

upon the troubles prevalent in this country during the past year, have been so great that the efforts of the few in this land who have been striving to battle against those influences seem but useless, and were it not that the God of nations has promised to be with us, and to fight our battles for us, those efforts would be worse than useless—would be folly and madness.

In reviewing the past we cannot but be thankful to the great Giver of all good for His grace, and for the gracious influences of the ever-blessed Spirit which have enabled us, in the midst of these heart-rending and troublesome times, not only to retain our ground, but to make some little progress in the things which belong to our eternal peace, and thus we realize the truth of the saying, "If God be for us, He is more than all that can be against us;" or, as St. Paul says, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

At the High Bluff we have service every Sabbath morning and evening alternately, with a congregation of about forty, a membership of seventeen, and a Sabbath-school of forty or more, all told. During the months of June and July, there were nearly 3,000 verses recited in this school, and we are looking forward to the time when there shall be an abundant harvest gathered from the seed which is being scattered. We have a church under way here, but are not able to complete it this fall, in consequence of the scarcity of material, and of the wherewith to procure it. Our love-feast and sacrament will be held (D.V.) next Sabbath, and as they have proven to be seasons of refreshing to our souls in the past, we are expecting a happy day. May we realize the fulfilment of the promise, that "they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength!"

At Poplar Point the Lord is doing a good work. We have here a congregation of over fifty, Sabbath-school numbering about the same, and a membership of nine, none of whom were members a year ago. There is one fact often spoken of by even our enemies, that this people have forsaken the bottle, which was so great a curse to them, and have become temperate. Our church here, which was raised this summer, must remain unfinished until

next year, for the same reason that we have delayed the completion of the one at the Bluff—scarcity of means. We are willing to do all we can in the way of church building and improvement; but I ask the question, Must we depend altogether upon our own resources? We need churches at every appointment, and must have them, or be hampered and prevented from accomplishing that amount of good we might otherwise do.

At Gowlers' we have a congregation of about forty, mostly young people, a class of six, and a Sabbath-school of twelve or fifteen in attendance, and are contemplating the erection of a church next summer. The people are attentive listeners to the word proclaimed, and we are striving to lead them to the Saviour. I have realized the truthfulness of the remarks of our beloved President when he told me I might expect much opposition; but I believe the clouds of prejudice will vanish before the refulgence of the Gospel sun; and thus I go on in the name of the Lord, feeling confident that whatever work is of Him shall succeed. The great good which I believe our heavenly Father will bring out of the great evils done during the past year, will but prove again the truthfulness of the words, "The wrath of man shall praise thee."

At Portage LaPrairie our congregation is about the same as at Gowlers', and we have a small Sabbath-school; but as I am only there every fortnight, and circumstances have transpired to prevent parties who would take charge of the school from being regular in their attendance, it is not in so prosperous a condition as we would desire. This is likely to be a place of some importance, and we shall be compelled to build a church here to accommodate the congregations, particularly as this seems to be the point of attraction for immigrants, and as we expect a detachment of the Volunteer force to be stationed here.

In my letter to Dr. Taylor, I proposed to add 25 per cent. to any amount not exceeding \$1000 which might be granted me for building purposes. Please let me know if there is any possibility of doing anything for us.