

supplied her with clothing in the winter season. At this time she possessed a scanty stock of furniture, a few little things of value to herself alone, as well as a Bible and her manumission papers given to her eighty-four years ago. But her shanty took fire, and she lost everything, even her Bible and her papers, about which she grieved to her dying day.

"A few weeks ago, hearing that she was unwell, I went to see her, and found her feeble in body, but still resting on the only sure foundation. Her faith was strong, her heart was light, and doubt would have been to her absurdity. Never did she join more earnestly in my prayers for her. A few days after this visit the house adjoining hers took fire and was burned to the ground. The flames reached her shanty, and it became necessary to remove her, perhaps too suddenly, for, being very weak, she was unable to bear the shock, and died in a few hours.

#### VALUE OF GIFTS OF CLOTHING.

"We have now no arrivals of fugitive slaves as formerly, but we have some arrivals of destitute negro families, and frequent demand for assistance in clothing. There is great destitution in this respect in some places.

"I could take a visitor through places in Windsor where *almost nudity* is the rule, and a well-fitting garment the exception. Indeed, on Sunday last I saw a woman carrying a child with nothing but a dirty rag tied around its otherwise naked body. There are some places here into which I rarely go but I feel that a lady visitor is required, and have to request Mrs. Hurst or others to do the work. Many hearts bless God for clothing sent from England. A poor man who had been sick all the winter called and obtained two warm shirts, and was so grateful that he returned in a few weeks with a dozen newly-laid eggs, which he had brought many miles as part payment, I suppose, for what he had received. I gave him the market price for his eggs, and sent him away.

"I cannot close this Report without repeating the substance of what I have many times said, that it would be an easy matter in Windsor to carry out the Society's good wishes for the coloured people to a great extent. We have the people, and *will* have. There are hearts prepared to receive us. We have a cry for help, and we only want a permanent lay-assistant to aid me in carrying on a regular course of services and Sabbath-school, in which a work may be done not inferior to anything which has been done in the Coloured Mission."

The following brief account of the early history of the Mission, from the report of Mr. Hurst's speech at the Annual Meeting of the Colonial and Continental Church Society, will be interesting to its old friends, reminding them of former days, and will convey, perhaps, new information to many:—

"The Mission was opened in the year 1854, in London, Canada West, with a staff of five to commence with. I was there at the very beginning, and there has scarcely been any agency employed that I have not had something to do with, or of which I could not give you a description.

#### LONDON.

"In the month of December of that year we commenced a school in London; and I cannot tell you how much we are indebted to the Bishop of Huron for laying the whole field open before us. I well remember the words which he used to me one day when I met him. I said, 'We are endeavouring, I hope, to do good; I believe we have no other desire than to do good, and to be the means of saving souls in your parish.' He replied, 'I do assure you that you have my full permission to go anywhere and to do anything that you think you can do in my parish; for I know your intention is only to teach the Gospel as it is revealed in the New Testament to the poor creatures among