

after settlers are in, individual enterprise will do much more than assistance from public sources.

It is, of course, only after settlements are formed that the duty of the Church begins. Probably there is not a section of the country, East or West, wherein the children of the Presbyterian Church are not found. In very many instances they have not been looked after by the Presbyterian Church, and so in the next generation have been found actively sustaining the Church which has first supplied them with ordinances, viz., the Methodist Church. Of late, however, the Presbyterian Church has been able to do more towards overtaking new settlements than formerly, and we hope that the new Home Mission Scheme, when matured, will be found instrumental in fulfilling more efficiently than ever this part of the Church's duty, by sending in missionaries to organise congregations and build Churches almost immediately on the settlement of a new district.

As an illustration of what is intended, we may refer to a very interesting portion of our Home Mission Work, within the bounds of the Presbytery of Cobourg. About five years ago, the first real settlers went in along the Bobcaygeon Road, which runs northward from Bobcaygeon, in the County of Peterboro', across the Peterson Road to the lake, from which the Muskoka River flows. The free grants on both sides of the road, for a distance of nearly 40 miles, were soon taken up. Many of the lots turned out to be of little value, indeed the road, for a considerable way, runs along a very rough ridge, giving no idea of the adjacent country. Along this road there are about ~~thirty~~ new townships, which are more or less settled, and all within five years. Three townships lie partly within the bounds of the Ontario and partly within the bounds of the Cobourg Presbyteries. Many parts of these lands will, in all probability, be very long of being occupied, perhaps will never be anything else but woods, although there are appearances of mineral wealth in some of the roughest places. There are, however, tracts of good land, which will be of value as soon as a more speedy communication with the front can be obtained. Meanwhile the mode of communication is peculiarly favourable for settlers, owing to chains of lakes running both East and West, North and South, by means of which access is easy in summer by canoes and in winter upon the ice. The whole basins which the Burnt River and the Gull River drain are thus characterised, and settlements of considerable promise are fast appearing along the lakes, with embryo villages at not a few of the narrows.

The last two unpropitious harvests seriously affected these new settlements; but the harvest this year is much better, and as the lumber merchants provide a ready cash market for all the produce which can be raised, the immediate prospects of these new townships are decidedly good.

This mission field has been visited four times by ministers of the Church, and sealing ordinances were dispensed, both at Kinmount and Minden. A student was also there during last summer, and for a year before that, a probationer, Mr. William Clark, did good service.

The people having still to struggle with all the difficulties of a new settlement, are not able to do much towards supporting Gospel ordinances. Some among them have, however, shown a willingness to do something, which puts to shame the offerings of many who are blessed with plenty and enjoy the best of Gospel privileges. Worship, in connection with our Church, for the most