

4. That their influence, in leaving, has been evil, and only evil, to the ministry.

5. That some now in the ministry, are more intent on acquiring the world than on saving souls.

6. That merchandize, agriculture, animal magnetism, electricity, and a thousand other secular interests, are carrying captive numbers of the watchmen of Israel.

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### SPECIAL NEWS.

*Notawasaga, Lord's day, Aug. 13th, 1848.*

DEAR BROTHER OLIPIANT:—Last Lord's day, about ten o'clock A. M., I was on the bank of Mad River, in this Township, with a number of persons congregated around. Above our heads rose in primeval majesty the lofty forest, forming a magnificent canopy, impervious to the sun. It most probably was never before made vocal by hymns of praise to its Creator—it was made vocal then. Prayer was perhaps never offered up before—it was offered then. The glad tidings of salvation were never before proclaimed—they were proclaimed then. And after this I stood in the wave of this now Canadian Jordan, and received the confession of their faith, that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, from two intelligent and interesting females (one of them a brother's wife), both mothers of families, whom I immersed for the remission of sins.

In the afternoon I was in a room in my brother James' house, about one and a half miles from the river, and on a table was bread and wine; and around, some ten individuals, who for the first time in this place, had met together to "show forth the Lord's death till he come." All seemed happy in their obedience, and resolved hereafter to walk in all the ordinances, and commandments of the Lord blamelessly.

This morning, I was again on the banks of Mad River—again the song of praise; the voice of prayer and proclamation was heard; and again I stood in the stream, and heard the confession of faith from two young and interesting females, daughters of the two mothers who were there last Lord's day; and they also were buried with their Lord by immersion unto death; to walk in newness of life.

Last week in going to and returning from Owen's Sound, I passed through the Township of St. Vincent, in which is the residence of brother George Jackson, formerly of Toronto, and also that of brother Wm. Trout, formerly of Norval; and they, with others, have formed a congregation of some two or three months standing. And I was informed while there that another who had repented was to-day to be immersed and added to the congregation. Thus you see within a short time of each other two lamps have been lighted in this new country, and may they never give cause that their "candlesticks" should be taken out of their place.

It may be observed that there are several brethren, formerly of the Norval Congregation, in each of the above. And now, with an earnest prayer for the progress of truth and righteousness, I am, dear Brother,

Yours, most fraternally,

W. A. STEPHENS.