

some fifteen or sixteen clergymen, of whom there were in Upper Canada, at Kingston, Rev. Dr. Stuart; at York, Rev. Mr. Stuart; at Niagara, Rev. Mr. Addison; at Fredericksburg and Ernest Town, Rev. Mr. Langhorne; at Cornwall, Rev. Mr. (after Bishop) Strachan; and at Sandwich, Rev. Mr. Pollard; while at the same time there were but three clergymen of the Church of Scotland in the two provinces, viz., the Rev. Alexander Spark, D.D., at Quebec, the Rev. Mr. Somerville at Montreal, and the Rev. John Bethune at New Oswegatchie.

The Methodists were among the early pioneers of the country and Mr. Stone's second wife was a member of that communion. Their house was a home and a stopping place for the preachers and ministers, who travelled backward and forward, and it would appear that the Rev. Thomas Whitehead, Elder Ryan, and the Reverend Thaddeus Osgood were among those who visited Joel Stone and his wife. It has been already stated that the latter was the means of bringing her first and second husbands to Christ, and in a letter by her to her daughter, Mrs. Abia Mallory, and dated 20th November, 1818, informs her that the Colonel has joined the Methodists.

The following extracts from letters written by Col. Stone afford some evidence of his spiritual state. Writing to his sister, Hannah Levingworth, on 13th March, 1821, after his return from a journey, he says: "The more I reflect, the more thankful I feel to the Fountain of all Good that my health and strength has been preserved throughout my whole tour, which has afforded me so great consolation, in once more seeing in time three (of my) own dear sisters, one brother, four brothers-in-law, with the greater part of their respective families, also the greater part of the families of my departed sisters. May it be a means of renewing in us all a full determination to persevere in performing the duties and embracing the great privileges allotted to each of us here on earth, in that only way whereby we may justly obtain a hope of a much more joyful meeting in peace before our great and awful judge, there to join with one accord and sing praises to the Lamb that taketh away the sins of the world, forevermore."

And in a letter to his brother Lemah Stone, dated 15th February, 1823, he says: "Dear brother, it gives us real consolation to have reason (from the tenor of your letter) to hope you are seeking the only way for future bliss, through the Blessed Mediator. May you obtain justification and sanctification through that faith which worketh true repentance into perfect love for our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; and in order that you may free your mind from tradition and prejudice even for or against the Methodist, I beg leave to recommend a small book entitled 'A True and Complete Portraiture of Methodism.' It may cost a dollar, and permit me to beg as a favor you will purchase it and read it carefully once through."

In October or November, 1833, Col. Stone was attacked by a severe cold which, at his then great age, proved to be fatal; and he died at his residence at Gananoque on the 20th November, 1833. His death was a great blow to his wife, and it is said that some of the stern fortitude displayed on a previous occasion appeared to be gone. She survived him nearly ten years, and died at Gananoque, after a short illness, on the 4th day of August, 1843, at the age of nearly 93 years.