

the foretaste of the rivers of pleasure and the eternal rest to be enjoyed at God's right hand. They are only the reflected rays of that everlasting day into which we will soon emerge.

The promises of God are precious in their indispensableness. They are felt by the christian to be necessary to his security and happiness. They are like life preservers to drowning men. They may not appear to be of much use when the day is fine and the voyage prosperous, but when the ship strikes and we begin to sink beneath the waves, nothing is more valuable. It is when on the sea of life with nothing else to cling to, that the promise becomes precious. We would not sell our life preservers then for millions of dollars. We grasp them as our only hope, and the more firmly we cling to them the more securely we will float on the sea of doubt and disaster. The promises are the vessels by which we draw water from the wells of salvation. It is by letting them down in faith that we reach and draw up the living water of the fountain of life. They are the cable chains of Christian steadfastness. By them we can secure the christian bark when she is in danger of being swept from her moorings by storms and currents. The promises supply food for all the christian graces. They are the anchors to which faith clings in time of trial. They are the windows through which hope surveys the future. They are the pillows on which love reposes in perfect peace. God's promises are indeed precious.

MOOSELAND.

This settlement is a Gold District, situated about 12 miles from Tangier and 18 from Middle Musquodoboit. In the midst of a forest with one of the worst of roads leading to it, it is by no means a pleasant task to undertake to journey to this locality. To reach it with any degree of safety parties must either walk or ride on horseback. Isolated, however, as this settlement is, and known perhaps to but few readers of the *Record*, yet it must hereafter occupy a place upon the page of Nova Scotian history. The

future historian of our Province will have to chronicle the fact that here gold was first discovered in our land. The announcement of this discovery spread like wildfire, and hundreds were found flocking to this locality to obtain some of the precious ore. A large population soon gathered, dwelling chiefly in camps scattered throughout the forest. Many left comfortable homes anticipating great fortunes in store for them, many of whom, alas, were doomed to bitter disappointment. Among the visitors of note was the Hon. Joseph Howe, who gave to these Gold Diggings the name Mooseland it being a famous hunting ground, large numbers of Moose being captured there.

The palmy days of this region seem now to be gone; once comprising a population of hundreds of gold seekers, it now only contains about 12 families. Mining is not now extensively pursued, though operations have not been wholly suspended. A mill has been erected, and the settlement contains some good agricultural soil, which, to some extent, is being tilled. A school is in successful operation, though a Sabbath school has not been in existence for some time. Beside the resident families young men are found resorting here to obtain employment; and yet, alas, how little attention we can give to their spiritual wants. Many are their silent Sabbaths; for months at a time they have not seen the face of a minister of the gospel. During the past summer, however, they have not been neglected. Mr. John Richards, who was employed as a Catechist in the Sheet Harbour congregation, laboured among them with much acceptance preaching the truth and visiting their homes. The same arrangement will be followed out during next season, but only a meagre supply can be given during winter. Their destitute condition and sad lack of gospel ordinances surely excite our sympathy. And Mooseland is not the only isolated region within our Home bounds demanding attention at our hands. There are other localities where souls are perishing for lack of knowledge, and must we neglect them? Our Catechists are doing a good work in cultivating these destitute fields, and would that we