

One circumstance makes their situation very trying. They live in what may be called the snow belt of the Dominion. Mountains of "beautiful snow" encircle them for seven months of the year. No shriek of steam whistle or clang of church or train bell disturbs the almost death-like stillness of these weary months. At this time, above all times, the time when a Christian worker and teacher should be there inspiring, instructing, and directing their activities, he is unhappily and it seems necessarily absent. A railroad from Campbelltown is started, of which 30 miles are built. Its history, which is in fact the history of nearly every road of that character repeating itself, is of a particularly jerky character. The millennium may or may not reach Gaspé before this road, but the fact remains that those people of ours in little long-suffering groups between New Carlisle and Port Daniel *should* be attended to. My deliberate opinion is: that if the people of Hopetown, 12 miles from Port Daniel, should sever their unnatural connection with New Carlisle congregation, and, together with the few families we have at Shemogue, half way between Hopetown and Port Daniel, should join themselves to Port Daniel, they could support, with some effort at first, but in the near future with ease, a minister for themselves. Along this line alone can I see any glimmer of hope for the unquestionably desirable establishment of a permanent cause in these sections of the country.

I have given no particulars so far as to their mode of living, etc. Their means of livelihood are farming and fishing. The land is very fertile, and if they had a convenient market they could make farming pay. Few of our people fish to any great extent. All kinds of fish are found in and about the Bay, from the whale, which occasionally visits, down to the tiny capelin, caught by the ton and used for manure. The noble salmon is the only fish in which our people traffic to any extent. These are caught in large numbers in nets. They are immediately sold for about nine cents a pound to parties who pack them in snow and send them to Boston and New York. This year the salmon fishing was poor, the mackerel and cod almost a failure, and consequently our people are suffering from a contraction of the pocket-book.

Numbers of wealthy people from New York and elsewhere