

upon me that you have a number of intelligent, warm-hearted, and ardently devoted brethren who co-operate with you in pleading the cause of the Lord.

A true band of "co-operants will work semi-wonders in a community. I am persuaded, brother Wallis, that even the Disciples, although somewhat advanced in the Christian school, are still far behind in mutual actionary measures, and have not yet attained to a thorough, vigorous, and steadfast zeal, based upon principle, necessary to the execution of enlarged and comprehensive plans for the diffusion of the gospel and its attendant blessings. There is a meagreness of soul in reference to this subject wholly at variance with the spirit and noble greatness of Christianity. Little—very little—O how little, is done in the gospel for the gospel's sake! Local interest, personal interest, or some species of opinionated interest, apart from the cause of Christ or the love of truth, would seem to hold governorship over most of what is done in the name of religion. But I must withhold further commentary on this topic, for you will desire some items of news.

We have in Canada West between twenty and twenty-five churches. The whole will not at present number a thousand members. Our increase has not been rapid, owing to a variety of causes, some of which are like these:—first, a number of unworthy men who commenced preaching and making converts in the province; second, a lack of acquaintance among the churches, and a consequent want of co-operation; third, too much of that species of enterprise which is visionless as respects the "things above;" fourth, a zeal sometimes not according to knowledge, and the exhibition of an unlovely spirit, in opposing sectarianism. These are a sample of the hinderances to the progress of truth in past times among the people with whom we dwell. But I am happy to add that some, if not all of these obstacles to our advancement, are being overcome by means and influences more in harmony with the spirit and power of the gospel of Christ.

There is at present a successful endeavour among our widely separated congregations to cultivate Christian acquaintance with each other, and to effect a greater measure of cordiality and co-operation for the more general extension of these precious germs of truth which germinate to eternal life. O that we may add to our knowledge a corresponding zeal and a proportionate ardour. How important the work—how arduous—and yet how blessed and honorable!

Should you find leisure to write, be assured I will find time