

But difficulties of all kinds presented themselves, and I found myself forced to contend at once against open impiety, opposition and indifference, and often unable to see, even at a distance, the accomplishment of the desired object. Nevertheless I did not despair, knowing that Christ has chosen the weak things of the earth to confound the mighty, and that if he designed to bestow the favour I asked, that all these obstacles would disappear. And so it has proved.

What I then prayed and hoped for, I now find realized, and it is with sincere gratitude that I state, that on last Easter Sunday, this grand wish of my heart was fulfilled by seeing the formation of a small holy family, consisting of seven men and seven women, who had made profession of their faith in Christ, and their belief in the doctrines received by the Church of Scotland.

And now, Fathers and Christian Friends, permit me to turn your attention to the future, convinced as I am that the work to which I am set apart, is in a prosperous condition, and that the prospects before us are by no means discouraging. It would be improper not to say that new efforts are demanded daily both on your part and on mine, in order the better to promote the great work, and to impress upon others, and especially on those connected with the Church of Scotland, the necessity of vigorous efforts on their part for the spread of evangelical doctrines, and the downfall of ignorance and superstition. Although it be true that the morning has begun to dawn, there is yet much to be accomplished before the dispersion of the profound darkness which yet envelopes this country. The Church of Christ, clothed with the armour of light, ought therefore to unite and redouble its prayers and efforts for the spread of divine truth, and the general introduction of that kingdom which is righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

There are two points to which, above all, I would earnestly direct the attention of the venerable body, and which seem to demand your most serious consideration. In the first place, the converted Canadians who have abandoned their former superstitions, find themselves exposed to insults; and what is still more painful, are often unable, from their ignorance of the English language, to find employment among Protestants, while at the same time they meet with the most strenuous opposition from the Roman Catholics who refuse to allow them to labour with or for them. Being thus deprived of their only resource for the support of their families, several of my congregation have been reduced to great distress. To remedy this I have tried various plans, but hitherto with comparatively little success, being at one time baffled by the indo-