

religious destitution should stir up more zeal and Missionary liberality in the Church.

The Missions in the north and west of the island are grouped in the St. John's District, chiefly because communication with the capital is more reliable than with localities geographically nearer. In some cases our missionaries can communicate even with it but three or four times a year. This isolation, which I may say, by the way, is one cause of trial to the brethren, coupled with the fact that the fishery scatters our people along our coast and that of Labrador, often far away from their homes, will explain why news in some cases is not more recent, and why intelligence is always hailed by us in the spring with special interest, because bringing to us the results of Missionary operations during the winter, in which, in this Colony in particular, there are fewer interruptions in the way of ministerial work. Nevertheless, I am happy to say that reports from our Missions generally, so far as they have been received, are encouraging, and in some cases highly cheering. I will speak first of the fifteen in this District, hitherto classed as Home Missions, on account of being sustained by the Home Missionary Society of the late Conference of Eastern British America. Though the distinction has necessarily ceased, this order will introduce us to our youngest missions, and will furnish a succession of stories of Missionary self-denial and endurance truly heroic, and of progress in different stages, from the small sowing of the precious seed among the few in the humble tilt or unfurnished fish store, or possibly on the sea beach, onward to the erection of school chapels where the children are gathered to be taught to read, and both old and young to hear the gospel, and in some cases to the building of churches, either projected or in course of construction. Educationally, spiritually, and socially, the effects produced by God's blessing upon the work of our Missionaries are very visible in all—in some very marked and gratifying.

MUSGRAVE TOWN (*Bonavista Bay*.)

Here for a number of years an agent was employed as teacher and exhorter by our Newfoundland Wesleyan School and Agency Society; a society which in several places, as in this, prepared the way for the missionary. By this means a day and Sabbath school were organized, and a small society formed. A hired local preacher was then engaged for a year to enlarge the field into a circuit. Eighteen months ago a preacher was sent, who reported at last Conference that the circuit comprised ten stations within a limit of forty-five miles, with fifty-seven members and fifty on trial.

Respecting the circuit, Brother Seccombe, lately from England, has written thus: "I have been endeavouring to scatter the good seed of the Kingdom, and I have reason to think some of it has fallen into good ground. Three persons have professed to be 'turned from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God.'" A church 55 ft. long by 35 ft. wide is being built by the people, assisted by friends in St. Johns. The Wesleyan day-school here is still doing good service.

MUSGRAVE HARBOUR (*Near Sir C. Hamilton's Sound*.)

This is a very promising Mission, which was supplied last year with a preacher, and was reported at its close as having twenty members and thirty-six on trial. By census just taken the number of adherents has greatly increased since 1869, and from various sources I gather that a bright day is about to dawn on this circuit. A neat and commodious church is nearly finished without debt at the Harbour, which is well filled from Sabbath to Sabbath, though capable of accommodating from five hundred to six hundred persons. Great credit is due to the people for pushing forward this church. Their persevering liberality shows