

FIRST EPISTLE OF J. C. STARK.

Buffalo, Nov. 10th, 1856.

DEAR BROTHER OLIPHANT:—I have closed my labours in Canada where I spent eighty-one days, spoke seventy-six discourses, and had fifty-three additions to the good cause. During my stay I travelled over five hundred miles, visited four different congregations, besides met many good brethren between places of stopping.

At Eramosa I found our good brethren Black, Kilgour, Anderson, Stewart, and many others whose names I cannot now recollect. At Toronto I found brother Scott and family whom I shall never forget, having enjoyed their christian hospitality while detained in the city. At Bowmanville I found our dear brethren Butchart, Lister, VanCamp, Harvey, and many more whose names I trust are written in the book of life. Bowmanville is endeared to me by a thousand ties; and many of those dear brethren there I hope to meet—if not on earth—in heaven. At Rainham are brethren of whom I cannot now speak particularly, for the time would fail me to tell of Asher, and Leonard, and David, and John, and many others, favored Benjamin not excepted, whom we learned to love in the Lord. At Jordan are Elders Wood and Palmer, with the flock over which they are chosen overseers. May God give them grace and patience to watch well their charge, for many grievous wolves are lurking about the borders of the fold.

I have become much attached to the dear brethren in Canada; and my prayers to Him who is able to keep them from falling, will often ascend the mount of God, for a blessing upon those I love. I found them hospitable, liberal, and devoted. Their kindness to me will not go unrewarded when we all shall have got home to our Father's house. Verily they who administer to the temporal wants of Jesus' followers here shall not lose their reward hereafter. They seem disposed to take care of Christ's cause, feeling assured that Christ will take care of them. Our debate at Jordan did not go off for reasons which I am not at liberty to explain. I have regretted much that we did not have the privilege of giving our exposition of Methodism, but all things will work together for good to those who love God.

Massillon, Ohio, Nov. 15.

We have got home safe and sound. Find ourselves much needed in this vicinity after the political excitement. When will our brethren