

I soon found that this information was correct, for a carriage arriving for me, I was quickly *en route* for Mr. Jack's spiritual charge, and place of living. Forty years ago this whole parish of Springfield was a wilderness. Even thirty years ago there were only a few scattered inhabitants, a settler here and another there, and great difficulty in passing from one neighbourhood to another. Where we were comfortably moving off at six miles an hour, there was then only a path on which a man or horse might *walk*, one at a time, but there was no carriage road. There was a market for the produce of the new farm or clearing, at St. John, but how to convey it there was the difficulty. This was always a work of toil, and sometimes of hardship and exposure, first by land and next by water, down the St. John River, pleasant enough in summer, but having fewer charms in the cold month of November.

It was a true report that the Dr. heard and gave me. Some portions of this drive to Springfield are remarkably attractive. We are driving along a valley with fine ranges of hardwood hills on either side, and the variegated tints of the forest trees surpass any thing of the kind I ever saw. There has been no severe frost as yet to bring the foliage to a dull brown, or to a uniform red or yellow. Many trees are just as green as they were in the leafy month of June, for the summer has been moist, and the foliage has wonderfully retained its verdure. The first gentle frosts, however, have begun their work of change, and the variety is wonderful. Some trees are tinged with vermilion and some with a golden yellow, but as the eye glances over miles of forest, the blending seems perfect, and such as no pencil could reproduce.

Let me now pass Bellisle, with its Episcopal Church, and the cultivated country on either side, without remark, and hasten to my destination. The spire of a fine new place of worship indicates the centre of Presbyterianism in this part of the country.

On the Lord's day I find the people congregated, but not in this new Kirk. They densely filled an older and smaller place of worship. This one was in a good state of repair, but had been outgrown by the congregation, and the more public spirited among the people determined to erect an edifice which would comfortably accommodate their families. This determination they have well carried out, and the new church is an ornament to the place, and does credit to the congregation. This will appear more evident when I state that the number of families in this section of the congregation does not amount to forty, prob-

ably about thirty-five, and that one-fourth declined taking part in the work, on the ground that the step was at present unnecessary, so that some twenty-five families have erected and completed this fine building, capable of containing some 400 people, and which has probably been opened by this time.

The congregation when assembled sang so heartily, and yielded such undivided attention, that to preach the good news was at once easy and delightful; and the same attentive ear encouraged the delegate to give a full statement of the objects of our mission, and the different departments of our church's work at home and abroad, and hints on the subject of the privilege and duty both of working for, and giving to, the cause of God.

We had only time, after dismissal, to grasp the hands and reciprocate the kindly greetings of the elders and a few other christian people, including some MacGregors, who waited to salute their clansman, and then drive off, first for dinner, and then to English town, the other constituent part of this congregation, Mr. Jack meanwhile setting off to preach at an out-station of his scattered but interesting charge.

My road of 12 miles extended over a hill country, and the road went over the hills and down the dales (no curving round) in the good old style. The Presbyterians at English town are not numerous, but the church, of moderate size, was filled with men and women, and a very large proportion of them young people, who filled the gallery. What proportion of them belonged to the other denominations I was not anxious to determine, but they listened most attentively both to the sermon and the subsequent address. I felt throughout that I had an *appreciative* audience, (that is the word,) and on their part they responded with most excellent singing, the *organs* discoursing sweet music, being, as nearly as I could determine, equal in number to the people.

Refreshed by tea prepared by Mrs. Dr. M., and declining an invitation to remain for the night, my companion and I are again on the road, on one of the darkest nights of the season. For a time in the thick woods, the horse was invisible, which all night travellers recognize as the sign of the densest darkness. The clouds were lowering, the air was motionless, and many small phosphoric lights were visible. These were not glow-worms nor fire-flies, for it was not their season. Were they small pieces of phosphoric wood, or phosphoric gases rising from the earth and undergoing a slow combustion? Curiosity is excited, and we try to grasp them, but they elude us. At length we succeed in getting into