

Why must we ever return to our homes saddened and discouraged, our souls cast down within us, asking again and again the question, why do they withhold from us, the same spiritual upholding? Must we ever stand alone? Must our meetings, for which we have prayed, and laboured fall to the ground, because they will not help us? Do you not know that a few words from the desk or pew would do more to induce a large and regular attendance than twenty invitations from ourselves? We have frequently sat in your meetings, our hearts burning within us, as we thought of special cases of self-denying efforts put forth by some faithful Mary, who, sitting at Jesus' feet, had learned of Him. We could not rise and publicly ask your prayers for such. But there were christian men present who knew of the circumstance; why did they not speak in our stead?

Is it right for us to hold meetings at all, or to undertake any good work? You must answer, yes. Then why should the Church refuse to recognize it? to give all the aid in their power? This great want is not felt in Toronto only; in village, town, and country, we have heard the same feelings expressed. Mothers in Israel, whose honoured heads have whitened in the service, say their greatest discouragements have arisen from the feeling that they had not the sympathy and co-operation of the Church.

Oh, be careful, we beseech you, lest the feeble light within us burn out. The grain while kept in obscurity bears no fruit, but aided by the earth's moisture and sun's warmth, it yields a golden harvest. You may say the efficiency is not of us. True, but our Father has seen fit to make use of earthen vessels.

ANNA THOMAS.

Toronto, January 5th, 1870.

MATERIALS FOR OUR CHURCH HISTORY.

No. XII.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE PORT STANLEY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND THE TRANSFER OF ITS PROPERTY.

The Rev. W. F. Wastell, Missionary of the Colonial Missionary Society, England, resigned his charge at Guelph, on the 1st of October, 1843, and by the consent of the Colonial Missionary Society, commenced Missionary operations in Port Stanley, at which place there was an increasing mercantile business at that time. The locality, however, was insalubrious to such an extent that Mr. Wastell never became a resident pastor there, but with his family resided in St. Thomas, nine miles distant. In July, 1845, the first building erected for divine worship in that place was opened, and dedicatory sermons preached by the Rev. W. Clarke, and the Rev. James Nall. On the 15th of March, 1846, a church was organized, with about seven members, which in January, 1847, was augmented by the addition of some six others.

In the June following, the Rev. W. F. Wastell resigned his charge. He was succeeded in the following October, by the Rev. W. H. Allworth, who was ordained there to the work of the ministry in February, 1848.