

It was late before I arrived at Mr. Lamont's, having walked fifteen miles since dinner. Here I met with a kindly reception and was soon made comfortable by Mrs. Lamont.

Hearing that there was a young woman in the neighbourhood apparently near death by cancer, I went next morning, accompanied by Mr. L., and visited her. She was much spent and seemed to suffer great pain, but it was pleasing to see her meekness and patience under the afflicting hand of God, and that she was looking forward to death as a deliverance, being strong in the hope that it would be her unspeakable gain. For several years has the disease been making progress, but it is only of late that she has been confined to bed. God has seen proper to keep her long in the furnace, and we believe there is good reason to conclude that her troubles have been sanctified.

During the day we made some other family visits: one to a good old lady, who has become powerless through rheumatism, but who is as cheerful and happy as if she had the free use of all her bodily members. She, too, is evidently supported by Christian principle, and displays the virtues of the Christian character. With patient resignation does she bear the chastening hand of the Lord, bearing the rod and Him who has appointed it. Comfortable in her family, she is happy in herself, and grateful for the mercies which are mingled with her trials, she is preparing for the day on which she shall be freed from sin and suffering, and called to receive the crown which the Lord Jesus will bestow upon all who love his appearing.

On Saturday I felt somewhat fatigued, and did not make any visits.—On Sabbath forenoon preached in the walls of the new church, which the congregation has erected. There were neither windows nor doors to the house; the spaces between the logs were not chinked; a temporary floor was laid and temporary seats were constructed. Although the morning was rainy, yet the audience was good. I commenced the services of the day by reading and prefacing Psalm exxii., adapting my remarks to the circumstances of the people. I dwelt upon the important privilege of having the house of God to go to on his holy day, and the joyful feelings that should be awakened when we were called to meet in it. They were now favoured with this privilege. God had put it into their hearts to erect this place for his worship; he had prospered them in the work, and so soon after their settlement in this part of the forests of Canada, they had the pleasure of seeing his house ready for their church meetings. Let the privilege be prized and suitably improved. Let parents come and bring their children to the social prayer-meeting, which was to be held here, and when they had sermon let them be conscientious in attending. This would promote the intelligence of the neighbourhood, give a healthy moral tone to society, for a church-going people were always a moral people, and spiritual consequences might be expected to ensue, whose importance eternity alone would be sufficient to disclose.

After singing and prayer, I read Psalm lxxvii., making some remarks upon verse 13—"Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary." When the religious services were concluded, I addressed the people on the duty and importance of maintaining a Sabbath School among them. One had been commenced some time previously, but, owing to some cause, had been discontinued. It was now agreed, that it should be resumed, and we have heard since that it is well attended by the children, and conducted with spirit by the teachers. It is to be regretted that it has no library, and whatever anxiety may be felt by the people to procure one, it is not likely they shall be able to do so for some time to come. But they are determined, that as soon as the means can be acquired, a suitable library shall be purchased.

In the afternoon a meeting was held in a private house, about two miles from the church. The audience was very good and much interest appeared to be taken in the truths that were enunciated.

A very interesting feature of the Brant settlement, is the concern which is shown to have gospel ordinances introduced and administered. While those who have gone into that quarter have as their primary object, to procure a home for themselves and families, they are not unmindful that there are other interests to be consulted than those of time, and another heritage to be secured than that of this world. Very much does it redound to their credit, that they have gone to work so early, and erected a place of worship, to which they may go up and call upon the name of the Lord. To every one that takes pleasure in the spiritual well-being of his brother man, it must be pleasing to hear of the desire entertained, and the efforts expended to obtain religious privileges. To the missionary it is cause of encouragement to know that here there are souls longing for the bread of life—ready to receive him, and the message he brings from his Master. It speaks well for them, and augurs well for the future character of the settlement, that within so short a period a church has been built, a congregation organized, a prayer meeting instituted, and a Sabbath school commenced. "And of Zion it shall be said, this and that man was born in her, and the highest himself shall establish her."

Next morning I started, accompanied by the only member of Mr. Lamont's family who was a home, to the concession north of the Durham road, and visited several families in the course of the day. One had come in since my visit in winter. By each a kindly reception and a cordial greeting were given. Considerable clearance has been made, and if the same progress continue, the place will very soon lose its wilderness aspect, and an air of comfort and convenience present itself. May the rising generation, whose shall be the enjoyment of this, be characterized by zeal for religious interests!

It had been arranged that Joseph Lamont and I should leave early on

Tuesday morning for the mouth of the Saugeen, to be accompanied part of the way by Mrs. Lamont. Through the night it had rained very heavily, and there were symptoms that the day would be showery. We started, however, and after travelling three miles, stopped at the house of Mr. Smith, an elder of the congregation, where we had breakfast. It was past ten o'clock before we resumed our journey. The clouds were still lowering, the roads soft, and the mosquitoes seemed to be giving full scope to their blood-thirsty propensities. The journey did not promise to be pleasant in some respects, but we were very happy with one another; and when an interruption occurred in the conversation, and we began to calculate our position, it was often a matter of surprise that we had proceeded so far, with so little feeling of discomfort. Our road struck north from the Durham line. Very soon we were out of sight of any clearance. On each hand rose the primeval forest, rich in the umbrageousness of summer foliage. The squirrel and chip-munk were sporting themselves—looking this moment at the traveller who had broken in upon their haunts, and the next hastening to conceal themselves from view. Very few birds were to be seen, as usual in Canada, but our way was verdant with the spontaneous productions of nature, and the mosquitoes, greedy creatures, encompassed us in myriads. At one o'clock we reached a shanty in a clearance of a few acres. Here we stopped for dinner, and were made welcome by the proprietor, who has been only a year in the province. Mrs. Lamont was to remain here, while Joseph and I must prosecute the remainder of our journey with all despatch, as a number of miles lay between this and the next dwelling. We therefore allowed ourselves only an hour for rest and refreshment, when we started once more. Most willingly could I have prolonged my stay, for already had I begun to feel the fatigues of walking, but we must proceed, lest we should be benighted in the bush.

Bidding farewell to the companion of our forenoon toils, and the family from whom we had received such a kindly reception, we took the road once more, making all the haste we could, and stimulated forward by the annoyances experienced from the mosquitoes. In fact they were unwearied tormentors. Never had I suffered so much from them in all my wanderings, and I could not resist the impression that they would drive a man deranged, if he were fully exposed for a time to their venomous bites. The day was in every respect favourable to them, and they availed themselves of their advantages.

Some time before dark we reached the mouth of Mud River, which falls into the Saugeen, and found, upon enquiry, that we were nine miles by land and fifteen by water, from Mr. Gouinlock's, a settler who had lately come in from the township of Chinguacousy, where he had been a member in one of the congregations under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Coutts. We were under the necessity of remaining here all night. Leaving next morning early, we were ferried across Mud River, and took through the bush for a mile, when we came out upon the banks of Saugeen. Finding a raft made of three old, wet, heavy logs, slightly fastened, we embarked, allowing ourselves to be carried down by the current. We were far from being comfortable, our feet being under water as we stood upon the logs, nor free from danger, for a slight thing would have thrown us off the balance and into the river, which, according to a measurement made, was upwards of ten feet deep.

After proceeding about half a mile we saw another raft of a better description, drawn up on the bank, and steering towards it, took possession and pushed off again into the stream, having now the comfort of being able to sit down. Our situation was somewhat romantic, but not by any means dangerous. We had entrusted ourselves to three poles tied together with a piece of bark; on a river deep in some places, shallow and rapid in others, and having fourteen miles before us. The morning was most pleasant. Not a cloud was upon the sky, and the sun appeared in all his majesty. The river scenery was uniform and monotonous, but at the same time interesting in comparison with that of yesterday. The water was clear, and there was no marsh nor swamp at either bank. Quietness reigned on every hand, interrupted only by the deer as it hastened, on discovering us, out of the stream, to which it had come down to drink, back into the woods; or by the fish as it leaped at the fly, which was enjoying itself upon the surface, little thinking of the enemy that was watching to make it a prey. In some places the banks rose to a considerable height, in others they sloped down till they became nearly level with the river. So far as we could perceive, the land was of an excellent quality, and the imagination dwelt upon the scene which will present itself in the future, when the forest will be reclaimed, and the labors of agriculture will be plied, and the land made to yield her increase for the support of man and beast. Immortal beings will take possession of these wilds—take part in the scenes which shall be transacted, and enter upon the everlasting destiny. The herald of the cross shall lift up his voice, urge his hearers to be reconciled unto God. Many may receive the overtures he addresses in the name of his Lord, fall asleep believing in him to awake in the glory of his kingdom on high; while many may turn a deaf ear, and go to the judgment seat in all their guilt and depravity, to be dealt with as rejectors of mercy offered.

At some parts of the river our progress was slow, owing to the deadness of the water, at others we were borne along rapidly. Twice we struck upon stones, and were nearly upset; but my companion leapt out and hauled the raft into deeper water, and again we proceeded on our way. Sometimes in the rapids the waves came rushing over and wet us, while a careful look out had to be maintained lest we should get into a narrow channel, or be carried against some big stone.

We had made nearly twelve miles in this manner when we discov-