

the measure, as in accordance with the soundest policy. We also remark with joy, the growing interest which the condition of the Canadians has recently awakened among christians in Britain and Ireland, and the increasing liberality with which funds are supplied for the religious improvement of these provinces. After all that is done, however, or is likely to be done, both by public and private benevolence, we still believe, that Canada must continue to be, comparatively speaking, an uncultivated waste, until its own inhabitants are awakened to some appropriate exertions in providing religious ordinances for themselves. If we are not greatly mistaken in our judgment of *the signs of the times*, every other source of supply will prove **INADEQUATE, TEMPORARY, and PRECARIOUS.**

Such being our convictions, you will not deem it unsuitable for us to throw out the following suggestion, which, although we do not intend to press it, we regard as of extreme importance. "We speak as to wise men, judge ye what we say." Our proposal is this; that in every little community, unprovided with a gospel minister, measures should be adopted without delay for establishing a fund expressly for religious purposes. By common consent, a general meeting of the families of a particular district might be held, to make all necessary arrangements. Some person held in general esteem, could be chosen as treasurer, others might be appointed as collectors to take up monthly or quarterly subscriptions, from all who should concur in the design, as they had the heart or the ability to give. Many of you have been accustomed to bear the expenses of your own religious institutions in your native country. Others have been contributors to one or more of the religious societies of the present day. Why remit your exertions *now*, when they are so necessary for your own benefit, and for the benefit of your children? The existence of such a fund would be advantageous in many respects. It would enable the inhabitants of any district to engage a preacher for a limited time,—even where the resources were not sufficient to support a fixed pastor. It might prove a great encouragement, and often afford substantial aid, in erecting places of public worship where they should be required. The very effort to establish such a fund, would have a beneficial tendency. It would preserve from oblivion the important principle, that it is the duty of every man to consecrate some portion of his substance to the service of the Lord; and, by the divine blessing, it might be of essential use, as an antidote against that coldness and apathy about religion, which so generally flow from the want of public ordinances. In accomplishing an object so important, sacrifices must be made, and difficulties must be encountered. But "if there be first a willing mind," you will not shrink from sacrifices, in a case which involves so deeply your own spiritual improvement and that of your children for generations to come. Let it not be forgotten, that of those persons in your native country who feel for your privations, and are generously contributing of their substance for your relief, the great majority are just in the same circumstances,—and struggling with the same difficulties from which you sought an escape, by emigration. We trust you have not been disappointed in your hope of improving your condition, and there is no proposition of the truth of which we are more certain than of this,—that your *prosperity will never be impaired by*