

attention that was paid in every instance to the Gospel message of Salvation. By the kindness of our Wesleyan friends, we had the free use of their neat little chapel in Tobique Village: but in the other localities, as no church has ever been erected by any denomination, we held the services in school houses and private dwelling houses. The services at Rocky Brook—the settlement that is furthest up the river—will probably be memorable in the history of the district. It is only about six years since the place has been inhabited; and at present there are in it five or six families, I may say, all Presbyterians. After seeing them all in their respective homes, I gathered as many of them as I could collect into one place, unfurled the old blue banner of Presbyterianism, and under its healthful shade preached the *first sermon* that has ever been heard in the settlement.

BAPTISMS.

Then, I have to state that I baptized quite a large number of children, under somewhat peculiar circumstances. As you are aware, there are no keen-eyed elders in the place, who might, perchance, have detected microscopic stains on the moral character of the parents who received baptism for their children. And there is no regularly organized congregation with which these parents could formally identify themselves, even if they were anxious to do so. I am not aware that our church has ever given forth any definite deliverance respecting the administration of baptism under such circumstances; but I am aware that we have alienated the affections of many of our people from the church of their fathers by refusing them this christian privilege on the ground that they were not communicants, when, at the same time, we have never spread a Communion table before them. In the peculiar circumstances in which our good people of Tobique are situated, I felt justified in baptizing their little ones, after I explained the nature and obligation of the Sacrament, and received from them a profession of their faith in the fundamental doctrines of our holy Religion, and the promise that they would endeavour to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

VISITATION.

I have also to state that I visited all the Presbyterian families in the above mentioned stations, with scarcely an exception. And on this point I presume it is quite sufficient to say that hands, homes, hearts, were everywhere ready to receive me. The same kindness was shown to me by families belonging to other denominations when my time permitted me to visit them.

In travelling from place to place, and in

visiting from house to house, I sometimes was favoured with the great luxury of a riding-sleigh, and sometimes I rode on the humble wood-sleigh of the hardy lumberman. But more frequently the roads were so blockaded with enormous heaps of snow that it was next to impossible to travel in any such stylish conveyances. As a last resort, I was then obliged to bid good bye to the riding-sleigh and wood-sleigh, and turn pedestrian. On several occasions I walked distances of five, ten, twelve, fifteen miles rather than fail in the accomplishment of my purposes. You might, perchance, expect to hear me complain sorely of these long journeys over huge snowbanks, and through blinding snow-drifts. But I can assure you I enjoyed them intensely. As they were undertaken in a good cause, I regarded them—not as wearisome wanderings, but pleasurable promenades.

GRAND FALLS.

I should have stated when speaking of mission stations, that I visited the village of Grand Falls, which, as you know, is about twenty four miles further up the St. John River than Tobique Village. I had heard the place described in terms which might apply to a suburb of Pandemonium, if it were not for the surpassing beauty of the surrounding scenery. My impressions of the place were much more favourable than those uncharitable representations had led me to anticipate; but there certainly is very great need for improvement. I preached in the school house there one evening, and on the following evening addressed a missionary meeting in the same place. There are five or six Presbyterian families in or near the village; and if a missionary were to be located on the Tobique River, he should visit Grand Falls as often as possible.

MINISTER WANTED.

And this leads me to say respectfully to the Presbytery, try and send a suitable missionary to Tobique, and as soon as possible. All told, there are over forty families of Presbyterians to *begin with*; and if you could only send them a good preacher, who would take off his gloves and go right in among them, they would give him a very cordial reception, and do all in their power for his comfortable maintenance. And not only Presbyterians, but many others who have no ecclesiastical connection would hail him as a boon to the community. It is true that there are already two ministers located in Tobique Village—Mr. Hoyt, an Episcopalian, and Mr. Allen, a Wesleyan. But these are the only two Protestant clergymen at present located in the whole County of Victoria—a county next to Northumberland, the largest in the