knox's College to be rendered efficient for the education which the rising Ministry of the Church demands, and for receiving the number of students who are craving an admission to the Ministry amongst us?*

A MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

Home Missions.

To the Editor of the Record.

KING, April 21, 1847.

MY DEAR SIR.—In my last communication I gave you an account of my visit to Nottawasaga, and several of the neighbouring townships, lying on the West side of Lake Simcoe, I now send you an account of those townships which I have visited on the East and south side of the Lake. But before proceeding with my narrative, I beg to say a few words about Orillia, a township lying North of Oro, and bordering on the Lake. Some of the early settlers of this township were Presbyterians. Having remained a long time without any supply of preaching from their own Church, many of them have joined other denominations, but a number of them still remain warmly attached to the interests of our cause. I would strongly recommend this place to the Presbytery, where a promising station might be formed, and I have no doubt, that could an active and zealous missionary be stationed between Orillia and Mara, two good congregations might soon be collected. On Wednesday evening I preached in a school house, in Orillia, on my way to Thora; the house was well filled, but many of them were of other denominations. Next day I visited some of the Presbyterians in the neighbourhood, whom I found favourably inclined to our cause. On Friday, Mr. F. Dallas provided me with a sleigh, and drove me to Thora, where we did not arrive till late at night having been detained by the drifting snow. There is a neat Church erected at Beaverton, in Thora, it is not yet completed, but it is expected to be finished early in summer. On Sabbath we met for divine service in a school house, at eleven o'clock; the house was filled, and many stood outside at the door and windows. In the afternoon I preached at Eldon, in a private house, to a tolerably fair audience. Here they have built a beautiful Church, which will be opened in a few weeks. Thora and Eldon would make a good charge for a Minister speaking the Gaelic language. The people feel much the want of a stated Minister among them.

The congregations are kept together at present in a great measure by the Elders. At Thora their worthy Elder, Mr. Gunn, who speaks the English and Gaelic languages fluently, assembles the congregation every Sabbath, when they have no preaching, (which of late has been very seldom,) and conducts the devotional exercises in both languages, and I have no doubt that his labours have been blessed to the people. His unobtrusive manner, his meek and quiet temper of mind, and his great care and watchfulness over the interests of the Church, cannot fail to make a salutary impression on the minds of those over whom he is placed. On Thursday I preached at Mara to a Gaelic audience, Mr. Gunn interpreting. I also took up a collection for the Home Mission. Although this is not one of our sanctioned stations, yet the people feel an interest in our cause. On this occasion they manifested their good will to us, by their hearty free-will offerings. Although it was at a private house where I preached, and there were but few in attendance, yet when I explained the object of the collection, they contributed between four and five pounds. This, I trust, is the indication of a growing desire among the people for spiritual things. It convinces me more strongly of what I always believed, that the people are both able and willing to support the Gospel.

They only want to know their duty in order to

do it. The people are willing to do a great deal, if they only knew how to go about it. Hitherto they have not known that it was their duty to support and propagate the Gospel; and that it was not to neglect it.

They have been accustomed to look to the Establishment to do a duty which clearly devolves on themselves, and this has fostered a spirit of dependence and sloth. Let it be explained to the people what they have to do for the extension of Christ's kingdom, and let the subject be brought before them in such a way that they may know what their duty is and how to perform it. If this is done, let us not complain that the contributions come in but slowly for the schemes of the Church.

It requires more than a notice, calling the attention to the time when they are expected to make a collection, to instruct them in a duty which requires an act of self-denial. I have found in my late visit, that there is great ignorance among the people respecting the Home Mission, and the operations of the Church generally.

Among those who do know, I found a general desire to do something for the cause. From a spirit which I have seen manifested among our people, I am convinced that they will cheerfully support all the schemes of the Church, when they come to understand their propriety. I preached again on the following Sabbath, at Beaverton, in the forenoon, and at Eldon in the afternoon, both services were well attended and there appeared to be a growing desire to hear the word. I left Thora on Tuesday and proceeded south to Bradford, West Gwillimbury, where I arrived on Wednesday, and preached on Friday evening in the school house, to a mixed congregation collected mostly from the village.

There was a meeting house here partly finished at the time of the Disruption, but it has been claimed and taken possession of by the Establishment. Miss McGee with her usual liberality has given ground for another, on which our people hope to erect one in a few months. This place in connexion with another about five miles West, called the Scotch Settlement, and where they have a neat Church, form one Charge.

The people are ready to call a Minister, but they must have one who speaks the Gaelic, and that they cannot easily obtain. It would be well if our Gaelic brethren would establish a number of bursaries in the College for Gaelic Students, seeing there is such a demand for Ministers who speak that language.

There are numbers of young men of piety and talents among the Gaelic settlements, who would willingly devote themselves to the service of Christ, but who have not the means necessary to carry on their education. Now, the proper way to supply those places where Gaelic is required is to send those young men to College. They may wait and look long to Scotland before they get a supply. While they are waiting and looking to Scotland, they overlook altogether the means and the men they have within their reach. On Sabbath I preached at Bradford in the forenoon, and at the Scotch Settlement in the afternoon, both services were well attended. On Monday evening I preached at Holland Landing, in the Methodist Chapel. The audience was but small and mostly of other denominations. Next day I proceeded southward and arrived at King Township in the evening. On Friday I preached in Vaughan, in the afternoon, and on the following Sabbath my services were confined wholly to King. In the forenoon I officiated in a school house in the ninth concession, the audience was large and attentive. The afternoon services were conducted in a school house on the 10th concession. I was to preach at three o'clock, but when I went to the station, I found the house occupied by the Established Minister, (Rev. Mr. Jaws-) of King. It appeared that he had made an appointment to preach at the same place, but at an earlier hour. He was finishing the service when I arrived, and had just pronounced the blessing as I entered the house. I announced to the congregation, then ready to depart, that I was a Missionary from the Free Church of Scotland, who had come there to preach, and if any of them wished to hear me

they might remain. The people all immediately sat down, the Rev. Gentleman walked out, and I was left in possession of the house and congregation. Our people now exerted, and I proceeded with the exercises of the afternoon, to a large and deeply-affected audience. King was the last township I was instructed by the Presbytery to visit.

Before closing my narrative, permit me to say that I was much refreshed by my visit to the District, and the instances of deep piety, and warm spiritual feeling which I met with in some of the Gaelic settlements, will long be remembered by me. Everywhere I went, I met with kind attention, a hearty welcome and cordial hospitality. Those expressions of kindness while they were cheering to me, I trust they are indications of a growing desire for the bread of life.

There is one fact that has urged itself on my attention, during my late visit, and which has made a deep impression on my mind. It is the growing greatness of the country, not only in wealth but in population. To this I would call the attention of the Church, and through the Church, I would urge on every member the necessity of doing something immediately, in order to supply the great spiritual destitution. Unless it be done now, humanly speaking, we shall not be able to do it hereafter. The Province is increasing in proportion faster than we are raising the means and the men, to supply their spiritual wants. Its resources are great and hold out strong inducements to settlers. It has a fertile soil and a healthy climate; it is surrounded on all sides with navigable Lakes and Rivers.

The internal resources of the country are now being opened up by roads intersecting it in all directions. The tide of emigration is rolling steadily in from European villages will soon become splendid cities; the forest will soon give place to the plough; and the fertile valleys will soon be filled with a teeming population. Those who have lived in the Province during the last fifteen years, have seen such improvements springing up around them; they have seen the straggling village grow into a city, and what was then a dense forest, now covered with well cultivated farms. We may expect greater improvement in future.

What, I ask, will be the future condition of the country, unless immediate and vigorous efforts be made, to supply the population with the Gospel now? An appeal has been made to our Christian feeling, in behalf of a starving population in a sister kingdom, it has awakened our sympathies, and our charities have been sent forth through different channels. Will Christians not hear the appeal when it is made for the bread of life? when it is not the body but the soul that is perishing. Thousands are now dying for want of the bread of life. What Christian can look at the spiritual wants of the country, without being led to pray "the Lord of the harvest send forth labourers into his harvest?" The duty of contributing the means is just as extensive as the duty of praying for the cause. Let none think that he has done his duty, when he has prayed for the cause or when he has contributed for it. The two things should not be separated, the prayer and the performance.

I remain, my Dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

Wm KING.

FRENCH CANADIANS.

MOVEMENT IN KNOX'S COLLEGE IN THEIR BEHALF.

It must be familiar to most of our readers, that the "Man of Sin" has held almost undisputed supremacy for well nigh two centuries past, through the greater part of the Lower Province. Half a million of our fellow countrymen—subjects of the same government, creatures of the same God—groan beneath his iron yoke, now become hereditary, but not the less galling on that account. A people distinguished by the simplicity of their character, and a superstitious veneration for the pompous ritual of their church, but at the same time sunk (the great majority of them at least) in the grossest ignorance, enveloped amid the gloomy