

are in rebellion against the moral government of God. And this work must be continued, "whether men will hear or whether they will forbear".

On this point, you will pardon me for introducing a description with which I became familiar in my boyhood. It is to be found in a publication which is not very generally known to the public now. The piece is anonymous, and relates to the "methodist preacher", but may be taken as a model of any "able minister of the New Testament" in his *labours of love* :—

"The methodist is indefatigable in what he considers the duty of his Christian calling; he is zealous in his endeavours to bring sinners to the throne of grace; he is bold in reproving wickedness wherever he finds it, in high or low, rich or poor; he is earnest and affectionate in his efforts to draw erring mortals from the abyss of ruin, and place them on the firm ground of Christian hope: he deprives them of all hope in themselves, that they may fix their dependence on the Rock of Ages. He leaves no stone unturned to advance the cause of the gospel; he is a lion to the hardened sinner, and a lamb to the humble penitent; he travels every where, and 'preaches the gospel to every creature'; wherever 'two or three are gathered together', he considers that place a fit temple for the worship of God, whether it be in a dwelling-house, a barn, a school-house, in the shade of the forest, or under the bare canopy of heaven; he is not confined to temples made and expressly dedicated to the worship of Jehovah, but considers every place sufficiently dedicated to that purpose which offers an occasion of doing good; he pervades every part of the country, and carries the glad tidings of salvation to those places where, but for him, they had never come. He regards no distance as too great, no way too rough, no place too obscure for his exertions; cold and heat, wind and storms, hunger and thirst, do not appal him; scoffing and insult have no effect upon him, but to make him, if possible, more zealous in the duties of his calling. If the mad populace hurl firebrands, he 'reasons with them of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come'; he 'heaps coals of fire on their heads'; madness gives place to admiration, insult to penitence, and those who came to scoff remain to pray."

To the truth of the above picture, many of the early settlers of Canada can abundantly testify. The lives of those indefatigable labourers will be embalmed in the grateful recollections of many until the end of their days. But I have given this account, chiefly because of the detail of the minister's *duties* which it furnishes.

One department of the minister's work which the apostle mentions, is to "preach the word"; and he requires that a preacher "rightly divide the word of truth". *Pulpit ministrations*, then, constitute a portion of our duties. But how few of us, my Brethren, are "sufficient for these things"! The objects of preaching are, to illustrate and enforce revealed truth; to draw out and dis-