

The road from Huntly to Richmond I found excellent. So good as to make me almost forget the dangers through which I had passed.

Sabbath, July 1.—Preached in the forenoon in the town of Richmond to a large congregation; and in the afternoon to a still larger one, in Shillington's chapel, or school house, four miles west from Richmond in the township of Gouldham, where I baptized one child. The people at this place, and in Richmond should form one congregation, and have long been desirous to have a minister of our church settled among them, as is also generally the case with the other places which I visited. The state of morality about Richmond seems to be very bad. In the immediate neighbourhood of the town, on the Sabbath morning, I came upon a man with a gun, and heard him firing repeatedly. Where the Lord's day is thus so openly profaned, it cannot be expected that the moral or religious condition of the people will be very prosperous.

Monday 2.—Preached eight miles from Richmond at Mr David McEwain's in the township of north Gower, to a considerable congregation, and baptized one child; then started for Kemptville distant thirteen miles, on my way to Osgood where I was to preach next day.

Arrived at Kemptville a pleasant village three miles from the line of the Rideau canal, in the evening, after a lonely ride through roads in some places nearly as bad as any I had come through. Stayed at Kemptville all night, and started early in the morning for Osgood, about twenty miles distant, arrived at the Methodist chapel in that township, in which I was to preach, two hours after the appointed time, and found a large congregation waiting for me. This was the only instance of my arriving later than the time appointed. The cause of my detention was the state of the road through Osgood. Such another road, I suppose, was never travelled by man or beast. For about three miles at one place my horse went down almost every step to the belly, and often had great difficulty in extricating his feet from the mud and hidden roots of trees, while mosquitoes encompassed us in clouds.

Osgood is settled by Presbyterians chiefly from the Highlands of Scotland, and is rapidly spreading. They are very anxious to get a minister of our church, and have with that view already secured by grant and purchase, I think, four hundred acres for a glebe. If not soon supplied, however, I fear their patience will be exhausted, and their numbers diminished, some of them having already joined other denominations whose preachers have been sent amongst them.

Wednesday 4.—Started early in the morning for Merrickville, distant upwards of thirty miles, where I should have preached in the afternoon, but finding on my arrival there, that no intimation had been given of my appointment, and that the few Presbyterians in the neighbourhood could not soon be collected, I proceeded onwards six miles to Kilmarnock a village on the Rideau, where I remained with Mr. Maitland for the night, and reached home next day, having ridden altogether about 250 miles, exclusive of various digressions from the way to visit individual families, as I went along from one situation to another.

Throughout this whole excursion I was kindly and most hospitably received and entertained. When contemplating however, the spiritual destitution of all the settlements I visited, melancholy feelings were uppermost in my mind. Often did I raise the silent prayer that the Lord of the harvest, would send more laborers into his harvest—pastors after his own heart, to gather the scattered sheep into his fold.

During the journey I continually experienced the providential care and kindness of God, and if my feeble efforts to preach the gospel of his grace, produced any effect, I humbly desire to ascribe unto him all the glory and praise.

Though when I left home I was just recovering from a serious illness, I felt little or no fatigue by the way, and while riding sometimes more than thirty miles a day under a burning sun, and at times through places which were really dangerous both for man and beast, I never felt so sweetly confident that the everlasting arms were beneath me and around me; and with one hand driving off from myself and horse, by means of a leafy branch, the innumerable multitude of insatiable insects which swarmed around me, and with the other striving to keep my faithful brute from floundering in the mire, I went on cheerfully and joyfully, rejoicing in the opportunities which were daily afforded me of offering to dying sinners the unsearchable riches of Christ.

May his kingdom come, until the whole earth is filled with the knowledge of the Lord! Even so came Lord Jesus! Amen.

THE DRUNKARD.

When Æschines applauded Philip, king of Macedon, as a jovial man who would drink freely, Demosthenes replied, "that it was a good quality in a sponge, but not in a king."