

There are duties both on the part of the Clergy and the Laity which I will now touch upon, without the proper fulfilment of which, neither the system of government by Synod nor the executive power of the Church Society can be of any avail. And here I will more especially refer to the rural districts, with which I am more familiar than with the course of action in this great city. We are all well aware how much Quebec has done for the Church, how earnestly zealous she has been, how large have been her contributions, how strenuously she has worked,—but I may, I am sure, say she has been from the very commencement of Church action in the Province, singularly blessed in the government of her Prelates and principal Clergy. The first and second Bishops Mountain, Bishop Stewart, and our own able and beloved head, were and are fit to adorn any community, and it would be strange indeed if their lives and examples were without fruit. In the rural districts the difficulties have been very great, and continue to be so. First of all we have a heterogeneous population coming into the country, with but very little, often with no means, dependent on daily labour for a maintenance. These people live scattered at great distances apart, and at first are without horses or conveyances to bring them to the Church. The resident Clergyman from the wide area of his duties, finds it next to impossible to become properly acquainted with all who profess to belong to his Church. In new settlements the roads are bad—at some periods of the year almost impassable. Let all these things be considered, and let us who live in