

July 31.—Left Amherst at midnight by the stage to meet the railway train at Moncton. We passed through the dyke land in the vicinity of Amherst. It so happened that the moon was full and the tide unusually high. When half way across, the water burst through the dyke and flooded the road over the *abitou*. There was danger of being completely surrounded by the tide. The driver was equal to the emergency. The only chance of escape was by crossing the *abitou* at a lower level, which he once attempted to do, though the attempt was hazardous in the extreme. The wheels of the coach stuck fast in the mud. All the vociferations and lashing of the driver were in vain; it was apparently beyond the power of the four stout horses to extricate us from our perilous situation. In the darkness of the night, the white cascade of sea-water was seen far above our heads, pouring down into the hollow in which we were immovably fixed; the tumultuous rush of water was heard on all sides, and the driver had made a pause for a few seconds of most painful suspense, but the pause was made merely to give the horses breath. They seemed to understand the emergency, as they felt the water rising around them, and when the driver gave his last shout they instantly bent forward for one last desperate effort. It was successful. We ascended to the plain; but even here we were not safe. The water was fast flooding the dyke land. But now that we were on even ground, we could drive at a rapid rate, sometimes on dry land, sometimes with the water splashing around us. At last the driver pulled up, and shouted to the passengers inside, "Thank God, we are all safe." The effect of the alarm was dead silence; no one spoke to the driver or to his fellow passengers. The feeling was that of utter helplessness. The only one disposed to make an effort was an old ship captain. The rush of the water made him feel that he was in the proper element, and stirred him up to action, but the gear of the stage coach perplexed him, and he despairingly relapsed into inaction, much to the relief of his fellow passengers. Taking the railway train from Moncton, I arrived at St. John about six o'clock in the evening.

St. John, August 2.—Preached, forenoon and evening, in Dr. Donald's Church, at present the only one in St. John, in connection with the Church of Scotland. There was formerly another, of which Mr. Wishart was incumbent. He was a man of great popular talent, but he embraced peculiar views regarding the sacraments and ordinances generally, which necessitated the Presbytery to remove him from his office. His Church has since been sold, but the purchase money belongs to the Church of Scotland. The friends of the Church are only waiting a favourable opportunity for the erection of another charge.

August 3.—Visited the lunatic asylum under the superintendence of Dr. Waddell. I

have not seen in any country an asylum which pleased me so much. Its commanding situation, at the narrow outlet of the St. John, its admirably kept grounds, its spacious halls and corridors, its neat and comfortable bedrooms, with the silence and perfect order observed throughout, all contributed to make one feel that nowhere could human reason have a better chance of recovering its lost balance.

The mouth of the St. John River presents a very paradoxical phenomenon. There is a fall both upwards and downwards at different times of the day. At ebb-tide, the channel immediately above the narrow gorge presents the aspect of the broken waters of a rapid with downward motion; at full-tide, the water rises so high outside the gorge that the current is reversed, and a rapid fall up the river is produced. The fall in the one direction is as perceptible as in that of the other.

August 5.—The Trustees of Dr. Donald's Church met to-day, to consider what means should be taken to relieve the Colonial Committee at home of the support of weak congregations in New Brunswick. The spirit displayed was cheering in the extreme. The question was whether an annual sum of £300 should be raised, or a principal sum of £5000. It was resolved unanimously that, in accordance with the example of the mother Church, the higher effort of raising £5,000 at once should be made. The principle of an endowment is thus recognized, and will tend much to preserve the integrity and extend the usefulness of the Church of Scotland. It is not intended by this action to dispense with the aid of the Home Church in supplying Scottish settlers with the means of grace. The object is simply to make the various congregations, as soon as organized, either self-supporting or dependent only on provincial aid, so that the means of the Colonial Committee may be liberated, and applied to their proper object, missionary work. There is a great field for extension in New Brunswick, and it is felt that the means of the Church of Scotland can be best applied so as to accomplish this object. In the evening I addressed a meeting on the affairs of the Church.

July 6.—Drove out with my host, the Hon. John Robertson, to his country seat at Rothsay, which received its name from the visit of the Prince of Wales, one of whose titles is Duke of Rothsay. Its picturesque situation is not unlike that of the Scottish town of the same name. It is situated on the banks of the Kennebecasis, which here widens into an extensive bay, with an island in the middle. By the liberal efforts of Mr. Robertson and others, a commodious and beautiful Church has been erected in connection with the Church of Scotland. As Rothsay consists chiefly of summer villas of the merchants of St. John, and as many of these belong to the Church of England, it is so arranged that the services of both Churches are held al-