

houses have taken the place of the rudely formed log cabins, in which from necessity their occupants were compelled to take shelter when first they came seeking a home in the forest. And doubtless in a few years the trials and hardships incident to the first settlement of these naturally beautiful and fertile districts will exist in memory alone.

It is not much to be wondered at if, on their first entrance into the wild woods, he, whose duty it becomes to minister to them in spiritual things, should have received but little of carnal things at their hands. Without a market for their produce and probably at first very little produce to market, he must necessarily live in the immediate vicinity of the bulk of the people; receive such as they have to give, and live to a large extent as they live if he would not see the wolf at his door. Under such circumstances small contributions would be supplemented by necessary articles of consumption both for man and beast, which would very materially lessen the expense of living. The necessity in this respect may be largely diminished now in the case of both sections of this congregation, and yet their difficulties are by no means over and gone. A good many log cabins remain to be set aside by more comfortable frame houses, and school houses of such dimensions and style as the new school law prescribes must needs be built and paid for, as well as schools supported here, which will tax the energies of the people for a few years still and render it a much more difficult matter for them to contribute to the adequate support of ordinances than when these difficulties shall have been removed. The field is sufficiently large and contains population enough to be under other circumstances a self-sustaining congregation, but at present there seems to be a necessity that they receive for a time the liberal support of the church in the event of the settlement of a pastor among them.

#### A PASTOR NEEDED.

It is not necessary that I add anything to what has come before you in former reports, respecting the desirableness of a watchman being stationed there. As Mr. Hale has said, "very much depends upon the speedy occupation of this field," and although its past history may not point to it as an inviting field, yet I am satisfied that only such circumstances as those at which I have hinted, have made its history what it is, and that there is now in the growing prosperity of the place as well as in the firm adherence of the chief part of its people to the religion of their fathers, sufficient to encourage the church to lend a helping hand for a time.

#### VISITS TO OTHER PLACES.

It is not necessary that I take up much of your time in reporting from the congregations visited during the remaining seven weeks of my mission. In fact I have but little to report beyond the fulfilment of the several appointments. These seven weeks were devoted to five different congregations and sections of country, so that a large part of the time was spent in travelling from place to place. Had the weather and roads however been different, something more might have been done in visiting the families of the respective localities, and, where needed, stirring up the people to make provision for, and seek the settlement of a pastor over them. Storm stayed at Woodstock, it was not until Saturday that I was able to reach Nerepis, to which congregation I was appointed for the second Sabbath of March. Monday proved very stormy, and Buctouche being my destination for the third Sabbath, I took my departure on Tuesday without doing more than fulfil the Sabbath day appointments.

During the two weeks of my stay at Buctouche and other sections connected, a succession of storms not only prevented me from seeing the people in their own houses, but also rendered it impossible for many to be present at church on Sabbath. At Cocagne and Shediac the attendance was good, but at Buctouche only those near by were able to be present, and though an appointment was made, I was unable to get to Scotch Settlement at all.

In the absence of Mr. Murray, I spent the fifth Sabbath of March at Moncton, from which place I repaired during the week to Hopewell, Albert Co., for the first two Sabbaths of April. On the first Sabbath I filled the appointments made by Mr. Murray on the previous Sabbath at Hopewell Corner and the Lake, and visited several families during the week. The second Sabbath proved stormy, so that the attendance at Hopewell Hill was not what it would otherwise have been, and the second appointment at the Cape, a distance of eight miles, was not filled.

In consequence of the arrival of Mr. Paradis, the French Missionary, my appointment to Buctouche for the remainder of April was countermanded, and in compliance with orders to that effect, I repaired to St. John for the supply of St. David's Church for one Sabbath. All which is respectfully submitted by

Your obedient servant,

SAM'L. ARCHIBALD.

MONCTON, N. B., though a widely scattered charge, has reached the summit in the circulation of the RECORD, every family within its bounds taking a copy. When can this be said of all our congregations?