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London and Middlesex

Historical Society, *London, Ontario*

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Part VI.

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The Proudfoot Papers

PART I.—1832

Collected by Miss Harriet Priddis

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1915

Published by the Society

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#### TRANSACTIONS—1914

- Feb. 17—Middlesex Past and Present—a Biological Study  
—Prof. John Dearness, M. A.
- March 17—Miscellaneous Discussions—The Members.
- May 19—Annual Meeting, Reports, etc.—The Officers.
- Oct. 20—The Problems of Modern Germany—Rev. L. N.  
Tucker, M.A., D.C.L.
- Nov. 19—The Proudfoot Papers, I.—Miss H. Priddis.
- Dec. 15—The Proudfoot Papers, II.—Miss H. Priddis.

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The London and Middlesex Historical Society was organized in the year 1901. Its objects are to promote historical research and to collect and preserve records and other historical material that may be of use to the future historians of our country. Its funds are devoted exclusively to these objects; there are no salaried officers.

The Public Library Board grants the Society the free use of a room for its meetings, which are held on the third Tuesday evening of each month, from October to April, inclusive, and to which the public are invited—admission always free. Membership in the Society is open to any person interested in its objects, and is maintained by the payment of an annual fee of fifty cents.



*Mr. Proudfoot*

# *The Proudfoot Papers*

Collected by Miss Harriet Priddis.

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## EXPLANATORY

In 1832, that branch of Presbyterianism in Scotland called "The United Associate Synod of the Secessions Church," decided to send missionaries to Canada. The three ministers who volunteered for the work, and were accepted, were the Rev. Wm. Proudfoot, the Rev. William Robertson, and the Rev. Thomas Christie. Of these, Mr. Proudfoot was pre-eminently the leader. From the day that he left, almost immediately after his appointment, he commenced keeping a daily journal, which not only gave an accurate account of his proceedings, but included interesting and valuable comments on men and things—both secular and ecclesiastical. The journal and correspondence herewith printed for the first time, covers only three or four months, up to the time of his first visit to London. The remainder of the journal, or such parts as are available, may be published later.

The difficulties noted by Mr. Proudfoot on his first visit to London were cleared up shortly after; and in April of 1833 he moved to the village, and assumed the ministry over two congregations—one in the village, and the other some eleven miles north in London Township. The church in London bore in the early days, before the final union of the different Presbyterian bodies, the name of the U. P. Church; and is now known as the First Presbyterian. The building occupied for many years was the frame structure, situated on the south side of York street, a short distance west of Richmond. Mr. Proudfoot retained the ministry of this church until his death on the 10th of February, 1851, at the age of 63. He was succeeded by his son John.

The following paragraph from Dr. Greig's "History of the Presbyterian Church in Canada" is sufficiently descriptive. The portrait accompanying represents him in advanced life.

"William Proudfoot was educated in the University of Edinburgh, and studied theology under Dr. Lawson of Selkirk. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Edinburgh in 1812 and on the 1st of August, 1813, was ordained to the charge of Pitrodie, in Perthshire, where he remained for seventeen years, and where, in addition to his pastoral duties, he conducted with success a classical and mathematical academy. After arriving

in Canada Mr. Proudfoot travelled to Upper Canada, and made an extensive tour through different parts of the Province. He then accepted the charge of a congregation in London which he retained till his death. He died on the 10th of January, 1851, in the sixty-third year of his age, and the thirty-eighth of his ministry. During his residence in Canada he was not only a zealous missionary and faithful pastor, but discharged with success other multifarious duties which were laid upon him. He was Clerk of Presbytery, Clerk of Synod and Official Correspondent with the Church in Scotland, and took a leading part in the Union negotiations between the United Secession and the Presbyterian Synods of Canada. When a theological college was established in 1844 in connection with the United Secession Synod, he was appointed professor, and taught classics and philosophy as well as theology, while at the same time he retained the pastoral charge of the congregation in London. In addition to all these labors he took an active and influential part in the public affairs of the Province, and particularly in the movements respecting King's College and the Clergy Reserves. He was a man of dignified appearance and independent character, and an accomplished scholar, a profound theologian and an eloquent and impressive preacher, wise in counsel and energetic in action."

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#### JOURNAL OF REV. W. PROUDFOOT.

Events which happened from the time I left Pitrodie, 1832, June 25th.

Rouped\* all that part of my furniture which I did not mean to take to America. The proceeds of the sale were £94. I was enabled to leave Pitrodie without owing any man anything but "Love." I took property with me in books and clothes amounting to more than £350, besides £60 in cash. Of this I insured £200 in the Sea Insurance Office, Edinburgh, that should there happen any accident which might prevent our reaching America there might be something saved our dear daughters left behind us. In the afternoon of the 25th, Mary and Eliza left Pitrodie, Mary to go to Musselburgh, Eliza to Edinburgh, for their education. It being intended by both them and us that they shall come out next season or the season following to us in America, if it be the will of God. Parting with them was a painful event, but I left them under the care of the All Gracious and ever present God, and under the superintendence of friends, who will, I am confident, perform the friends' part.

\* Sold by auction.

June 27, Wednesday.—I left Pitrodie one o'clock, P. M. I took John and Alexander with me and we walked over the hill to Perth. Mrs. Proudfoot, William, Robert, Hart and Jessie went in a boat lent by Chas. Barned, by the low road. This evening I lodged with my family and servant in the house of my dear friend Mr. Newlands. Alex and John got a bed from Mr. Joseph Jamieson, who has in many instances acted the part of a friend. I was very much gratified by the attention which I received from every one of my acquaintances. I was gratified especially by the kindness of Mr. David Hepburn who, though but a late acquaintance, crowded into the space of a few weeks as many proofs of friendship as would have sufficed for years of ordinary friendly intercourse.

June 28.—I and my family left Perth at 3 o'clock A. M. in the Defiance Coach for Glasgow. Mr. and Mrs. Newlands and the Misses Barland, Mr. Hepburn and Wr. Wm. Chalmers accompanied us to the coach. I had the whole of the coach for my family, judging this to be most for their comfort. From Milnathoy to Stirling I passed through a district which I had never seen before. The first part of the way was rather bleak, and the soil poorish. The last part rich in soil and scenery. At Derm, Evenhead, the axletree, by overloading the coach, became so hot that we were detained an hour till it was cooled. The journey to Glasgow was accomplished with as much comfort as could be expected where there were so many young children. After dining in the Sartive I went to look out for a lodging, and not being successful I accepted of an invitation from Mrs. Johnstone and went to lodge with her, with my whole family. Mr. Johnstone was absent and I felt rather unpleasantly in taking such a family to his house in his absence, but I could not do otherwise.

June 29.—Sent four of my children to stay with my cousins John and Robert Hart at Milbrae, parish Cathcart, and was taken up during this day and June 30 in making preparations for my voyage.

July 1, Sabbath.—Heard Mr. Duncan preach in Portland St. chapel (Mr. Johnstone's) on the raising of the Widow's Son at Nain, and in the afternoon I lectured on the temptation of our Lord, Math. 4 1-2. In the evening Mrs. Proudfoot and I walked out to Milbrae, where in consequence of the presence of strangers we spent the time in a manner that did not please me.

July 2.—In Glasgow, called for some friends and continued my preparations.

July 3.—Left Glasgow in the Castle Toward Steamer for

Greenock, as the cabin of the big "Crown" in which I was to sail was not ready for the reception of passengers. I took up my residence in the White Hart Inn, where, though I paid high, I was very comfortable. We stayed three nights. During my stay in Greenock I was very much gratified by an instance of the friendship of Mr. Hepburn of Perth. He had written to Messrs. Williamson and Glassford, writers in Greenock, to show me kindness for his sake. This is one of those things which are not to be forgotten.

July 5.—The whole family spent the day with Mr. Williamson.

July 6.—Breakfasted and dined with Mr. Glassford. From these gentlemen and their families I received every attention, and had circumstances permitted us to be better acquainted might have ripened into friendship. About 4 o'clock P. M. I went on board the "Crown" with my family. I thus left the shores of my native land, never to return, so far as I knew then. I was not by any means so afflicted as I had anticipated. This indifference I attribute to the constant bustle in which I had lived for many days, by which everything was banished from my thoughts except that which was necessary to be done in order to my embarkation and the care of so many young children in strange places.

July 7.—The Quarantine Physician came on board and found the crew and passengers in good health. In consequence of his report there was given a clean bill of health. After the inspection many of the crew and passengers went ashore and stayed some hours, which I think, was exceedingly improper as the cholera was raging in Greenock. The inspection was a mere form and in no way fitted to serve the purpose for which I believe it was intended. Just as we were going to sail one of the passengers was brought off shore in a more drunken state than I had ever seen any man. He was towed up in the ship in a state of total insensibility. Between 7 and 8 o'clock P. M. the anchor was raised and the ship towed by a steamer down the Firth of Clyde as far as Dunwoon. When she left us we exchanged three cheers. There was little wind, and that little was contrary. We remained on deck as long as it was light, and looked with interest at objects, which, in all probability, we should never see again. After supper we had worship in the cabin, all the cabin passengers being very agreeable. In the cabin there are my family, which, including my servant, consists of nine persons. The family of a Mr. Blackburn, consisting of himself, his wife, four children, and a servant, in all seven; Mrs. and Mr. Robertson, and the surgeon, Mr. Archibald

Stewart—in all nineteen. The crew, including officers and seamen, cook and steward, seventeen. The steerage passengers, including children, 61. Total in ship, 97 souls.

July 8, Sabbath.—The pilot left us about six o'clock in the morning. The wind fair and fresh. When we got on deck the island of Ailsa was seen considerably ahead on the left. In the course of the day we passed on the right the island of Sanda and the Mull of Cantyre, a bold barren promontory, by the left was the coast of Ireland and the island of Rathlin which we passed in the evening. Rathlin presents a precipitous front, and so in some parts does the coast of Ireland, though in general it appears to rise slowly from the sea in gentle eminences. We had a distant view of the Giant's Causeway, i.e., it was pointed out to me, but whether owing to a defect in my vision or the vagueness of the weather I could not just say that I saw it. By ordinary causes most of the passengers were sick.

July 9.—Wind unfavorable, being nearly due W. The ship's motion was from two and a half to five knots, most of the passengers still sickly. Solan geese and a few porpoises tumbling about. The sea rough all day, the Captain said it was nothing. What, thought I, will it be when it becomes something. As I only in the cabin escaped sea sickness, the care of the children devolved on me. Mrs. Proudfoot and the servant unable to do anything, even for themselves. What a scene is the cabin of a ship when all in it are sea sick. The never ceasing rock, the rush of the contents of the stomach upwards. The smell, the filth. Enough.

July 10.—The wind steadily against us, the sea rough. Sea sickness in general abated considerably, but Mrs. P. and the servant as ill as ever. I am, therefore, still the nurse. Saw a few of the birds called Mother Carey's Chickens; was told they are seen all along the Atlantic. (Query) Where do they breed? There was a great deal of motion, but the motion progressive was very small, sometimes four knots and others not more than two and a half.

July 11.—During night the winds to the N. and blew a stiff breeze. The sea being rough enough, and the wind not very fair, caused an unpleasant motion in the ship, everything in the cabin that was not fixed tumbling about. I was rather unwell but not sea sick. Saw two brigs homeward bound and some gulls. The billows to-day were very grand, but by no means what I had expected to see in the Atlantic. They were short and frothy, not the long heaving swell I have heard so much of. The sailing of the ship very noble, at times she rode nobly over a surge that came rolling against her, dashing

far on every side the foam from her bows. To-day I lamented much that being on the Ocean where, on every side the sky rested on the waters, I could not feel as I wished that sense of the Majesty of God which it is so comfortable to realize. Before I left Pitrodie I often thought that the grandeur of the ocean, its vastness, depth, its enormous fishes, would impress my mind with veneration for the Creator and Upholder of All Things; but in this I have been considerably disappointed.

July 12.—The sea rather smooth. Those affected with sea sickness are for the most part recovered. There are still some confined to bed. Had some useful conversation with Mr. Robertson about our Mission. We agreed in thinking that we ought not to stop long in Montreal, but proceed as fast as possible to the West and endeavor to get an opening for our labors, either in some town, or in some place where there is a prospect of an increasing population. From what we have read we thought there could not be much for us in the large towns.

July 13.—The day remarkably fine, little wind, and sea smooth; most of those who had been sea sick were now recovered. The man who was brought on board so beastly drunk made a conspicuous figure to-day. There was on board a man who could play a little on the fiddle; and another, an excellent player on the flute. After a vast deal of low mirth and fun, such as one may see at a country fair amongst plowmen, he set a-going a dance upon deck in which, by dint of entreaty and pulling, he contended that every person in the steerage who could dance took part. Some of the cabin passengers humored the joke by dancing a reel or two. W. Gibson is a strong man, in the enjoyment of perfect health, and with a great deal of capering and jumping, and clapping of hands, and whooping, in this way produced an impression very much in his favor. He seems to be the very beau ideal of his class, strong, supple, noisy, good humored, and good at teasing the lassies. Laughter and buffooning characterize W. Gibson. He has been in the Scotch Greys, and was one of those who commuted their pensions and retired to Canada. Some of the passengers I now find, are decent persons. I hope the favorable impression I have of a few shall not be obliterated. Saw a man reading Welch's sermons, another Watt's "World to Come." There are many of them who appear to possess a very different character.

July 14.—The wind has become more favorable, and we are sailing in the right course. The sea is smooth. Saw a Shear bird: read a little.

July 15, Sabbath.—Weather very agreeable, wind moder-

ate, sea calm, what wind was, was from the W.; consequently what progress we gained was by tacking. Saw a brig homeward bound sailing with a favorable wind. It is now four or five days since we saw a ship and the sight of this brig was a treat. We all felt that we were still in the habitable world, and experienced an interest in those voyagers, as though they were brothers. I saw a log of wood floating by the ship. Yesterday there floated past some spars; perhaps these belonged to some ship wrecked in the Atlantic whose earthly course was closed in horror. Our captain took a less gloomy view of the subject; he said they had probably been washed off the deck of some timber laden ship, or even perhaps floated down the St. Lawrence, where they are constantly to be met with, having been separated from rafts. Thus it is that we readily fix upon those probabilities which remove danger farther from our thoughts. I was told that much wood is every year driven on the coast of Ireland; and I have read that Iceland is in a great measure supplied by drift timber. Thus Providence sometimes compensates to one barren country for its poverty by sending to it of the abundance of another. The fact that American timber is floated to Ireland and Iceland is a proof of the existence of a great western current floating to the east. It is a proof that this current is a continuation of the Gulf Stream, for nuts produced in the West Indies or on the Northern coast of South America have often been found on the shores of our Western Islands. This Sabbath was very different from the last. During last Sabbath all were sick. The sea was rough and stormy. To-day we have fine weather and almost all on board were free from sickness. I preached in the steerage from John 12. 32, to a very attentive audience, and I felt no small interest in preaching to so many on the bosom of the mighty deep. One of the cabin passengers officiated as precentor, and well. I lamented the difficulty of keeping the children employed in a manner becoming the Sabbath. May God conduct us in safety to the end of our voyage, and at the end of our earthly pilgrimage, may we all in His mercy be received into His Heavenly Kingdom and Glory.

July 16.—Day pleasant. Wind contrary but very light. Toward evening the monotony was relieved by the appearance of a swallow of the swift kind, which having been driven out of its way by the winds, or pursued by some bird that sought to devour it, sought shelter in the rigging of our ship. Every one on board was pleased that it had found a shelter and a resting place. It is pleasing to witness these indications of good feeling amongst even rude men. There are times and oc-

casions when there bursts forth proofs of something in man which might be turned to good account, were a rational system of training human beings once resorted to. Man has never been fairly treated, for, though the Christian system is fitted to do all that the most expanded humanity could wish, yet there has ever been a something in the application of Christianity which has in a great measure, neutralized its influence. Most of even the teachers of Christianity know so little about it and its use, and about man, that it is no wonder it has done less than its friends have wished. Nothing can be more absurd than to teach Christianity in the form of logical definitions; and not less absurd is it to set about operating upon man in the belief that there is nothing about him or in him on which we may lay hold to regenerate him. There exists in man the germs of all the good we ever can attain to. The truths of the gospel possess the exclusive honor of so laying hold of the rational and moral principles of his nature as that he shall think rightly or feel rightly about all the beings to whom he is related; first about God, and next about man; and that thinking and feeling aright towards them he shall act towards them all as he is bound to do. But to give lectures on Calvinism and Arminianism and to call that preaching the gospel is about as absurd as in place of giving a hungry man bread to give him a history of the different kinds of grain, and the mode of their cultivation, and their chemical qualities.

July 17.—When we got on deck this morning the sea was as smooth as glass, yet beautifully diversified by considerable swellings. In this smooth surface there were occasional long stripes curled by passing breezes. The first mate informed me that during the night he had seen a shark close to the ship. These monsters are supposed to come seldom to the surface, except when hard pressed by hunger. The swallow which had perched on the rigging last night was brought down to the cabin by one of the sailors. Everything was laid before it which it was supposed that it would eat, but nothing could induce it to partake of our food. As the sea was so smooth and the weather so fine, we thought it a good opportunity of performing the often practised experiment of sinking an empty bottle in the water, firmly corked. Some said the water forced its way into the bottle through the pores of the cork, others that it forced its way through the pores of the glass, others that if a bottle of rum were sunk the salt water would displace the rum. We put all these opinions to the test, merely for amusement, because we thought all of them probable. First we tied to a deep sea line of 120 fathoms an empty bottle firmly

corked with a piece of sheet lead fastened over the cork. Second a bottle full of rum securely corked. Upon these bottles being drawn up the first was found empty, the second was found to contain rum unchanged, and a third one was found full of salt water and the cork turned upside down. The rum was given to Will Gibson, who divided it amongst the passengers. We regretted that we had no instruments for ascertaining the specific gravity of the water brought up for 120 fathoms. After dinner had some amusement in shooting at Mother Carey's Chickens. One came near the ship and many were anxious to take away its life. I was very glad when it escaped. A duck was thrown overboard having a string tied to its foot as a mark to be shot at, but it would not leave the ship. Next an empty bottle corked was thrown into the sea as a mark; it was often struck but not broken. There were two vessels seen from the main mast head. Saw a whale but not very distinctly; also a considerable number of sea snakes. These seemed to be very transparent about three or four feet long, and along their backs ran a long chain of beautiful white spots; indeed it was by these white spots that they were distinguishable.

July 18.—The day has been very pleasant, the winds light but quite favorable. The day being cloudy there was no observation taken. In the North on the edge of the horizon we saw a ship homeward bound; and in the South two ships sailing in the same direction as we were. They appeared to be sailing faster than we, at which we felt not a little chagrined, though we have occasion for no other feeling than unmingled thankfulness. Saw a piece of wood floating past the ship covered with shells. The Captain fired a ball at it and struck it. It held on its way and we on ours. Mr. Robertson preached from Psalms. The sermon on deck. The audience attentive. In the evening we had some recitations from Peter Proven, a passenger, who had been a strolling player; also some very good playing on the German flute. The day has passed away very agreeably. Fine weather, good living and agreeable society render a voyage exceedingly pleasant. I have been very happy ever since I came on board.

July 19.—When I got on deck this morning I found the Captain in a very good humor, for a smart breeze had sprung up which propelled the ship in the right course. The wind continued steady for some hours but towards afternoon it so fell away that the sails began flapping in the wind. However, if we do not make much progress we are free from stormy weather, and what with harmony and plenty in the cabin, we

are very comfortable. Saw a white porpoise and a black one. I was told that the black porpoises always pursue and torment the white ones. It would appear that it is much the same among men as among porpoises. There is this difference, that it is the white men who pursue and torment the black. More particular enquiry convinced me that the story was destitute of proof. I have thus lost my fine parallel, but in losing a figure I have found a fact, little to the credit of men, viz., that white and black porpoises do agree, while white and black men have ever been at variance. As there were many smart looking children in the steerage, running about idle and working mischief and fighting, I, this day, collected them together and formed them into classes. When we came on board they seemed a set of wild unmanageable beings, but when put into order and set to do something, they became quiet and manageable. Many of them are smart children. One of the best ways of improving human beings it to direct them to some employment that is useful, as much in ameliorating human nature depends upon the choice of a line of life suitable to the genius, and furnishing opportunity for virtuous exertion, as on anything else. To improve mankind by mere lecturing is a foolish attempt. Every man who aims at doing good should not only teach men the right way, but should seek out occasions for calling principles into practice. Hence, for a man to preach only on Sabbath, and not live as it were, with his flock, is to do only half of the duty of his station or office. What a noble character would that man be, who would take up the whole system of Christianity and apply it to the redeeming of men. In doing this Our Lord appears to have left immeasurably behind him every one who has advocated the cause of truth and worked upon man with his system. In Our Lord's working there was such a perfect knowledge of the beings on whom he wished to operate, such a skilful application of the best means of operating upon them, and such a practical cast in all his endeavors, and such a life, even in his doctrines, as fairly place him at the head of Christianity, and at the head of all who labor in the Godlike work of improving the character of man. I have little doubt of doing something with the children if the parents countenance my endeavors. I fear the listlessness of the parents will cool down the willingness of the children. I have not hitherto adverted to our cabin fare. We have tea and coffee in the morning, with beat eggs instead of cream, ham, herring or sausages or eggs, and as yet, loaf bread. For dinner we have broth or soup of different kinds, fresh beef, fowls and pork ham, brandy or rum, white or port wine at pleasure. In the afternoon tea and ham. Supper consists of

bread and cheese and porter and toddy, or negus. The water has hitherto been very good.

July 20.—Was called up from the cabin this morning to see two whales spouting and tumbling about. The morning fine. The wind light but favorable. The captain shot a shear bird, which after having received two shots fell dead into the sea. It was useless depriving an innocent creature of life. During the afternoon a ship hove in sight, the Zebulon of Yarmouth, timber laden from Nova Scotia to Liverpool. I wrote by her to Mr. Turner and Mr. Newlands. The manner in which these letters were conveyed on board was as follows: They were wrapped up in paper and tied to a bit of lead and then thrown into the ship; of course it was a chance whether they fell into the ship or the sea, in this case it was successful. Saw to the leeward, on the edge of the horizon, a ship homeward bound. Such appearances in the midst of the watery waste are very animating. After tea we had a smart shower, which, whatever it may be on land, is not pleasant at sea. My class is increasing in numbers, and the children seem to be animated by a good spirit. In the evening a son of one of the passengers was swinging at a rope, fell and broke his thigh. The parents were exceedingly distressed, as may well be supposed. The Dr. and I set the bone. It was his first attempt and mine. The Dr. is a young lad who has just finished his apprenticeship. I knew little of the business of bone setting. I suppose we were much in the same state. Between us, I think, the job was very well done. The father of the boy is an old soldier who has commuted his pension. He has seven sons on board, all restless, riotous youths.

July 21.—Nothing occurred to-day deserving particular notice.

July 22 (Sabbath).—I preached below deck from Matt. 4, 1-11. Audience attentive. In the evening I had a long argument with Robertson and Mr. Blackburn respecting the interpretation of a passage in the seventh chapter of Isaiah. The question was, is that chapter a prophecy of Messiah or not? I contended that it is not a prophecy of Messiah. They maintained that it was. In going over the preceding context I found that they still adhered to a style of interpretation, which I have long rejected, viz.: that, in supporting an orthodox opinion, one is at perfect liberty to call in the spiritualizing system when the grammatical sense of the words will not suit the notions, that prophecy has not one sense only, but many senses, all or any one of which may be taken as the exigencies of the case may demand. The argument led to the considerations of the principles on which the writers in the New Testament have intro-

duced quotations from the Old Testament. Here I found that we could not agree. They maintained that the New Testament writers have quoted these passages in their real sense. I insisted that there were many of them nothing more than classical allusions, and that in some it was the words merely as suited to the writer's purpose, which were taken without any reference to the sense in which the Old Testament writers used them. I confirmed my views by going over the quotations in the first Chapter of Matthew. The discussion came to nothing, except fixing in my mind the principles which I have adopted, and methodizing and arranging them in my own mind. I believe I had better never argue except with those who are willing to think for themselves, and to take truth wherever they find it. Debating, somehow or other, interrupts the suavities of social life.

July 23.—Our progress has been pretty fair this day. A hen flew overboard into the sea and was lost to us.

July 24.—The wind fair and good. Our progress between 6 and 7 knots. When we were at breakfast a ship came close to the Crown. She was the Branches of London, bound for London, Captain Howie requested the Captain to report that he had met our ship. Toward evening the wind blew hard, and by bedtime most of the sails were reefed. The ship rolled very unpleasantly.

July 25.—When I awoke the wind was blowing what the sailors called a good, stiff breeze, but what I called a gale. It was, however, in our favor. The waves were very grand. It was scarcely possible to walk on deck or in the cabin. We were knocked about from side to side and many ludicrous and some painful tumbles were got. What a magnificent object is the sea when wrought up by a gale of wind. Its vast heavings, its dashing and its foam and its yawning valleys are all grand. In consequence of the agitated state of the sea there were many persons sick. In the forenoon there were seen three whales tumbling amongst the billows. Some gulls and Mother Carey's chickens flew about the ship, an indication, the sailors said, that the breeze would be lasting and stiff. My opinion was that these birds, having been fatigued with struggling in the storm, kept in the ship's wake merely because they were wearied. As the weather was thick and rainy, no observation could be taken.

July 26.—We were all delighted with the fine weather which the morning returned to us. The wind moderate, the sea comparatively smooth, almost all the sick recovered. There was general good humor throughout the ship. In the forenoon a number of gulls were fluttering about the ship, which, as

they were called good shots, called into exercise the skill of the Captain and Mr. Blackburn. They all escaped. What absurdity it is to take away the life of harmless creatures, when no good can result from it. He that kills an animal that does no harm and which, when killed, cannot be gotten and even though gotten, cannot be eaten, performs an act of wanton cruelty. In the evening were seen two whales spouting high columns of spray. There is something very grand in the stately movements of such vast masses of animated matter. The movements of fishes are, in almost every case, elegant and easy; very different from the laborious efforts and the great expensity of strength that accompany all movements of land animals.

July 27.—Raining and uncomfortable. The wind southeast. Towards evening the wind increased almost to a gale and the waves became magnificent, and the rain settled into a mist so dense we could not have seen a ship 200 yards off. I was told that misty weather is very frequently met with on the banks of Newfoundland near which we now are, and that this black fog hangs over the coast of Nova Scotia, particularly Cape Breton. In looking at the chart I found that when the mist is most frequently met with there are sand banks, and that in the northern latitudes fogs and sand banks are found together. As this is fact, may it not be inferred that the sand banks are the causes of the fogs? Perhaps this is the account of the matter. The water, being not so deep on the banks, is warmed and consequently more easily evaporated; and this evaporation is the fog. It remains to be proved that the water is warmer, which I had no means of doing. But even supposing the water to be cold on these banks, still they may be found to be the cause; for, if the air blown from warmer places pass to the banks, the cold upon them will condense the atmosphere, and the deposition of the moisture suspended in the air is the mist or fog. This is more likely the truth. I have finished reading Pickering's "Canada," and one of the books by the society for the propogating of useful knowledge. I have read very little, I have had so much to do in looking after the children that I have had no time. Some time is lost also in contributing to the comfort of others.

July 28.—All around the ship a fog, dense and cold and penetrating. The wind unfavorable. I was informed that about 4 a.m. a ship homeward bound passed within half the length of the ship off the bows of the Crown and was not seen till she was close beside us. There was barely time for the two ships to turn their helms. This narrow escape from a watery grave is another mercy which is to be added to the many we have

experienced since we embarked. After breakfast a ship seemingly full of passengers bound for America, passed on the opposite tack within a quarter of a mile. In the afternoon the fog became exceedingly thick so that a ship came upon us within half a table length before she was seen. Captain Howie hailed. We could not hear her name. She was bound for London, fifteen days from Quebec.

July 29.—The wind still light and ahead. I preached between decks from Romans 3, 32. Mr. Robertson, whose turn it was, was indisposed. Audience attentive. The Sabbath was not spent, by any means, as the Lord's Day should be, which I regretted. Read two sermons of Horsley's to the cabin passengers. I was told the steward had sold to the steerage passengers on Saturday ten bottles of rum. This I think a most pernicious custom. The money is taken from the passengers and they are kept constantly groggy; and all for a paltry gain to the owners or cabin passengers. It is sold for one shilling a bottle.

July 30.—Morning cold. Thermometer 50. Saw a seal at a little distance. With these winds we shall have a tedious passage, and yet I am not wearying. I am as happy as ever I was. The only drawback is the noise of the children in the cabin of whom there are eight. We are not yet on the banks of Newfoundland. The fog came on so thick in the afternoon, we were all forced into the cabin. During supper we were told there was a light ahead. The Captain said it was some ship fishing on the Banks, as all ships, fishing are bound by law to hang out a light. When we went to bed the night was dark, foggy and uncomfortable. It was proposed to the Captain that he hang out a light to prevent accidents. He said a light would be of little use, that a bell was the proper thing, but that the "Crown" never had a bell, and so she could not make use of what she had—a light.

July 31.—The morning rainy. About breakfast time there was a dead calm. Many on board took the opportunity to throw out lines for cod. In about an hour and a half about twenty cod fish were taken, which afforded a delightful fresh meal to every one in the ship. In walking along the deck to see the fish caught, I fell, owing to the slipperiness of the deck, and hurt my shoulder.

August 1.—Uncomfortable weather. My arm painful today. At sunset there was an appearance in the West which was supposed to be land. If land it was, it must be Cape Race. It did not appear to me to be land. Whether it be land or not it produced a strange sensation. It brought home to me, that

now all the difficulties which I had anticipated in taking my family to a foreign land, and the difficulties which I had anticipated in my mission, were just at hand. May God direct me in my way. All up to the present has been preparation, now is the time to act.

August 2.—Dense mist, no wind. Tried to fish for cod, but though there were a few hooked they were all lost in the act of bringing on board.

August 3.—Morning calm. Ship as still as if lying at anchor. It is believed by the officers and crew to have been a mistake that we had seen land. We are beginning to weary of the voyage.

August 4.—Read to-day all the reports of the Glasgow Colonial Society. The impression produced upon my mind by the perusal is, that the Society is as much inclined to set up the Kirk in the Colony as to make Christians. Such is the tenor of the information published. The account of the labors of their missionaries is poor indeed.

August 5, Sabbath.—The day fair. I preached in the steerage from 1 John, 4-16. In the evening read to the cabin passengers a sermon of Horsley's on the Commission given to Peter.

August 6.—Fair. Saw to-day some sea weed floating past, shewing there must be a current eastward, perhaps the Northern edge of the great Gulf Stream. I had noticed frequently the same thing on the Banks. We discovered this day that the feather bed was wholly rotten in the under side. This was occasioned by the sea damp, but particularly by the green or damp wood which had been put into the beds when they were filled up at Greenock. We learned from this that a ship is a damp place, and that beds should be frequently taken out and dried. Went down to the fore-castle to-day and admired the neatness of the place and the order of it, though there were ten hammocks in a space not large enough for three beds. Read a good deal to-day. It is difficult in such a place as I now am to read, and still more difficult to find opportunity for privacy for serious reflection. I hope that my deficiencies in this respect may be attributed to my situation and not to any disinclination. I am aware that one is ever apt to lay the blame which is due to himself on his circumstances.

August 7.—Awoke this morning to see the sun shining brightly, a rare sight of light, and the sea as smooth as glass. We are in hopes of seeing St. Paul's to-morrow. St. Paul's is an island lying in the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

August 8.—As we knew we were near the entrance to the

Gulf, and as there is a dense mist which prevents us seeing further than a quarter mile any side, there was considerable anxiety in the ship lest we should, in the dark, run on Cape Race or St. Paul's. Let us hope that He who hath guided us safely on our way will continue to guide us. Having passed as we thought St. Paul's, we were still anxious we should run on the Magdalene or Bird Isles, which are more dangerous than even St. Paul's on a dark night. No sermon to-day in consequence of the rolling of the ship.

August 9.—I was awakened this morning by a bustle on deck, occasioned by the lowering of a small boat to go to see what appeared to be a wreck or a dismantled ship about a mile distant. On looking out of the cabin window I saw a bare hull of a vessel. On looking through my glass I was confirmed in this belief. We had a thousand conjectures about it. The most intense anxiety was felt until the return of the boat. When they approached the supposed wreck, it turned out to be a barque with all sails fully bent. The cause of the strange appearance was this: A cloud of mist sunk down upon the ship just to the deck and completely concealed the whole rigging, leaving the hull distinctly visible. In the course of an hour or two the mist cleared off, and we saw the barque, rigging and sails, quite near to us. The same thing occurred once or twice during the day. The Captain has, for some days, been ill of sore eyes, which has been a source of anxiety to us all, he having treated us at all times with kindness.

August 10.—Misty. About four o'clock a schooner passed and informed us that we were just five miles from the South W. point of Anticosti. I felt that this was just as a message from Heaven, which we did greatly need, because we were far from being certain where we were; and besides we were sailing in such a direction as that in the course of an hour we must have been in a dangerous situation. How kind the God of Providence has been to us. But this was not all. About seven P. M., we hailed a ship from Quebec, who informed us we were somewhere between Cape Reserve and the great Valley. The good which was done to us we were enabled to do to another. A barque hailed us for information where we were, and as they were wrong in their reckoning ten degrees they were very thankful for our information. About 9 P. M. the wind blew like a gale. It came suddenly, then there was such exertions to take down the sails and get all ready for a storm. The bustle and preparations were very alarming to us who were not acquainted with sea affairs. May the God who ruleth over all preserve us. After supper the mate came to ask the Captain

if he would take down the fore top sail, both because there was an appearance of more wind, and because the reefing tackle was all gone. He was ordered it to clew it up. Our dear child Jessie, who was very feverish last night, is now somewhat better. May God perfect her recovery and convey us all safely to land, and keep us after we land. Before the gale came on we were on deck and saw to the S. W. the long wished for land. The sight of land was most interesting as being the first view of that land which is now to be our home, and where we hope to live, and in which we expect to die and be buried. I mused on the fate of that country which from the creation of the world down to the days of Columbus was unknown to all the rest of the world, and which has run over in the course of civilization and greatness of power, in the space of a few years, what it has taken the rest of the world thousands of years to travel. On that country was poured the light of the experience of all mankind in one clear, full flood. A land that has become great in a day. In that land I wish to serve God, and do good to my fellow men. The Leith ship communicated a piece of information which deeply affected us all, and which began to engross every other concern, viz., that the cholera was raging at Quebec and Montreal; that the mortality occasioned by it was greater than in any place in Britain; and that it was becoming more moderate. This was exceedingly distressing to us all, particularly to me who has so many children. Our only hope is in the mercy of God.

August 11.—In the course of tacking in toward the shore the American coast became distinctly visible. Along the whole shore as far as we could see, there ran a range of hills, not high, but covered with wood to the very summit. The trees seemed small and from their color of the Pine tribe. What labors are here for the hand of the cultivator! That part of the coast was about Magdalen River. In the afternoon the coast of Lower Canada on the North side of the St. Lawrence. Near to Labrador, along the coast, there seemed to run a range of low hills, and behind another ridge higher, and behind these a still higher range. Beyond what we saw, and far within that land, there live many of the children of nature, living without hope in the world. It is surely to the honor of Christianity that there have gone forth to these wild and inhospitable regions men animated by the sole desire of bringing these wild savage people to the knowledge of the way of life. Oh, that I may be enabled to gather into the fold of Christ some of my fellow sinners that they may be saved! Toward evening the wind died away, and we tacked about, and shall continue, unless the

wind stiffens to a more favorable point. We may cross and recross the mouth of the St. Lawrence for days without being permitted to enter. I am, however, quite reconciled to this tediousness in the hope that God in His merciful providence is delaying us till the rage of the Cholera abate. During night the moon shone clearly, and we all went to rest cheerful and comfortable. May God in His Infinite Goodness conduct us to the land of our labors and our hopes.

August 12, Sabbath.—Mr. Robertson preached between decks. Just fifty persons present. A number were pacing about the decks smoking and talking. In the evening I read to the company in the cabin two of Horsley's sermons on Psalm 45. The Captain very ill of an inflamed eye. During the whole day tacking between the Seven Islands and the Southern shore. That part of the shore of the continent to the N. and E. in sight all day. It appeared to be barren and cheerless. We were not near enough to see, but it is covered with wood. Tasted the waters of the gulf; found them not nearly so salt as the Atlantic. In the charts I see that the River St. Lawrence is marked as going as far down as Anticosti, which is represented as in the St. Lawrence. This I think is not correct. The river should be considered as coming down to Bald Mountain Pt. and Cape Chat. Below this should be the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The river at its mouth is twenty-five miles wide. The books of geography say it is ninety miles wide, which I suppose is done in order to make it wonderful. A river ninety miles wide - !!

August 13.—About breakfast time the pilot came on board. It is common for a number of pilots to enter into company and to have a large boat in common. These pilots cruise about the mouth of the river, and leave one of their number in every ship that wants one. Yesterday we saw a pilot boat coming all day far below the seven islands. The pilots are paid here eighteen shillings for every foot of water the ship draws. The Pilot gave us a most distressing account of the ravages of cholera in Quebec and Montreal. He says that it is about eight weeks since it broke out at Quebec, that it was brought by an emigrant ship from Ireland, in which there were sixty ill of it; that at first it seized upon the dissipated of whom there are a great number in Quebec, where a bottle of spirits can be had for 9d, that afterwards it seized the sick and the sober, that it has been worse, if possible, at Montreal than Quebec. We have thus a most alarming prospect before us. Our safety is in the Lord God alone, who only can shield us from the pestilence; and may He grant that our alarms may be sanctified to us, and that if it be His will to remove all or any of us, we may be prepared for the change.

August 14.—We passed the lighthouse at the Bald Mt. Pt. The left bank of the river densely covered with wood down to the water's edge. The wood generally small, and at the outside thickly set with brushwood, seemingly spruce and birch. I have been rather unwell to-day.

August 15.—Saw this morning the village of Mattawa, the first human habitation we have seen. In it there live a few farmers who are secluded from all the world. They keep a schooner, and send in their produce twice or thrice a year. The principal article of sale is salmon, caught in the stream which comes down from the Mattawa Mountains. Still unwell. The Captain rather better. I was told that parties of native Indians hunt over this whole country. Bears and deer are not uncommon in the forests. The pilot told me that many of the Indians in the neighborhood of Quebec are very respectable people; the white men sometimes marry Indian women. The Pilot, who is a Catholic, informed me that the priests freely attend the worst cholera patients, and that he had not heard of any who had taken the disease. The pilot is of the opinion that every church ought to support its own ministers, and that no government tax ought to be imposed for the support of any religious denomination; which appeared to me more liberal than Catholics are supposed to be. It is a very common thing for one party to misrepresent another, and as long as this is the case it will be difficult to arrive at truth.

August 16.—The air is very sharp and cold, more so than I felt it in Scotland at this season. The Pilot says there has been little warm weather in Canada this summer. In the morning we had a fine view of the village of Father Point on the right bank. The houses seem small, each standing on the end of a strip of land running back from the river. Each has a portion of cleared ground. Whatever was in crop was quite green, and I think late; saw no cattle. It does not appear very thriving. The people may have milk and meal, but it will be long ere they have anything like wealth. Canada on the Lakes must be very different from this specimen, else we are humbugged.

August 17.—Weather fine but cold. In the morning we were as far up the river as Island Bic, which is a small island covered with brush. Much of the wood which I saw, the Pilot says, is Sugar Maple. The Pilot says Quebec is not a place for emigrants. The people are quite able for all the work, and do not want strangers. The wages of the work people are 3s. 6d. or 4s.; but there is more than six months of winter during which time, a man may be thankful if he get his meat for his day's

work. Everything is exceedingly dear on account of the cholera. Farmers do not bring in their produce readily; and butter, eggs, grain of all kinds nearly half dearer than usual. There are no temperance societies in Quebec.

August 18.—Anchored to Green Island from 10 till 4 P. M., when the tide turned. Green Island seems to be a rock covered with firs and brush wood. At the east end of it a light house; at the west end three wigwams. Saw a man and a number of cows and sheep, seemingly of good size and condition. Beyond the island on the mainland a good deal of cleared land, and some pretty spots, and neat small farm houses. All the way up to Quebec, I hear, the shore is as well studded with houses. The country has been settled a long time.

August 19, Sabbath.—I preached in the steerage from 1 Thess. 4-1. The audience much the same as last Sabbath. I was exceedingly sorry to witness the indifference of many of the passengers, and of the whole crew. The first mate, who is rather a prepossessing man, lay asleep the whole time on the hen coop. The Captain has not been able to attend for two Sabbaths. There is a great deal of profaneness in this ship; every man of the crew uses it, and most of the passengers. There are, however, some honorable exceptions. I wish I were away from them, both on account of the pain which it gives me, and the hurtful influence they may have on the children.

August 20.—The appearance of the country on the right bank is exceedingly fine. All along the river side is thickly studded with cottages, so close they seem to be a street with little spaces between the houses. We are opposite a most beautiful village, Camarasca, with a fine looking church, having a steeple. In the village I noticed many very elegant houses, some two storey, and others built in the style of the English cottage. The people, French. The houses are built of wood, and all whitewashed, even to the roof, which gives them a very cleanly appearance.

August 21.—Passed several very beautiful islands. Saw the island close by which is stationed a lightship, with two lights. The keeper an old captain.

August 22.—The scenery still improving, beautiful beyond description. I felt I would like to live in retirement on one of these islands with my family around me, and leave the world to its fate. It was a foolish wish of a moment. There are duties to be discharged, and trials to be endured, necessary to the improvement of the spirit of man; and this improvement is not to go on in living out of the world on an island in the St. Lawrence, enchanting though it be.

August 23.—I may state here what I have hitherto forgot-

ten; to note, that we have had prayers, family worship, in the cabin almost every evening since we came on board.

August 24.—As we are at the quarantine island, it has been a very busy day, putting the steerage passengers ashore, and white washing the ship. We heard from a soldier on duty at the quarantine station that the cholera is raging in Quebec; during the first month 3,000 died.

August 25.—Nothing new.

August 26, Sabbath.—About five o'clock I was called out of bed to have a fine view of Quebec. The appearance of this Northern Capital from the river is very fine. The houses high and elegant; and as they are covered with tin in place of slate, they glittered in the morning sun like brilliant polished gold. The City far exceeded anything I had anticipated. We anchor off the mouth of the St. Charles River. I set foot this day for the first time in America. May God in His infinite mercy make us thankful for the many mercies we have experienced in crossing the ocean, and may He continue to guide us, and in these times particularly, preserve us from danger and disease.

August 27.—Took a stroll through the town in the forenoon. At four o'clock we left Quebec. Have not been well these two days.

August 29.—Arrived at Montreal at four P. M. I immediately went into the town to deliver some letters and get lodgings. Saw Mr. John Simpson, and Mr. Rattray, tobacconist. Could not get lodgings; had to stay on board the steamer all night.

August 30.—Started out early to get lodgings; delivered a letter to Mr. Alex. Miller which I had from Mr. Arch. Reed to him. He lives in the summer in the country, and his town house is empty. He kindly invited us to such accommodation as he had to give; so we took our ship mattress and blankets and spread our beds on the floor. Finding it so hard to get lodgings I resolved to proceed up the country nearer to the scene of my labor. I sent off my luggage by McPherson & Co. to Prescott; and engaged for my family to be taken by coach for forty-five dollars. I shall have many observations to make on Montreal, if God spare me.

August 31.—Slept soundly and felt well this morning. I was very cordially received where I delivered introductory letters. Messrs. Ferrier, Lawrie, Gerald, and Jamieson were very kind. Mr. Robertson had some communings with some of Mr. Shank's people at Montreal. He put out rather the cloven foot. His object was plainly to conceal from me the fact that he had met with any of them. I told him that while Mr. Shanks and his people were under engagements for a year,

that I would have no fellowship in his doings amongst them. God order our way; Amen. In the afternoon Mr. Miller drove Mr. and Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. P. and myself around Montreal, and took us to his own house to tea, and showed us kindness in every possible way. Mr. Miller has a very nice summer house two miles out, and his farm is nearly as well managed as if it were in Scotland.

September 1.—At two o'clock I got into the coach for Prescott. We had a rapid drive over nine miles of a very bad road to Lachine. We got on board the steamer and sailed to the Cascades. Breakfast on board which cost me 11-3. Sixteen miles to Coteau de Lac. The road is not good; the hollow places are filled with large logs of wood, and the jolting was both painful and ludicrous. At the Cascades saw the junction of the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa. Went on board the steamer. All went to bed and slept till dinner time. About two P. M. we landed at Cornwall and got into the stage for Prescott.

September 2, Sabbath.—Arrived at Prescott at 6 A. M., after a ride of fifty miles over a road that jolted the coach in a style to which hitherto I have been a stranger. Mrs. P. was all black and blue with knocks caused by the jolting of the coach. Heard a sermon in the Presbyterian church. Mr. Boyd preached to sixty-five persons present. The house airy and neat. The sermon very so-so. Spent the remainder of the day with my family comfortably.

September 3.—This morning crossed over to Ogdensburgh and took the steamer to Morristown from which I proceeded to Hammond to see Mr. McGregor (brother-in-law); walked there. On both sides of the road saw going on the process of chopping the forest. Took Alex., John, and William with me; they were exceedingly fatigued with the walk.

September 4.—Returned from Hammond to Prescott by the stage and boat with Mr. McGregor, who has bought seventy acres of land, lives in a log house, is contented and happy. I left the three boys with Mrs. McGregor. On our way to Ogdensburgh we passed through, as we thought, a thunder cloud. There was a very great deal of lightning, both forked and sheet, and thunder. Crossed over to Prescott in a small boat. Ogdensburgh is a fine thriving town. The lower storey of some of the houses is of polished marble, a degree of splendor I have never seen anywhere else. Coaching is very far from being a comfortable way of travelling. The roads are rough. The coaches are light, the passengers are in the inside, and there is no luggage outside. They seem incapable of being overturned. The horses are light but exceedingly beautiful

and active, and when the road is anyway tolerable they go at a speed which few of the best Scottish coach horses could surpass.

September 5.—Left Prescott this morning with Mrs. Proudfoot, Robert, Hart and Jessie, and Mr. McGregor, for Brockville in the splendid steamer Great Britain. We took a deck passage at the rate of one-quarter of a dollar for each. On arrival at Prescott Mr. McGregor took Mrs. P. and the children across the river to Morristown. I called for Mr. Stuart, the Presbyterian minister at Brockville; was very kindly received and invited to lodge in his house. He introduced me to some very respectable people in town. I was so happy as to meet the brethren of the Presbytery, and got some useful information respecting the wants of the Canadians, both temporal and spiritual. There were present Mr. Boyd, of Prescott; Mr. McDowell, Fredricksburgh; and Mr. Lyle, Osnabruck. The Presbytery had met for the purpose of discussing the proposal of a union, made to them by the ministers in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and I understood that they had agreed to accept of these proposals. I have not seen the terms, but in the course of conversation learned that the terms were made by the Kirk ministers, and offered to the seceders, and the grounds on which they would receive them. It came out that they were sensible of their being treated as an inferior grade; and though they were hurt, yet they were willing to swallow the affront and to do it with a good grace. I received from the brethren affectionate invitations to their homes. Most of them informed me that they have two, three, or four churches; and that the labor which they undergo is very hard. I received useful attention from a Mr. Blackburn, to whom I had letters of introduction. I engaged (D. V.) to preach for Mr. Stuart next Sabbath. On looking over my expenditure I find I have spent \$25 since leaving Montreal. Every charge has been heavy in spite of my efforts to keep within bounds.

September 6.—Left Brockville this morning and came to Hammond to see my family. Walked from Morristown. The ferry and refreshments cost one half dollar, the former very dear, the latter very cheap. My design, if God will, is to spend to-day and to-morrow at Hammond; to return to Brockville on Saturday; and then on Monday to go to Prescott to look after my luggage, and to take the steamer to York, V. C. I heard on my arrival at Hammond that my two fowling pieces have been seized by the custom house officers at Morristown and that they will not be restored till I pay thirty per cent. ad valorem. This is very hard and very mean, but we will see about it. At my arrival at Hammond I found that the older boy had gone to stay with Mr. McGregor's father. I wish I had a home to

which I could conduct them. God, whose ways are all mercy, will give me a habitation in due time; therefore, I wait. On my way from Morristown, I killed a snake about two feet in length. It was crossing the road with a frog in its mouth. The snakes are not, in general, poisonous, nor do they attain to any great age.

September 7.—In Hammond, during last night we were greatly alarmed on account of our dear child Hart, who was seized with croup in the middle of the night. I gave him four grains of Calomel, and bathed him up to his neck in warm water, by which, through the blessing of God, he was greatly relieved. To-day wrote long letters to my dear children Mary and Eliza, who may God in His infinite mercy preserve and bless.

September 8.—Came along with Mr. McGregor to Morristown where I dined. Waited on the custom house officers from whom, after a short explanation, I received my fowling pieces without any duty paid. The ferry boat to Brockville is a mere shalop; and as there was a storm on the river I was compelled to wait a considerable time, and after all got over, not without fear and danger.

September 9.—Brockville. Preached to-day for Mr. Stuart. In the morning from John 12-30; afternoon 1 Thess. 4-1. The meeting house was very thin both parts of the day. There is a band for conducting the Psalmody of the church. The music is very good; but here, as in every place where there is a band, the congregation do not sing. The music is very dearly bought, when it is at the expense of the praise of God. After service Mr. and Mrs. Wenham called for me. He is a Baptist, she a Presbyterian. They both seem devout servants of God. Mr. W. was so good as to promise me letters to some of his friends in U. C., and did show me a very good deal of kindness for the sake of the cause of truth. In the evening Mr. Stuart returned from where he had been preaching, and I had a long and interesting conversation with him regarding the religious state of Upper Canada, and regarding the manner in which I should act best for the interests of the Gospel, the object of my mission, and the wellbeing of my family. He was very communicative and very friendly. From him I learned that the wants of the Upper Province are very great; that there are many villages destitute of the gospel; that as the settlements are generally very new, the people are very poor; that a minister, in order to get what may support him, must preach in two or more villages; that he must preach occasionally during the week; that as the villages grow in size and wealth they make ap-

plication each for a minister to itself; and that a great deal of patience and perseverance are necessary, both to gather and preserve a congregation. Was informed that the Methodists are straining every nerve to make converts to their cause, and that they are being successful. Mr. McGregor told me on Friday that at Gouveneur, U. S., there was a revival of religion last year; that 100 converts were made; and that the Methodists never rested till, by hook or crook, they got most of them to their connection. Mr. Stuart detailed to me a good deal of the history of the steps which have led to the union of the Presbyterians of the General Synod and the Presbyterians of the United Synod. The former are in connection with the Kirk of Scotland, the latter with the several Presbyterian bodies in Britain and America (U. S.). The union is *prima facie*, rather dishonorable to the dissenters. The Kirk party offers to admit them into the synod on the following terms:—That the dissenters shall produce written proof of their ordination; that they shall subscribe to the confession of faith (Westminster); and that they shall not set up any claim to the royal bounty, nor interfere with whatever applications the Kirk party may make for themselves. These terms are humiliating enough. It appears that the measure has been recommended by Mr. George Murray when in office; that Sir John Colbern has assented to it; and that the people generally throughout the province are desirous of it; so that the secession party are shut up. Mr. Stuart thinks that in spite of the apparent ungraciousness of the terms the union will work well, and so it will, if the one party lay aside its hauteur and the other, or both rather, resolve to do all to the glory of God. I was very desirous to understand the position in which I should be placed by this union. Mr. Stuart could not well tell, but repeated again and again, that for his part he was perfectly contented that a Presbytery or Presbyteries be formed in immediate connection with the United Associate Synod; that all he wished most is the faithful and pure preaching of the gospel; that he would correspond with me in the event of my being settled; that I might be taken into their union if I had a mind; and as proof of the sincerity of these declarations he gave me some letters to men of influence in York and other places. Mr. Stuart spoke of the Kirk clergy as men who desired to ride, and ride on the dissenters, but he thought that neither the government nor the country would bear them out in any such measures, and therefore he concluded that though the terms of the union were ungracious, yet the union will work well. His opinion appears to me so far as I know the case, a sound one. He further told

me that had the United Synod at home sent their missionaries six months ago, he, for one, would not have accepted admission with the Kirk Synod. While he said all the above and much more to the same purpose, he yet was exceedingly guarded not to mention the name of any place where I might find a favorable opening, but referred me for information to the persons to whom he had given me the letters. I do not think he supposed I perceived this. I received from him an account of the manner in which Probationers were prepared by the Canadian Presbyteries. Mr. Stuart had brought on one or two, taught them literature and divinity, and they were licensed and did and do very well. The Sabbath was upon the whole spent in an edifying manner.

September 10.—I resolved this day, after a good deal of thought, after separations for the divine direction, and conversation with Mr. Stuart and Mr. Wenham, to look out for a settlement for my family somewhere about or above York; because should I settle them for some time further down the river, say, Prescott or Brockville, I should, if spared, have to sell the furniture which it might be necessary to buy, and to sell at a loss; or if I should take it to the Upper Country, I should have to pay a heavy price for its transfer, as where if I settled the family in or near York I should be able to retain the furniture as the carriage of it would not be heavy. Having resolved this, I went this afternoon in the Great Britain steamboat to Prescott to look after my luggage. It had not arrived; and I resolved not to wait for it but proceed with all expedition to the upper part of the province. I stayed over night with the Rev. Mr. Boyd, Prescott, who showed good hospitality, and who conversed very freely about his labors and the matters connected with the church. He has five preaching stations: Prescott, and one about ten miles down the river, which are served on one Sabbath; S. Gower, twenty-four miles back, and with it two places. Such labors leave him all Tuesday worn out, and they must soon wear out any constitution. He seems a man very willing to labor and has pleasure in what he does. He talked very freely of the union. He suspects, almost thinks, it will never take place; says, for himself, that if it be opposed in the Presbytery to which he belongs, he will not unite; that if any of his brethren are objected to, he will not unite. At the same time he wishes that it were gone comfortably into. He informed me that the Governor felt so strongly on the subject, and felt so strongly the claims of the Seceders, that he believed the Kirk clergy would not dare to refuse, and that the dissenters might have made better terms. Mr. Boyd is a fine, fearless, unassuming man.

September 11.—Left Prescott this morning for York, U. C. The charge for the cabin and living is six dollars in the United Kingdom steamer. The cylinders of the engines lie horizontally and this prevents the tugging which is so common and so disagreeable. I called on Mr. Wenham, Brockville, while the boat was lying to for passengers and timber for fuel. The surgeon of the "Roger Stewart," who had given me a dose of medicine at Quebec, is a passenger and I was glad to see a face I had seen before. He purposes to settle in U. C. The St. Lawrence is still the most beautiful river I ever saw. Immediately above Brockville it begins again to be studded with islands, most of them small, composed of naked rock but all covered with brush wood. Before bed time we were in the Lake of the 1,000 Islands. As there was a heavy wind down the river, the boat lay to for some hours in a kind of wharf on the American side from where the wood is taken in.

September 12.—About half after 5 a.m. we lay to at the wharf at Kingston. Got up about 6 and took a stroll through the town. It is very beautifully situated. It is smaller than I expected. There are a good many stone houses, but there is an air of discomfort about it. It does not seem to be cleanly kept. There is a fine court house, a very handsome church, the spire not finished. On the opposite of the bay are the barracks and other buildings, which were erected during the late American War, and which, I suppose, are now useless. The summits above these barracks are covered with fortifications. I saw on the docks some half-finished line of battleships, which lie there a monument to the exertions of Britain and of the power of the United States, whose hostility called forth the prowess of Britain. There was little gained by Britain in that war, not even a name, for it is, I believe, generally allowed that Britain had more men and more guns on the lakes than the Americans, and yet the Americans had the better of the war. The Government buildings are connected with the city by a wooden bridge of 12 arches. The bridge must soon, like the ships, go to decay, as it is neither painted nor pitched. After breakfast we entered Lake Ontario, a noble inland sea. We sailed up the Canadian side touching at several points. We soon lost sight of the American shore. The sky, as in the midst of the Atlantic, rested on the bosom of the deep. The shore is still wood, nothing but wood. I was told respecting Kingston, by a respectable passenger, that after having languished for 10 years, it seems now to be reviving; that the opening of the Rideau Canal throws open to Kingston a large tract of country, and that, though little has been done on that route, it has felt that little. It occurred to me that if something be not done to facilitate navigation of the rapids

and Cascades, if a canal be not cut, which might be easily done, that the course of trade will be up the Grand River (Ottawa), where the navigation is not now interrupted, and that this trade will centre in Kingston, and consequently Prescott and Brockville will languish. Indeed, if something be not done to render the navigation of the St. Lawrence easy it would not be surprising if Prescott and Brockville received their merchandise from Kingston or from the Ottawa across the country. As we were leaving the wharf there came in three Indian canoes, in one of which was the Massasaga Chief, a man of about 50 years of age, dressed in a blue coat, very shabby, and an old hat. He pulled his own boat, and his squaw sat on the stern and paddled. In two of the boats there were two dogs each, very pretty creatures. I saw in one a firelock. The females were very coarsely dressed; all paddled. There is an appearance of closeness, cunning and savageness about these men. I suppose they had come in with merchandise. Two of the canoes were birch bark, the other a built boat. About midday a very strong breeze sprung up a-head. The lake was lashed with foam, and the captain, after making an attempt to enter the Bay of Quinte, found himself under the necessity of pulling back and taking shelter in South Bay, just behind the promontory which separates South Bay from Quinte. There we lay at anchor till past midnight. There are sometimes very heavy storms on Lake Ontario, which are attended with great danger. The waves are not the long swelling billows which are to be met with in the ocean, and over which a good ship rides so majestically, but short, frothy-working waves, which, in spite of the most skillful steering are perpetually dashing against the ship. Found on board a copy of Pilgrim's Progress, which read, not only with admiration of the talents of the author, but with a delight, in the truth which Bunyan sets forth in a dress so fascinating. I have always remarked the want of books in the American boats. There is ample provision for the body, but not for the mind. There is good living, plenty of good spirits, and water to drink, but no books, sometimes a newspaper, which is read twenty times over. In only one boat have I seen a map of Canada. This might be remedied at very little expense. A fellow traveller today wished me to play backgammon. When asked for a board the waiter did not know what he meant. I have seen no cards, no backgammon board in any boat. The Canadians are said to be exceedingly good players at draughts.

September 13.—At one a.m. the wind moderated, and we got on our way. About 11 o'clock we lay to at Cobourg to take in and give out passengers. Cobourg is a most beautiful village.

Not more than twelve years since this part of the country began to be cleared. The houses are almost all of wood, and they are very neat. I would like very much to be domiciled at Cobourg. The next village is Port Hope, a sweet place; but we were not near enough to see it distinctly. A gentleman on board had two newspapers brought from the United States, both religious, and both of a late date. This was a real treat. In thinking before I got out of bed what I should do to-day, I could not contrive anything else than that I read over again all the papers on the cabin table. I had read them all before, but idleness is an un-supportable burden. I would rather go to the forest and chop trees than be idle. I feel somewhat concerned at how I am to get on at York. May God, who has been my protector and guide hitherto, protect and guide me still. I am dependent upon Him alone, for I have here no other friend to whom I can lean. O, that I had such confidence in His mercy, as that I should, like Abraham, go forward where God may lead me. There is, I hear, still some cholera at York. From pestilence, from all dangers, do thou, O Lord, deliver me! Arrived at York about 11 p.m., and put up at the Ontario House, where I was as comfortable as persons usually are in Canadian Inns. My voyage to-day has been a pleasant one. The approach to York being around the promontory called Gibraltar Point, is not interesting, as by it the town is hid from view till one is very near. The charge from Prescott to York is \$8, including food, but no drink.

September 14.—Called this morning for\* Mr. Harris, Mr. Britoul and Mr. Stewart. Took up my residence with Mr. Harris, the Presbyterian minister. Mr. Britoul, of the Kirk, received me coolly, as I expected. Mr. Stewart, Baptist minister, received me very cordially. I had a letter for Jesse Ketchum, Esq., M. P., who made no particular remarks. I set about looking for a house for my family, and for this purpose was introduced to Mr. Drummond, an old Scotchman, who entered with great ardor into all my views. York is a fine town. There are many fine buildings and private houses, and very spacious brick edifices as government offices. The buildings are, in general, erected with a view to convenience, and taste has nothing to do with the matter. House rent exceedingly high. I begun to fear I shall not get a house at all suitable for my family.

September 15.—Resumed this day seeking a house and was still unsuccessful. Got acquainted with a Dr. McDonald, a very pleasant man. My time was agreeably taken up at times with Dr. James Anderson, with whom I got slightly acquainted at

\* The expression "called for" is used by Mr. Proudfoot in the sense of "called on."

Quebec. This afternoon I wrote to my dearest Isabel. I was greatly distressed in thinking of her, and of our dear children, and lamented that there is little immediate prospect of getting a settlement for them. Oh, that God would direct my way, and give me submission to His will. In the evening attended a prayer meeting in Mr. Harris' chapel. There has been a prayer meeting every evening since the ravages of cholera. It was very thickly attended. I prayed and gave a short exposition of John 14. In the evening, on coming out of the chapel, I observed in the Southwest one of the most extraordinary natural phenomena I had ever seen. There seemed to extend along the Southern shore of the lake a ridge of dense cloud exceedingly irregular on its upper edge; beyond this cloud there was an incessant gleaming of lightning. It seemed to be always illumined, but at very short intervals the light darted up high above the edge of the cloud and grandly lighted up the sky. The whole seemed as if there were an enormous chaldron of fire boiling beyond the cloud always boiling, at times boiling over. This continued from dusk till 2 o'clock morning, in the same spot.

September 16.—Sabbath. Preached for Mr. Harris from John 12:32, and I. Thess. 4:1, and attended a prayer meeting in the evening. Mr. Harris seems to think that I preach with too much ease; that if I would appear to exert myself more and to labor more, my preaching would be more attractive. It is strange that men have such absurd notions about preaching that they should think that the impression of truth comes in the bodily writhings of the man who declares it. Had a great deal of conversation with Mr. Harris about the Union. I found that he was very far from being satisfied, either with the terms or with the manner in which it is to be affected.

September 17.—Occupied in the morning seeking a house. Heard of one which I think I shall rent. Left York at noon, having taken my ticket in the stage to Hamilton, for which I paid \$2½ (12s. 6d.). I had a letter of introduction from Mr. Harris to Mr. King at Nelson, and Mr. Paterson at Dundas, The consequence of not having received sufficient information respecting the position of Nelson, I came on to Hamilton, 14 miles beyond Nelson. The journey to Hamilton was affected with great discomfort and pain. The roads were so rough, and the jolting of the stage so severe, that my whole frame was shaken, particularly my back. We took 12 hours to travel 50 miles. A great part of the tract through which we passed is still forest. There are, however, several farms on the roadside, some perfectly cleared and others in progress of being rapidly denuded of their timber. After it became dark the appearance of these farms that were in the act of being cleared, had something sublime and sad;

vast logs, the monarchs of the forest drawn together in heaps of 6 and 8, and blazing in the middle of the dark forest, whose edges were widely illumined with the glare. The soil all the way from York to Hamilton is, for the most part, of a deep sand. Near York it is in some places a stiff clay; but all along the whole 50 miles it is sand. Today crossed three small streams running into the lake, the Humber, the Etobicoke, and the Credit. The last is the largest and abounds with fine salmon, which are taken in large quantities. The upper country North of the lake must be very destitute of water. Being dissatisfied with the Inn at which the coach stopped, I went in quest of another after twelve o'clock and was taken by a fellow traveller to the house of Mr. Plummer of Burley, which I find comfortable.

September 18.—Hamilton is an exceedingly neat and thriving village. The soil is sandy, which keeps it dry. The main street is spacious, and may be called a square. In the immediate vicinity there are some as beautiful farms as I have seen in Scotland, and as valuable too, if they were brought to market. There is no church in Hamilton, but there is to be one built, and the people are expecting a Mr. Gale from Lachine to be the new minister. The Methodists are building a large place of worship near the town. Behind the town there runs a ridge of hills wooded to the top. This is a most interesting sight to a Scot who is apt soon to become weary of the everlasting level of America. This hill is part of that which crosses the Niagara River, and forms the celebrated Falls. I had a great mind to climb to the top, but the day was hazy through mist, or the smoke of burning wood in the forests, and I was too much fatigued with the shaking of yesterday. To-day I hired a waggon or car for a dollar, and drove down to Dundas to present my letter of introduction to Mr. Paterson and his father who are from Perth. Mrs. P., who is from Dundee, received me in very much the Old Country fashion. There is no stated ministry in Dundas. There is a church built by subscription, which is given to every one who asks it. It is occupied, as occasion serves, by Episcopalian, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist. Mr. Paterson, who is a Baptist, kindly offered to get it for me, some part of Sabbath first, and I made with him arrangements about occupying it. Dundas contains about 500 souls, is situated in a deep bottom through which runs a small stream. It is thought it will become a place of considerable trade, for when the canal is once brought to the village it will be the outlet of the produce of the rich country behind it and the depot of foreign produce for the back country. The village is situated in a ravine, is unhealthy,

being subject to fever and ague. I called this day at the emigrant office, the keeper of which spoke very sensibly of emigration. He said that much more had been said of the Company's land and of the Crown lands than they deserved for the purpose of inducing emigrants to settle there. That they who went to the up country must be able to support themselves for some time as they can get nothing out of the lands, and when they raise produce they will have no market to send it to; that they cannot bring it down except in winter when the snow is on the ground. Were such truths told at times where only it is of use to tell it, how much misery would be prevented. Whilst I was jolting in the coach last night and attempting to sleep, my thoughts reverted, as they are ever doing, to my dear family now so widely scattered. I was particularly concerned about my dear lambs in Scotland. My reverie began about seven thirty o'clock and while I fervently prayed to God to take care of them and make them his own daughters, it occurred to me that, calculating the difference of time, they had two hours ago bent their knees at their bedside and prayed fervently for their father and mother, sisters and brothers, far, far, away from them, and I fancied that, at the very moment I was thinking of them they were dreaming of me and their mother. And that in the midst of their dreams their heart, filled with love and longing, made them cry out, as they often did, "My own dear Pa;" and I thought I saw them as they were wont to do, struggling who should get from me the greatest number of kisses, and I fancied I felt their warm lips on mine. It was a joyful and a sad meditation. O, may God bless and guard and direct our two dear daughters in the land of their birth, and direct me to a suitable habitation and home for them and the rest of the family, whom God, of His infinite mercy save and guide.

September 19.—Grove Inn. This morning about half an hour before one o'clock, I left Hamilton returning on the road to York. My intention when I left York was to proceed as far as Grimsby and Thorold, to see, at the former place, Mr. Eastman, and at the latter, Mr. Black, from both of whom I had been led to expect information and encouragement. The above plan I altered at Hamilton; first, because of the cost of it; and second, because the whole journey must be performed in the stage, a mode of travelling too severe for me. I therefore resolved to retrace my steps, to call for Mr. King at Nelson, and to preach on Sabbath at Dundas. In my journey in the coach from Hamilton I was seized with a bowel complaint, which forced me to get out of the coach three times, and was exceedingly severe. I became alarmed in case it might be cholera

and so were my fellow travellers, though they did not say so. With difficulty I got to Grove Inn, expecting to get rest, but when I arrived at four thirty A. M., there was no empty bed in the house, though there are twenty-one. I therefore wrapped myself in my cloak and a coverlet and lay down upon a sofa, where I slept soundly until eight o'clock. After breakfast called for Mr. King, but was disappointed in not meeting him at home. I called also for the surgeon, but he too was from home. After having met with nothing but disappointment I returned to Grove Inn to write my journal, to spend the time, and to school myself to patience and resignation. As I have now a little time by myself, I shall put down a few things which I have by degrees come to the knowledge of, and which I have not hitherto particularized. 1st. With regard to my mission, I have heard all the way up that there is great want of the gospel. Now I hear this from everybody, but every one refers to some place at a distance from himself. The population is scattered in a struggling kind of way along the road sides, and it must require a long journey for many of them to meet together in such numbers as to form a church able to support half sermons. There seems, as far as I have travelled, to be fully as many preachers as the people are able to support. Ministers must either be supported from other sources or they must undergo a very great deal of fatigue in preaching to different little churches to raise as much as will support them. From anything I have seen I am not the sort of person that ought to have come out. The Canadian minister ought to come out without a family, and to be a man who can endure hardness. So far as I have seen, it will be difficult for me to get into a place where there is a congregation, and I must for a long time be a pensioner upon the bounty of the Synod at times. Scattered as the population is, the people are rendered more destitute of religious institutions, in consequence of their being split into so many sects, whereby no sect is able to support a teacher by itself. There seems no way of remedying this evil. The people could not bear an established church which might go far to cure it; and there is no class of society, which possesses such influence as to draw the rest after it. The only way to cure the evil (as far as I see) is to educate a race of ministers so far above the common level, as that they shall give a tone to the public mind and thus by the goodness of the article, beat out of the field all half bred adventurers. The Methodists will be the prevailing party till the people become enlightened. 2nd. In reference to the land, I have made a few observations. All the way from York to the head of the lake

is one continuous sand bank. There is little vegetable mould on the tops in some places and in many places there is none. The soil is, therefore, very light. It is said to bear heavy crops and it certainly is easily worked. I am told that this is no year to judge the land by. It has been burnt up by a summer so dry, as that the like of it has not been for many years. My opinion (making all deductions) is not very favorable as to the soil. It certainly is inferior to the cultivated parts of Scotland. The climate is far better. I have always looked with a kind of terror at the enormous trees which must be cut down before the soil can be available; yet every person to whom I have expressed my feelings has ridiculed them. Chopping may seem terrible to a Scotchman; it is the delight of the American. Wood may be chopped and burnt off for from eight to twelve dollars an acre, and this seems by far the better way. The thing is done at once and the family may be supported during the first season. A Dr. Bell whom I consulted to-day about my ailment says that he could take three months' provisions with him into the forest in the spring and that he would have no fears as to his support. He would plant potatoes and eat the produce in three months. He would sow corn, beans, cucumbers and wheat, and raise enough for the winter. I shall be very guarded in the accounts which I send home respecting the land and the country generally. 3rd. I am now accustomed to live in an American inn. The plan is much superior, so far as travelling is concerned, to what I have met in the Old Country. All mess at a common table, and are summoned by the ringing of a bell. Every one rises when he pleases. The bearing of all at table is equal to any usually found in inns; I have ever seen the most polite attention at table. All travellers of decent appearance mess at the same table, and this has the effect of giving a polish to them which is not to be found in the same class of society at home. I have seen tradesmen deport themselves with great propriety. They know how every dish is to be eaten and they ask for what they want with modesty. The charge is a dollar a day including a bed. At small taverns, brandy and gin are set on the table, to be mixed with water, and every one takes what he pleases. The bottle is always handed to a person who buys spirits and water at the bar of an inn to measure out what he guesses is a glass in the bottom of a tumbler. I do not think tavern keepers lose anything in this way. There is never anything given to waiters and coachmen by lodgers or passengers. The lodgers congregate about the door, sitting under the piazza,

or lounge, smoking or reading or dozing in the bar room; and all seem at ease and comfortable. To-day at the Grove Inn there called with Dr. Bell a Mr. Willison from Leslie Hay's Parish. We both were acquainted with some persons in Lanarkshire, about whom we soon got into a nice talk which lasted for nearly two hours. I ought to have remarked in noticing the inferiority of the soil, that I have been told that there is a strip of about six or eight miles broad all along the lakes which is sandy, bearing chiefly pine; that behind that begins the country of hard wood, which indicates the superiority of the soil. I must wait, in forming an opinion, till I see. I find there is more need of using one's own eyes and ears in Canada, than I was wont to do in Scotland. Perhaps it was my own fault. In the evening Mr. King, of Nelson, called for me. He entered very cordially into the object of my mission and seemed in every way willing to give me all the information and countenance in his power. From him I heard the usual declaration of the wants of Upper Canada, and at the same time an account of the inability of the people to support a minister. Mr. King mentioned a few places where the people might be willing to hear the gospel; but as these places are all within the bounds of the Presbytery, I do not think myself at liberty to visit them till I shall have obtained the sanction of the Presbytery. Of course I now defer entering upon my labors in this quarter till the Presbytery have met, and till I shall have got my family accommodated. My prospects are not so bright as they once were, but all may yet be well. Ever since I came to America I have been learning and unlearning every day.

September 20.—This morning at four o'clock I left Grove Inn and arrived at York about twelve. For reasons not proper to be recorded in my journal, I took up my residence with Miss Harris, who keeps a boarding house. Still unwell. I read in the Canadian Watchman the protest of some Kirk ministers against the proposed union with the United Synod of Canada. These reasons of protest are just what might be expected; they proceed upon a knowledge of the subject. All of them, save one, I had stated repeatedly to Mr. Stuart and others, as grounds of objections to the union on the part of himself and brethren. Mr. Stuart and the Brockville Presbytery have been far too precipitate, and they cannot now but suffer in feeling and reputation when their admission is now resisted, after they had consented to submit to the degradation of consenting with unwise haste to an admission which cannot now be accepted. I saw from the first that it was a bad job, but now as things

are as they are, I shall not say a word, because I do not wish to take a side, and because I see the measure will go as I wish it of its own accord. On roving to-day along the road I saw some fine Sumac trees, some butternuts and a very great deal of Sassafras, growing wild in the woods. Also some fine Cedar, Hemlock, and Pine trees. These woods afford a fine study. I wish I knew more botany. The road is very bad, and the jolting of the stage pained me a good deal. A very little degree of trouble and expense would make the roads very fine; and if the roads were good nothing would be more easy than the movement of a Canadian coach.

September 21.—Confined all day to the house in consequence of taking medicine. In the same house were lodged two surgeons, with whom I was acquainted—Mr. John Anderson and Mr. McDonald. Also a young gentleman from Edinburgh, Mr. Gordon, who is come out to buy land. Was amused to-day with the pranks of a young black bear in a yard near by. A Mr. Henderson called who gave me a good deal of information about churches in Canada. Some of his opinions I thought valuable, and some of them very absurd. He has the opinion that ministers ought to be left when the folks take a fancy to change them; and that they ought to bear patiently all the ill treatment they may get, and on no account to shew the least feeling. He said that every minister ought to have a farm; that he cannot live without it; and that the farm to be of any value should be his own. But if a minister buy a piece of land because it is convenient to his church, then if his folks take a fancy to get quit of him, how distressing must be his position? He cannot go and seek another church, because he cannot take his land with him. He must therefore cease to preach, and must live in a neighborhood that has affronted him. The system is bad. The Canadian churches must wait till they can support the ministers without the necessity of doing something else for their support. The Canadian ministers must take different ground with the people; and they must be better provided for if they are to be better trained and more effective. Cheap ministers are like everything else which is too cheap—they are not good. This day has passed rather heavily. I have had, as usual, many anxieties about my family. May God guide us all to do, and to submit to, His holy will.

September 22.—York. Little of any consequence has happened to-day. In the forenoon I went out to Hagg's Mills, seven miles from town, to look at a house, but it was not suitable. House hunting in the afternoon. Have felt myself better to-

day, for which God be praised. How unlike my Saturdays now are to what they used to be at home. I wish I were where I could be wholly employed about my ministerial work. I hope and trust I shall soon be settled.

September 23, Sabbath.—Preached for Mr. Harris, who took the opportunity and my assistance to give Mr. Jenkins a rest at Scarboro. I preached in the morning from Matt. 4, 1-12; and in the afternoon from 1 John, 4-16. The first went off comfortably, the latter not so much so. Dined with Mr. Ketchum, to whom I explained the reason of my coming to Canada. He approved of my mission, and said that there is abundant room for my labors. At the same time he remarked that he thought the Canadians ought to support their own ministers, because they are able to do it. He is a determined enemy to establishments in religion, and has very enlightened views on the subject. His testimony is of greater importance as he is a member of the Parliament. In the evening I heard preach Mr. Fraser, Methodist, in his own chapel. His text was: "Except a man be born again he cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." Introduction.—The text declares a most important truth. If we be not born again we must appear on the left hand of the judge, be condemned and cast into Hell; be forever miserable. On the other hand, if we be born again, &c. It is therefore of great importance. I obviate some mistakes. It has been said that regeneration is baptism by water. If this be the case, then they who are not baptized cannot be saved, if the text be believed. What, shall we say that all the Quakers who are not baptized with water, men remarkable for their morality and for standing at the head of every charitable list, are lost? Horrible thought. And oh, ye mothers, can you bear the idea that those dear infants whom you suckled at your breast are lost, because they were not baptized? But hush those sobs and dry those tears, they are with Jesus, &c. 2nd. Explain the new truth. First, it is a great change; second, it is a sudden change. The sermon was loose, extempore, vapid, but well delivered. Good singing but I did not like it.

September 24.—Have not yet found a suitable house, at which I am much concerned. Read to-day a letter of Mr. Bell's in the Watchman, highly approving of the union. In said letter Mr. Bell has exposed himself and his cause. He has not seen the protest published by the Kirk clergy. He is evidently fond of being taken into the lists of an established clergy. These may be local reasons, selfish reasons. One of Mr. Harris' elders, Mr. McLellan, told me to-day that so determined are

the members of the church at York never to have any connection with an established church, that if Mr. H. consents to the union in the present terms, they will request him never again to enter this pulpit. This will fix him at least. Oh, that I may be directed by God in the right way; that I may never offend Him, and may serve Him all my days.

September 25.—In the afternoon I, along with Mr. McLellan, set out for the meeting of Presbytery, which is to be held at Streetsville to-morrow, and we proceeded on horseback as far as the town on the River Credit. I had been over this road before, and have made scarcely any new remarks. I become more reconciled every day to the appearance of the country. Every person tells me of the ease with which a person may make a living in it. I am anxious to have my family settled, that we may begin to do something for ourselves. I regretted not having time to visit the Indian village about three miles down the Credit. The Indians are said to be a very interesting people. They have the exclusive right of fishing to the mouth of the river. They make baskets; they cultivate a little land. They have a school, and a Methodist preacher labors among them. They have forbid spirituous liquors to be sold in the settlement.

September 26.—Left Credit this morning about six o'clock and rode up to Streetsville, about four miles. The road all the way through the bush, as it is called. On both sides of the road there are some splendid timber trees; the work of chopping and burning is going on very rapidly. The cleared land seems to promise pretty good farms, soil sandy. Streetsville is on the Credit. It seems well placed, and has the advantage of good water privilege. I breakfasted with Mr. John Butchart, from whom I received a most hearty welcome. I attended the meeting of the Presbytery. All the members present except Mr. Harris. An elder attended from Niagara, about forty-five miles. The meeting was a pro veta one. The subject was to discuss the union. Mr. Jenkins of Markham, a plain man of strong, unaffected common sense, opened the meeting in an able speech, the amount of which was, that he could not think of uniting a church established by heaven with one established by men. Mr. Bell, the clerk, made at least half a score of speeches, characterized by every quality which they ought to have wanted, in favor of it. He was supported by Mr. Ferguson, and by the moderator, who took a share in the debate. Mr. Eastman and Mr. Bryning and Mr. McLellan, the York elder, were of Mr. Jenkin's sentiments. There was no motion, but

the business ended in approving of the union, in asserting their approbation of the confession of faith and in referring the business to their congregations to report at next meeting. I never witnessed such a Presbytery (but one). After the business I sought and obtained leave to state the nature of my commission. I was most cordially welcomed. Liberty was given me to preach in the vacancies of the Presbytery, and their countenance in any field which I might occupy beyond their bounds. I have every reason to be grateful. Dined with the Presbytery, and in the evening rode to Logan's, within fourteen miles of York, where I slept. My reflections on the day's proceedings I must keep to myself.

September 27.—York. Started from Logan's this morning at six, and returned to York rather fatigued. Had some conversation with Messrs. Harris, McLellan and Drummond respecting the establishment of a missionary society in York to send the gospel to the destitute parts of the country. The proposal met with their approbation. The measure I think a good one, and I shall exert myself to have it carried out when I return, if it please God I come back. Cholera rather revived in York. Since Sabbath I have heard of eleven cases and four deaths. May the Lord compass me about with the shield of His protection, and also all mine. In Him we trust.

September 28.—Wrote a letter to my dear Isobel, and one to Mr. Boyd, Prescott, desiring him to send my luggage, and giving him an account of the doings of the Presbytery. The letter to my dear spouse, was to desire her to come up with all convenient speed. Went out to Richmond Hill to assist Mr. Jenkins in the dispensation of the Supper. Staid over night at Dalgel in Vaughan with Mr. Dalgel's family—a fine Scotch family. Mr. Dalgel came from near Hamilton some five years ago, and bought 200 acres. They have done well. Mrs. Ball, Streetsville, is a daughter.

September 29.—Returned to Richmond Hill with Mr. Ball. Preached from John 12, 32. There was not more than fifty present. Lodged in the house of Squire Mills, an elder of the church. As a squire he is extremely unlike his brethren in office in the Old Country. As a Christian he may, for aught I say, rank with his brethren anywhere. The state of Canadian hospitality is, to attend to yourself, for few persons will; no clothes brushed; no shoes cleaned; and no one seems to think such things necessary. There were lodging in the same house several persons from a distance, quite in the style of the old-fashioned aristocrat. Mr. Matthews from Gwillimbury,

eighteen miles; Mr. Davidson from Pickering, twenty miles. Most of the members of the Presbyterian Church are owners of the soil. All dressed for the most part in home made cloth, all exceedingly comfortable in appearance. All those from a distance rode or came in waggons, their horses tied to the railing till service was over. The men and women sat on different sides, which had a very odd look. During the evening got much information from Mr. Matthews respecting the wants of the gospel; that many are willing to hear it; that they are so widely scattered; that few congregations could support a minister.

September 30, Sabbath.—Richmond Hill. Mr. Jenkins preached the sermon John 1, 29. There was a good congregation, all very well dressed. I preached in the evening from 1 Thess. 4, 1. I was delighted to meet Mr. Hislop and wife from Peebles; they knew my brother well, and had often heard me preach. Saw also Mr. Stuart, who was an elder in Jedburgh; he too is a land owner. The church at Richmond Hill is not in a very prosperous state; and when we consider the smallness of the supply, and the kind, it is no wonder. The day comfortably spent. Went to lodge with Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Bell in the house of Mr. Marsh, an elder, a very decent man, who shewed us kindness.

October 1.—After sermon by Mr. Bell went to Mr. Jenkin's house in the waggon of Mr. Fenwick from Pt. Cowan green.

October 2.—Whiled away the day in wandering about Mr. J.'s farm—200 acres of good land. He enjoys rustic plenty, and has a fine family. I chopped a tree, the first of the Canadian forest I have felled.

October 3.—Went to Markham to look at a house to let, but did not take it. During all the time I have been here I have been dreaming night and day of my family. May God preserve them all in His fear from all evil.

October 4.—York. Returned to York, thankful to God for His mercies to me who am so undeserving. On my way saw where the rooting up machine had been at work. It heaves the tree out of the ground with the greatest ease. Saw a man from Oro, who gives a fine account of that district, but there is no religious instruction. I find that everyone believes he has got his lot in the very best part of the country, a happy disposition. Was delighted to hear from my dear wife that all are well. Oh, that God would teach us all to be thankful for His goodness.

October 5.—Friday. I found my luggage by mere accident

in Feehace's warehouse. I had it brought up to my lodging, and was quite glad to find it all right. I now wait the arrival of my dear family; and may they and I meet in health and comfort by the blessing of God.

October 6.—Mr. Rintoul told me to-day that he had seen in the papers the death of Mr. Robertson, my fellow missionary, at Montreal. I at once got the paper and read that he died September 3rd of cholera. My heart was exceedingly pained at the news. I left him in excellent health. We were sent on the same errand. One was taken, the other left. As a missionary companion I have lost nothing, because he seemed to choose Montreal, though he did not tell me. But I do grieve that one who bid fair to be useful in the church, in a place where the gospel is much needed, is cut off just as he entered on his labors. And I feel his death is a warning to myself to go to do the work of an evangelist with all diligence, that I may be useful to men while I live, and may prepare to follow my brother in the work, whenever it shall please God to call me away. His death will be a disappointment to the Synod; but I hope they will view it as the doing of God, and will not be discouraged from sending out more men to the land where ministers are so much wanted. Every day offers to me more of the necessities of this province, and I am getting impatient to get my family settled that I may enter into my field of labor.

October 7, Sabbath.—Preached to-day for Mr. Harris, and for Mr. Stuart the Baptist in the evening. I had engaged to preach in Toronto and Etobikoke, but the rain and the bad roads prevented me. The Sabbath was profitably spent till after the sermon in the evening, and then some persons called; and by this the conversation took a light and trifling turn which beset me, but I did not prevent it, though I might have done so. There seems to be a good deal of church-going at York, and also a great deal of carelessness and Sabbath desecration. Things are done openly here which I never saw done in Scotland; but upon the whole I do not think there is so much wickedness in York as in a town of like population in the Old Country. Theft and pilfering are here scarcely heard of. Everybody seems to favor good morals. I have heard no laughing at religion and religious men by those who make no profession. Heard to-day a great deal about Methodists and camp meetings.

October 8.—Spent part of the evening with Mr. Stuart. He recommended Dundas very much as a place suitable for me, saying it is very destitute; that there are many places in the

neighborhood where I could preach in the evening; and he assured me that Messrs. Paterson and Leslie, two Baptists, would favor me in all their power. I do not like Dundas; it is low and unhealthy; and I should not like to live in it, but would have no objection to preach in it. Mr. Stuart is one of the fruits of the revivals in Moulin and Perthshire, and so is his wife. Both assured me that it was there they were first brought to the knowledge of the truth. Had a good deal of talk with him about the religious parties in U. C. The Kirk has fifteen ministers; the United Synod fifteen; the Baptists about forty-five. About 3,000 in full communion. The Methodists the most numerous. There are not less than a dozen Episcopal ministers in York, some of them regular clergy, and others who are teachers in the college, and who are employed all over the country at such distance as they can go to on Saturday and return on Monday; and they are as zealous in propagating Episcopacy as any other sect. Met to-day some of the passengers of the Crown. An old man from Ireland, Mr. Tellock, and Mr. Harvey and family. Saw Mr. Harvey who has been here some time and has 600 acres in Oro. Was told by him that his district is very destitute of religious instruction, and was invited to go there and preach, and lodge at his house. I thus find when I begin to make inquiries places for laboring are to be found in all quarters.

October 9.—York. Spent the forenoon with Mr. Drummond, who gave me a great deal of information about the country. Began to read Taylor of Norwich on the Romans, and was much pleased with his opening section. Had much conversation with Mr. Stuart and Mr. Lesly respecting Dundas as a missionary station. Still I do not feel inclined to settle there, but I will go anywhere Providence wills me. The weather warm and pleasant.

October 10.—Confined all day to the house by rain. Called for Mr. Rintoul, and chatted pleasantly an hour with him. He is rather stiff, and probably thinks of his church; but he will be frank when he knows how little value I set upon such things. Have been anxious all day about my dear family, who, I suppose leave Hammond to-day. How uncomfortable they must be in such weather; and I have not yet found a house to put them into. May God preserve us all. May He keep and guard them from all danger and all sin.

October 11.—Nothing special.

October 12.—Rejoiced to-day by the arrival of my dear family, all safe, and all well. Oh, thou my soul, bless God the

Lord; and all that in me is be stirred up, His holy name to magnify and bless! In my haste I took a house in York for my family, for three months, but the wife and son had not consulted with the husband, and he spoke to them and to me in a style which I did not like, so I just ordered off my luggage and took all my family to Miss Harris, putting up with a good deal of inconvenience. Along with my dear family came Mr. Christie, a fellow laborer. His coming was a source of the truest joy to me. He will supply the place of Mr. Robertson. Oh, that we may both be enabled to labor in the service of God in His church till the day of our death, and that we may accomplish the wishes of the Synod.

October 13.—York. Had a great deal of conversation with Mr. Christie on our mission. We both thought it our duty to go westward where the people are most destitute of the means of religious instruction, and where we shall not come in contact with the Synod of York or the Kirk. Mr. C. seems resolved not to unite with the U. S. if they shall unite with the Kirk; and I heartily agree. Having engaged to preach at Scarborough to-morrow I went out this evening and lodged with Mr. Johnson where I received good Scottish hospitality. The road to S. is in many places through fine forests.

October 14.—Scarborough. Preached in the forenoon from 1 John, 4-16. A very good congregation. In the afternoon there were fewer. They are not accustomed to two sermons. The congregation has been for sixteen years under Mr. Jenkins, who is now too frail to give them sermons even once in two weeks. They are wishing to have a minister to themselves, and are wishing me to settle amongst them. I, of course, keep off the subject till I see what will be the result of my preaching to them. The people seem to be very comfortable, though I suppose they have not many hard dollars. Most of them are Scotch. The morning very cold but fine. Alex went with me and enjoyed the walk.

October 15.—York. Mr. Wm. Craig to-day brought me and Alex. to York, each on horseback. He is a brother to Dr. Craig of Peebles, and it was really a treat to me to meet a brother of one whom I have long regarded as a friend.

October 16.—Rented to-day a house for my family on Dundas Road about one and a half miles from York. The house is small, but it is the only one within a reasonable distance from York at a price I could afford to pay. It is five dollars a month. Spent the evening with Mrs. Freeland, Mr. Walter Thomsons, all from Glasgow. I enjoyed it very much.

October 17.—Took possession of the house I had rented. I and my family exceedingly happy that we are all together again in a house we could call home, the first time since we left Pitrodie. It is small, but when we put our little furniture in it looked very comfortable, and we were all happy. Felt very comfortable in thinking of the tender mercies of God to us all. May this gratitude excite us all to love and good works. I bought nine chairs at 3s. 8d. each, a fir table at 6s. 6d., a black walnut table for 25s., bed 35s., and a bed for 15s.; and this I consider furniture enough for our present need.

October 18.—As it rained heavily all day I was confined to the house and spent the time writing letters which should have been written long ago.

October 19.—Occupied great part of the day examining the state of the packages brought from Scotland, which I found all right. Rather unwell of cold in the breast.

October 20.—Went into York to-day and bought some necessary articles, and made a few calls. Mr. Bell, my neighbor, called to-night, and we had a great deal of talk on the religious wants of the West. He told me that all along the shore of Lake Erie there are not any ministers except Methodists.

October 21.—Sacrament of the Lord's Supper dispensed to-day in Mr. Harris' church. I preached the Action sermon, Matt. 23, 27-38. Served one table on justification, adoption and sanctification, and preached the evening sermon on 1 John 2-1. The order in which the communion was observed did not appear to advantage. The want of order, such as I have been accustomed to, disturbed me not a little, and prevented that full repose of mind so necessary to my profiting by the service as I wished; and yet I trust I was the better for the ordinance. Stayed in York all night with Mr. Harris.

October 22.—Home. Spent the day principally at home. In the evening went to drink tea with Mr. Henderson, a mile up Yonge Street. Stayed all night with him on account of the darkness of the night and of the heavy rain.

October 23.—Home. Wrote to Dr. Peddie to-day, my first letter. Drew a bill of exchange on him for £55 6s., being the amount of my half-yearly salary, after deducting 4s. 4d. as my payment for the widows' fund. I got 8½ per cent. premium, in all \$267.50. I bought a stove for £2 5s. and pipes, 50c. Day fine and cold. Roads very bad.

October 24.—Home. Added a few lines to Dr. Peddie's letter. Went into York and spent the evening with Mrs. Freeland, very kindly received.

October 25.—Heard of two fatal cases of cholera. Introduced to-day to Mr. Munro, who promised to give me letters to some persons of note in the western country. I am very happy that my family have got a home for the winter, and that I am left at liberty to enter on my mission in good earnest. I therefore, purpose (D. V.) to go to the western district to-morrow; take the steam boat to Niagara, from thence to Grimsby or Thorold, to meet Mr. Christie, and travel along with him. And now may the Lord of His infinite mercy direct my way and render me successful in my work. All my dependence is upon Him. He it is who can give me right feelings, who can enable me to speak for Him to men, and who can render what is spoken successful. May I have prudence to walk in wisdom before the people, and to recommend the cause which I advocate by the holiness of my conversation.

October 26.—St. Catherines. Sailed from York this morning in the Canada, for Niagara, at seven o'clock. The sail very pleasant, but extremely cold. Arrived at Niagara half past one. On the point of land at the junction of the river with Lake Ontario on the American side is Fort Ontario, which, were it strong enough, might effectually guard the entrance of the river. On the left bank stands Fort George, the British barrier to the river. It is of mud and in ruins. There were a few soldiers on guard. The Americans took the fort during the war; and indeed, they seem to have had no very hard task to perform. Around it the ground is all cleared for a mile; the ground is quite level, and there is not a bush or a knoll, not a stone to shelter from the fire of the garrison. It is better defended on the Canadian than on the American side; better defended against friends than foes. The Town of Niagara is about a mile from the mouth of the river. There were coaches from the different lines which took up the passengers free. Put up at Chrysler's Inn, which is a very good house, where I had a very good dinner. Hired a stage along with Mr. Washburn and his lady and a Miss McGibbon for St. Catherines. On the way we saw many very fine farms. Old settled lands. The fields cleared of stumps, orchards in full bearing. When we were within two and a half miles of St. Catherines our attention was arrested by strange sounds proceeding from the bush about a quarter of a mile from the road. We stopped and found it was a camp meeting. Supped at Dyer's Inn, a very good house.

October 27.—Forty Mile Creek. Before breakfast took a stroll on the side of the Welland canal, which passes close to

St. Catherines. Went into a factory of wooden dishes, turned solid out of the tree. They there have a bottom put into them and two hoops put on, and are then varnished outside, and inside. They are very neat and cheap. Out of the same block of wood three or four or five dishes are sometimes turned of different sizes, either pine or black walnut. After breakfast walked four miles along the canal to Thorold, and delivered my letter to Mr. Black. He entered very readily into the views of the Synod. He called with me for Mr. Keefer, father and son. Mr. Keefer, a chief man of the place, was a Methodist but, dissatisfied, became a Presbyterian. Both support a Reformed Dutch Church, but they think there would be no difficulty in establishing a Presbyterian church in Thorold. They urged me to call back very soon. The village is a very sweet place; it will one day have a good trade; is populous; and the country all around is cleared and populous. Returned to St. Catherines for dinner; after dinner set off for Forty Mile Creek. St. Catherines is a very beautiful place, not more than eight years old; has a very good population upward of 500. There is an American Presbyterian, an Episcopal Church, and a Methodist. Day dry and fine. The first day of Indian Summer.

October 28, Sabbath.—Forty Mile Creek. Arrived here last night about eight o'clock. Being recommended by Mr. Eastman to his father-in-law Mr. Griffin, I called for him; was most frankly invited to stay in his house, which I did. There is a Presbyterian church building here of brick, made to hold 400 or 450 people. The church here, together with another at Clinton, about five miles off, intend to have a minister between them and give him a house and 500 dollars. I preached in the school house at three o'clock. There was a goodly attendance though not full, in consequence of no notice being given of my coming. Did not think the people very attentive. A young man sitting near the desk took up the Psalm book after I had laid it down and kept it. Strange forwardness. Spent the day comfortably. Preached from John 12, 32.

October 29.—This morning Mr. Griffin asked me to come and stay at the Forty. Took a walk to-day down to the lake, and thought the whole scenery about the Forty much superior to almost anything I had seen in America. Behind the village there is what is called a mountain, which I climbed, and found an immense tract of cleared land. From the summit there is a splendid view of Lake Ontario, skirted towards the North by the woods of York, and stretching on all sides as far as the eye can see. There is every prospect of there being a new

church here. There is an Episcopal church which, here as in other places, contains the gentility.

October 30.—Forty Mile Creek. Did nothing to-day but stroll about the place, and was much pleased with the scenery. Mr. Griffin had a nice little party this evening, as also last evening. I was much pleased with the Canadians. After supper Mr. G. spoke seriously to me about becoming minister of Forty Mile and Clinton. He wished me to preach at Clinton where there is a good congregation and many very substantial farmers; that after preaching at Clinton he would summon together the chief people of the congregation and see how much they would be disposed to give. I promised to return to them (D. V.) but made no promise to stay. I explained the nature of my mission, and he wished me not to engage myself in the west till I should return.

October 31.—Was gratified this morning by seeing the peculiar atmosphere called Indian Summer. The sun appeared a bright orb of a copper color. The air smoky. It is not mist, but a dim haze. I had not thought of the cause of it, but a man informed me that the mist is caused by the burning of immense meadows in the West called prairies. Mr. Eastman gave me a letter to Mr. Marsh, Hamilton, and Mr. Griffin one to Mr. Wilkes, Brantford, and one to Mr. Smith, Paris. Received to-day a letter from Mr. Christie, saying that he was off to the London district and was anxious I should go to him.

November 1.—As I feared the coach might be too full, as it was yesterday, I walked from Forty Mile to Hamilton. The day was smoky, and there were many slight showers. The land on the whole road to Hamilton is in a very good state of cultivation. There is great difficulty in getting land to buy, and when a farm comes into the market it sells high. Nine miles from the Forty is Stoney Creek, a thriving village. Hamilton is a most beautifully situated town, and will in time in all probability excell both York and Kingston, in spite of the advantage they have from the Government offices. Was well received by Mr. Marsh, who talked a very great deal. Almost as soon as I was sat down he was in full drive on temperance societies and revivals. He is a smart man and has done much good. In family worship we all read three verses apiece. I prayed first, then Mr. Marsh, then Miss Eastman, then Mrs. Marsh; we all prayed. This form of family worship I had never seen before. I do not much approve of it. In some cases it may do very well, but not in all. During family worship there was a heavy thunderstorm. Mr. Marsh was making a sofa when I went in .

November 2.—Left Hamilton to-day about ten, and after a tedious and wearisome drive over wretched roads arrived at Brantford about five o'clock. The view from the mountain above Hamilton is a very splendid one. Below the mountain is Hamilton, a sweet little place, growing very fast. Beyond the village is Burlington Bay. There are rising grounds all around which are seen to much advantage. On the left is the continuation of the mountain down the west end of Lake Ontario, all clothed with wood to the very summit. I saw in the sides of the road up the mountain some free stone and plenty of lime stone. It is the general opinion that there is plenty of coal, and that in a short time it will be wrought, for wood is getting pretty high priced. Passed Ancaster to-day. A nice little village, but it will never grow large. It is built of wood. Arrived at Brantford, and immediately went and presented my letter to Mr. Wilkes, who very kindly invited me to stay in his house.

November 3.—Brantford is situated on a high bank above the Grand River where there is a wooden bridge. It is a very thriving place, more than half of all the houses are stores, and yet they are all doing well; some are rich. The Grand River here is larger than the Tay at Perth. It is navigable down to Lake Erie for boats, with the exception of fourteen miles of rapids. It is proposed to render it navigable all the way down, by locking, or by cutting a canal, and then to continue the canal to Dundas. In Brantford there are very many Indians constantly about upon the street. They have in general very good faces, nothing savage about them, but many have a childish frolicksomeness about them, which, were there provocation, could easily be turned to the fiercest enmity. In drawing near to Brantford about three miles, we passed a village of Cayuga Indians. The houses are small, ill built, and not clean. There are some patches of cleared land around their houses, but the ground is not well cleared. It is something that they are learning the habits of civilized life. The females all wear a blanket over a short gown and petticoat, men and women barefoot. Not darker than Spanish. After breakfast to-day, I walked over to Paris, seven miles, to deliver my letter to Mr. Smith. My intention was to preach at Paris in the forenoon and return and preach in Brantford in the evening. Mr. Smith is just selling up his house and had no bed so did not ask me to stop. The Inn is a very uncomfortable one, and as nobody bade me God speed, I returned to Brantford in the evening. This was a very great disappointment, and I was so silly as to take it to heart. The

road from Brantford is all the way through the forest, which is composed of oak. The trees about one and a half feet around and from thirty to forty-five feet high. At Paris, which is on the right bank of the Grand River, there is a valuable bed of plaster of Paris which is wrought to considerable extent. The stone is pounded and sown to the extent of one-half or three-quarters of a bushel to the acre. There are saw and grist and wool mills. It is just two years since the first stake was driven in, and now there are about seventy large frame houses and many stores. Smith's Creek flows into the Grand River. It is a lazy stream. Got acquainted with two Scotch men and one woman, members of the Secession Church at Glasgow. Returned to Brantford very weary.

November 4.—Brantford. Preached in the morning in the school house very comfortably to about fifty people. Heard Mr. Leygan, the Episcopal, in the afternoon. Preached in the evening for Mr. Bryning in the school house, well filled. Were this not one of Mr. B.'s stations, it is in the very state to be a good place for a Presbyterian congregation; but little as it does for him, he could not want that little. Mr. Wilkes would, were he encouraged and stimulated, commence building a church, and would welcome me to it. Mr. Bryning came in the evening and I had a good deal of conversation with him about my mission. I resolved to accompany him home on Monday and talk further on the subject. He seems to think the London district a good one for my labors and I am resolved to go thither, the more especially as Mr. Christie has gone before.

November 5.—Mount Pleasant. Came here with Mr. B. to-day. The village is six miles from Brantford on the right bank of the Grand River. The country is still all sandy. The timbers principally oak, and not very thick on the ground. This is called a mountain, but it is really a ridge. In the evening I preached in the school house to congregation which Mr. B. had called together as we came along. The house was full. The singing good. There was a meeting of the Temperance Society which was one reason for the congregation. Received from Mr. B. a most hearty welcome. His partner is a warm-hearted, active, smart woman, who exerts herself beyond what minister's wives are required to do in any place I have seen. The income of Mr. B. from all his places does not exceed \$200 in any year. From him I learned that the Canadians are most unwilling to pay anything to their minister at all like a competence, and that if they are spoken to on the subject they will run off to other denominations and pronounce the man who asks what may

make him live, a selfish, greedy, money-loving man—altogether unlike the Apostles who wrought with their hands that they might make the gospel free of charge. Such is the prospect for ministers in Canada. The ticket from Brantford to London is \$3.00. The day cold. Indian Summer has been soon over.

November 6.—Canfield's Tavern. This morning I went over from Mr. Bryning's to Van Norman's Tavern in order to meet the mail. While I was waiting in the tavern, there came into the bar room an emigrant from Ross-shire, who was in quest of a school or some employment in that line. He was destined for Prince Edward Island, but the ship would not land him there but brought him on to Quebec. He tried school in Glengary, but finding the people more willing to employ him than to pay him, he came off seeking another place. He had a good number of recommendations to influential men, each of whom had advised him to go somewhere else, assuring him of success in other places. Banded about in this way he had gone to West Gwillimbury, to York, and was now on his way to Zorra or London. He seemed very much depressed; his eyes were constantly filled with tears. He had lost a child after leaving Montreal; had left his wife and children at Glengary; and was in quest of something for himself to do that he might be able to support them. Besides all this, he deposited £40 in a Glasgow bank which when he came to Greenock had failed, and this stripped him of his little all. I felt exceedingly for him, the more that there were points in his case like my own. I spoke to him and gave him those comforts which I ought to take to myself. Perhaps they may be more good to him than me. How erroneous are the opinions of Canada entertained by people in the Old Country. There are scenes of distress encountered by emigrants of which they at home have no idea. What a pity that some one acquainted with the country does not write a fair account of it; and undeceive those who may be preparing to come out. If spared, I shall think it my duty to attempt something of the kind, if I can get a sufficient quantity of authentic information. I dined at Van Norman's Tavern, and fed Mr. Bryning's horse. Came on to Canfield's Inn through a piece of the very worst road I had ever seen.

November 7.—Mr. Wm. Lee's. Paid for supper, bed and breakfast 2s 9d. Started about 9 A. M., the road as usual wretched. After journeying thirteen miles we exchanged our covered wagon for an uncovered one. The whole day excessively cold. Indeed it snowed heavily all day, and towards evening it froze very hard. Mr. Lee's home is near where the

road turns to London village, from which it is distant about two miles. I had a letter to him from Mr. Bryning, and it was most fortunate that it was so, for I should not have been able to walk in the cold two miles over a road in which I must at every step have sunk to the middle of the leg. After we entered the Township of Oxford to-day, the road became a great deal better than I had seen it from Ancaster. Leaving Oxford we came to Dorchester, in which are what is called the buck wheat pines, the most wretched place I have seen in Canada.

November 8.—Mr. Wm. Lee gave me a reception which would have done honor to a Scotchman. He walked with me to-day to London and introduced me to Dr. Lee, his brother, who, strange to say, keeps the principal tavern in London. Dr. Lee, both on account of his brother's introduction and on account of Mr. Bryning's letter, received me very kindly. He introduced me to a Mr. Robertson, storekeeper, a native of Renfrew, a magistrate, and one of the leading men connected with the Kirk of Scotland. Mr. R. invited me to sleep at his house and shewed me a regulated hospitality. From him I learned there were a few Presbyterians in the village and township; that there are amongst the number kirkmen and seceders; that some time ago there was an application made to some persons at home to send a minister, and that application was made to Lord Goderich for pecuniary assistance; that an effort had lately been made to raise subscription for building a house and raising a stipend; that at present the matter is quiescent on account of unwillingness on the part of some to give the cash, and of several who are dissenters to concur in their application for a kirkman. He told me further that there are many who understand no other language than the Gaelic, and that the minister whom they wish to be sent to them must be able to preach in Gaelic. From him I further learned that he and his party could encourage only a kirkman. This was making my way quite clear, so far as he and his party are concerned. He referred me to a Mr. McKenzie, who lives four miles from the village for further information. From conversation with him I was not led to hope for much success in my application in that quarter; and besides, it occurred to me that it would not be easy to form a Christian church composed of such materials. The day fine though a little cold.

November 9.—After breakfast walked out to Mr. McKenzie's; did not find him at home, but received a very hospitable welcome from his wife. After I left his house I met him, and had some conversation with him in regard to my mission.

He is a most violent kirkman, who will give no encouragement to a man who is not a kirkman, and speaks Gaelic; and the minister he will encourage must be one who will hold or express no opinion unfavorable to the government of this country. In fact, I never met with such a real, red tory. The veriest head of the most rotten borough is nothing to him. I never felt in my life so strong an inclination to maul a man; but recollecting that political opinion had nothing to do with my mission I said not a word, but left him to have it all his own way and proceeded on to the English settlement, partly with a view to see Dr. Cairns who is at present preaching to them, and partly to see and converse with the people. I lodged with a Mr. Waugh, a good man and an old light seceder from Yetholm in Roxboroughshire, who, in a manly way, received me with great frankness. He seemed very anxious that I should remain with them in that quarter. From him I learned that there are very violent differences amongst Presbyterians in this quarter; that there are some high kirk, others keen Antiburghers, and some zealous seceders of the United Secession of the U. C.; that these three parties will not unite their efforts to have a minister among them, and that consequently they want the means of grace; that the English settlement, as it is called, together with the people of Westminster are resolved to exert themselves to have a minister between them. He has no high opinion of Mr. McKenzie or Mr. Robertson. We had much conversation, which convinced me that he is a sensible, good man. At his request I promised to go and preach at the English settlement after Dr. Cairns leaves them. The country through which I passed to-day is covered with hard wood. The timber in many places very heavy. The soil very good. Some good lots may be had in this quarter. I saw the stump of an oaktree which was in diameter twice the length of my umbrella and quite six inches more.

November 10.—Returned to London this afternoon. On my way from Mr. Waugh's I called again for Mr. McKenzie, who detained me to dinner. My silence on politics yesterday seemed to have produced a good impression. He was now willing that I should settle among the people, and would do what he could to render it advisable for me to do so. At the same time he let out the illiberality and ignorance of his high toryism. My settlement, with his concurrence, depended upon my not saying anything against state or church. To this I made no reply, for it would be vain to agree with a man who could propose such a thing; and as it is not likely that I shall settle

amongst such heterogeneous material I did not wish to cast out with him. He invited me to preach in his neighborhood to-morrow evening, which I promised to do, glad of an opportunity to preach the gospel to any that will hear, be he whig or tory. During dinner, conversation turned on Methodism, to which he has a very strong aversion, because they are in favor of republicanism. The bishop of the Episcopal Methodists resides somewhere about Albany in the United States, and consequently they have a leaning towards it. Mr. McK. was once a radical or something very like it, but he has of late been appointed a magistrate, or justice of the peace, and being thus dressed up in a little brief authority he looks at everything through the spectacles of his politics. I suppose it might be possible for me to get a church in or about London; and in one sense it would be a very good thing, for the country is growing fast in population. But then the leading men of the kirk party, with whom I should of course be connected, and on whom I should of course be in a good measure dependent for stipend, do not appear to be of the stamp that a church of Christ ought to be. It would be better for me to locate myself in some place where I should be independent and might admit to the fellowship of the church only such as are evidently Christian. Mr. McKenzie suggested as an inducement, that there is in the neighborhood a very good piece of land, 100 acres, for sale at a moderate price, which I might look at on Monday. My intention is, however, from the present appearance of things, not to involve myself with the discordant materials of this place. If I should settle here I would take that part of the community that is in connection with the U. Synod of Upper Canada. May God guide me by His counsel to act for His glory and the good of souls; and if I be thus counselled it will also be for the good of my family. The day dull but not cold. The village of London is situated in the forks of the Thames, at the confluence of the E. and W. branches of it. The situation is a very good one. The streets are regularly laid out at right angles, and in a good many of them there is a considerable number of houses. The best houses here, as everywhere else in Canada. are stores. In most of the streets are still standing stumps of large trees, and passengers must wind their way about them in the best manner they can. There is a large court house and gaol, just on the edge of the bank, which look down on the junction of the two branches of the Thames. It is of brick and plastered on the outside. It is a kind of Gothic, clumsy and uninteresting. Surely the Canadians might send to Europe

for plans for their public buildings. The Thames is a noble river; and when once the wood is cleared off the banks it will be seen very beautifully winding its way through a fertile valley which will be clothed one day with flocks and herds. The portion of land on which London stands, has been covered principally with pine, consequently it is sandy. There is a very thin sprinkling of sand on the surface. It will, I think, never be a very productive spot. There are two wooden bridges over the river, one on each branch. They are clumsy and badly made; and being unpainted, will not last long to offend anybody. There are several very good houses. Dr. Lee's is the best, at which I lodge. It is a spacious house, but as this is my first day in it, I cannot tell what sort of entertainment to expect.

November 11, Sabbath.—London Village. This morning I preached in the school house from John 12, 32. I enjoyed freedom in commending the Christian faith and the Lord Jesus Christ to man. There had been but short notice that there would be a sermon, but the house was full as it could hold. Just as I had pronounced the blessing a person stood up and intimated that there would be a sermon in the afternoon; that he was a Presbyterian and a fellow laborer of mine. He told me his name was McLatchie; that he was an ordained minister in Ireland; that he had just come to London, and that he designed to spend the rest of his days in the place. Here my scheme of a church in London is dashed. He will stay in the place and will preach every day. He has no family. It is plain he will not remove, and I cannot afford to contend with him. Thus one of my most flattering projects is dashed to the ground. Ever since I left Grimsby there has been an untowardness in my whole movements. They have been all uphill. If I be right in understanding this as a demonstration of the will of God, I am most willing to do His will. I could not entertain a wish which I knew to be contrary to His will. Mr. McLatchie told me that he had seen my dear wife this day week and that she and the family are all well. In the afternoon I went out four miles; preached to a number of Scotch Highlanders at third concession from 1 John, 4-16. The audience was most attentive, even though they did not understand well the English language. I baptized two children, the one the ninth child of Donald McDonald, Daniel Edward; the other, the second child of John and Nancy McIntosh, Isabella. It would be of great importance that a Gaelic minister were sent to labor in this place. The people can be edified only in the Gaelic language.

The parents of the above children were members of the Secession Church in Nova Scotia. There was a third applicant for baptism, but as I had not conversed with him before, and as he had never been a member of a Christian church, I refused for the present. Lodged for the night in the house of Squire McKenzie, from whom I received a most hearty welcome. He is very willing to support me in forming a church in London, which is the more gratifying as the different parties were not united before. The people have been divided between Kirk and Secession; now both parties are willing that I should settle among them. What is my duty I do not well know. God will by and by let me know. Shew me, Oh Lord, Thy way and incline my heart to walk in it. Saw to-day a grist mill going. Was told that such things were common in Canada. There is much need of a minister here who would give a tone to the public mind by admission of religious truth. The day agreeable but somewhat sharp.

November 12.—Swartz' Inn, Westminster. Breakfasted with Donald McDonald and returned to the village. Mr. McLatchie told me that Mr. Christie had returned to Kingston, having been discouraged by the badness of the roads. This is the second time I have been left alone. May God enable me to persevere, and not to be discouraged by inconveniences of an ordinary kind. Oh, that the manner in which God is exercising me may be turned to His glory and the good of my own soul, and the souls of others, In the forenoon Dr. Cairns called as his time was short and as I wished to send a letter to my dear wife by him. I came over to Mr. Swartz's tavern, who is a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. He entertained us very hospitably. In the course of conversation I discovered that Dr. Cairns is an old light Antiburgher, and that no impression can be made upon his mind. There were present Mr. Grieve and Mr. Whillams, both seceders from Roxboroughshire. I was much refreshed by their Scotch accent, &c.

November 13.—Westminster. Mr. Grieve's. Walked here this morning to breakfast. Mr. Grieve has got a lot of as good land as I have seen in Canada and farms it well. It must be a valuable property in a few years. The timber is all hard wood. The soil is a deep black mould resting upon bed of sandy clay. There is a considerable population around here, who all live in plenty and content. They are a happy people who live in Canada. They have not much cash, but they have all that cash could buy. One of Mr. Grieve's daughters was weaving at the fireside. The clothes worn by the families are all home

made. They buy scarcely anything at the store. In consequence of the wish of the people about I agreed to preach to them in the school house. My ailment (diarrhoea) continuing, prevented me. It was fortunate for the people that Mr. McLatchie came in the course of the afternoon and officiated for me. This was one more of the cross circumstances which have attended my jaunt to the West. I wish I may rightly be able to understand the will of God. The day has been cold; toward evening there fell some snow and the frost was very hard.

November 14.—Mr. Grieve's. Much better this morning, though not quite well. Had a great deal of talk with Mr. G. respecting the country, the farming and the produce. His observations corresponded very much with what I had heard before. Last year he raised  $14\frac{1}{2}$  boles of maize to the acre, and this year raised ten boles of wheat. He farms with great style. He takes care not to overcrop the ground, and lays on manure when the soil is thin, that he may equalize the produce of the field. He has never seen that dung is an inconvenience about a farm, as many Canadians have fancied; a good farmer will find use for it all. He prefers carting out the manure and plowing it down in the Fall because when it is put on in the Spring, it keeps the ground too open, and the heat of the Summer makes too great an impression upon it. Had a good deal of talk about Scotland and Scotch ministers. I am trying to put off the character of Dr. Cairns, but cannot yet do it, though there is not much difficulty in the subject. He has done me some ill already, and it is likely will do more through ignorance. He is a rigid Antiburgher, though a pious man. In the evening had a long conversation with John Grieve respecting temperance societies. I insisted that the temperance society is formed upon an insufficient basis, a basis upon which a moral action should not be left to rest. The rule is that the subscriber pledges himself upon his honor. Now I maintain that if it is a moral duty it should rest on the Word of God, but the society pledges itself to be temperate only in the fear of man. I insisted, moreover, that the church ought to have taken up the subject; and that the gospel is able to accomplish that and every other morality; and that it is wrong to overlook the gospel. Further that the order in which God acts, is first, to awaken the church, and that the rod of His strength goes out of Zion and subdues the people. But the temperance society, on the worldly principle of honor, would do what God does by the gospel. I found it difficult to make him comprehend that I was no advocate of drinking of ardent spirits; and he and the

family appeared to think, that I was a friend of intemperance. From this I see that it is useless to make country people understand nice distinctions. I got nothing but suspicions for my pains. I might have known this before. The day has been cold and frosty. Mr. Grieve's house is full of chinks between the logs, and I felt by day and night the wind blowing in upon me. The family heaped on wood in profusion, but all would not do. The cold got the mastery when the fire got low.

November 15.—London. Left at about twelve o'clock Mr. Grieve's hospitable charge, called for Mr. Lee, and reached London about four o'clock very much fatigued and not very well. Mr. Wm. Robertson told me that he was willing to exert himself in raising a subscription for a stipend. Mr. Talbot, the teacher, though an Episcopalian, offered to subscribe. I believe that had it not been for the coming of Mr. McLatchie I should have made choice of London for my residence and found it a comfortable one; but this incident has strangely marred all my views and entangled my will. May God enable me to act, as shall best please Him. In the morning it snowed very heavily and froze severely, and the roads became impassable..

November 16.—Felt not well to-day. Called for Mr. McLatchie and gathered from him that it is his intention to stay in London; that he proposed to connect himself with Presbytery, and thinks they will appoint him to labor in this district. He has a very great deal of complacency, and talked of the flattering manner in which the people had spoken of him, and that he had already been invited to preach in St. Thomas. He does not seem even for one moment to think that I have as good right to keep my ground as he has to come in upon my labors. But let there be no strife between us. The land is wide enough for both and on the Abrahamic principle I am willing to act, i. e., his dealing with Lot. I do not expect similar fairness and frankness from him. Donald McDonald called to-day; much interest about retaining me in this place. He is purposing to go about with a subscription paper to-morrow to try and raise a stipend for me. What is to be done in this matter I do not know; perhaps my best way is to allow it to go on, and then judge what my conduct should be, when I see the result. If it go unsuccessfully I may conclude that it is not advisable for me to remain. I shall follow what I think are the leadings of Providence. Haunted much to-day, as is usual when not well and when things are not successful, with concern about my family. Oh, My God guide us by Thy Holy Spirit and shew us Thy salvation. Weather very mild to-day.

November 17.—London. Somewhat unwell still, but on the whole better. The Presbyterians in this place in connection with the Kirk of Scotland are getting subscription papers ready in order to raise a sum for a stipend for me. What will turn out of this God only knows. I wish to be passive in the matter and keep myself unpledged till I see the result. Had an opportunity to-day of hearing a great deal of profane swearing, and of a kind that appeared peculiarly shocking, and that too from persons of whom I expected better things. The minister who comes here to labor will have a very great deal to do and very much to put up with that is uncomfortable. In conversing this evening with Charles Davidson from Inverness (a good man) about the baptism of his child, I was told that the people of this district are exceedingly careless and profane; that little or no respect is paid to the Sabbath day; that very many people are addicted to drinking; that few care anything about religion. The accounts he gave of the people were enough to make me dislike to live among them, and at the same time demonstrated the urgent need there is of one to teach them the way of life, and to bring them to the faith of Jesus Christ, that they may be purified in heart and life. It is distressing to see men live without God and without hope in the world—to see them trifling away their time and living only for time; and a poor time in general they have of it. Was told to-day of a peculiarity among both Americans and Canadians. When young men and even middle aged men meet in a tavern, they cannot sit and talk as Old Country people do, but they are all on their legs rebelling and pulling at one another. They seem to be just big boys. Witnessed to-day many proofs of this. The room next to the one I occupied was frequently full of people making all imaginable noises, laughing, swearing, tumbling on the floor, shoving one another about. They did not, however, intrude upon me. I have seen about London less to like than any place in Canada. The manner of drinking spirits is very different here from what it is in the Old Country. Here a person or two come to the bar, buy a glass of liquor, and stand and drink it off, wander about the bar room awhile and saunter off, perhaps to the bar of another tavern. There is no sociality of a rational kind, no conversation, no sentiment—it is the most irrational way of buying a glass I have ever seen. Was told to-day what I have often been told before, that the usual spirit drinking is carried on thus. Was told to-day that many of the Scotch who reside in London are just as careless as others. How often is this tale told of my countrymen all

over the world. Was told also that many of the Scotch who have settled in Lobo have turned to Methodism. I wish they may have become better men by the change of Communion. The day mild and fair; a little frost in the night.

November 18.—London. Awoke this morning in indifferent health. After breakfast Mr. McLatchie came to call for me before going to Presbytery. I entered very fully into the circumstances in which his coming had placed me. I told him that I was here before he came; that I had succeeded in uniting the Kirk and the Seceders; that I had received many assurances of support from those of both parties; that there was to be a public meeting of my friends on Monday to raise a stipend for me which I had every reason to believe would be liberal; that in regard to those who are in connection with the U. S. of U. C., I had the authority of the Presbytery for laboring among them, if I should feel inclined; that, therefore, I considered myself as having the right which occupancy gives. To all this he replied that he had set his mind upon London; that he did not think I had any more right than he had; that he was resolved to live in this place with his father in whose house he would find a home; that he had no objection to labor along with me; would estimate when and where I was to preach and hoped I would do the same for him. To this I said that though the place might provide labor for both of us if we were intended to preach wherever we might find half a dozen houses, yet that the most of these stations were within a short distance from London, to which the people might easily come, and were willing to come; there was no virtue in laboring merely for the sake of laboring; that a minister's time could be better employed, and at the same time that it would take all the stations to which he had referred to support for some years one man; and that therefore the scheme was wholly impracticable. "But," said I, "I will give you the offer Abraham gave to Lot. The land is before us; if you go to the right hand I will go to the left; let there be no strife between us for we are brethren." This not in the slightest touching his heart, I then said "I shall then leave you on the field, and shall return by the first mail wagon." At this he seemed delighted. I for my part feel very much satisfied with what I have done, and I would rather be in my shoes than his. Preached to a full house on 1 Thess. 4, 1. After sermon told my friends the position in which I was placed. My determination to leave them the very first opportunity if well; they very earnestly tried to dissuade me. To put them off, I promised to think the matter over again in the evening, and to

send them word if there were any change in my mind. A Methodist (Mr. Jackson) occupied the place of worship in the middle of the day; and Mr. Cronyn of the Episcopal Church at 4 P. M. Oh my God let me be guided by Thee in all things, and let not any ill come out of what I have resolved to do in regard to London. May I be useful as a minister of the Gospel in converting sinners and building up saints.

November 19.—Westminster, Swartz's Tavern. Left London this afternoon at 5 P. M. and came here to wait for the stage which I understood is to return to Brantford Tuesday morning. In the morning Mr. Robertson, Donald McDonald, and Mr. Fraser called for me to receive my ultimatum. I was very much gratified by their earnestness and good will, but could give no other answer than I gave yesterday. They did what they could to alter my resolutions; but when I put to them the question whether they thought, all things considered, that I had acted the part of a minister of Christ, they replied that they thought I had. They then desired me to write them if circumstances should so alter as that I could return to them; and they wished to keep myself disengaged; and further they said, that they would see how the minds of the people stood affected, and would write me if they thought there was any hope of their all being united. Mr. McKenzie was not at church yesterday, nor did he come in to-day. From this I suspect that though when I saw him he was the most earnest for my staying, that he wishes to keep out of the affair altogether, and to leave himself at liberty how to act if he should feel inclined to ask a minister of the Kirk. I told Mr. McDonald and Mr. Fraser not to count themselves by promise to me; to leave the matter in the hands of Providence, and to act accordingly. Dr. Lee, Mr. Parke, and Mr. Talbot were very urgent with me to stay. My opinion is that Mr. McLatchie will preach often to them; that the people will fall in with him, as he is upon the spot; and that I shall hear no more of it. Upon the whole I have been much gratified by my visit to London, but still I have not got a settlement for my family, which is often the occasion of much mental suffering, though I know this is not right. This morning a heavy fall of snow which continued till 2 P. M. The air was very mild.

November 20.—Westminster, Swartz's Tavern. During the night the air became excessively cold and there was a heavy fall of snow, which continued to fall in small frozen grains throughout the day. The stage did not come last night, so I must just (D. V.) linger here till Thursday morning at

four o'clock when, barring accidents, must pass with the mail. Mr. Swartz went this morning over to the second concession to announce that if the people there wish it I will preach to them to-morrow. His boys brought home four large turkeys which they had caught in a trap; turkeys are often caught that way weighing from sixteen to twenty pounds and are worth a dollar. Mr. Swartz told me that the standard weight of wheat is sixty pounds to the bushel, oats thirty-five pounds. He is going to sow rye the first fresh day, and says that if there come a good fall of snow, it will come up under it. Had a good deal of conversation about the U. S. of America, about beavers, and many other things. Frost became intense in the evening; but the wind fell away and the chinky log house became tolerable.

November 21.—Went over to the school house on the second concession and preached to a pretty full house from 1 John 4-16. Mr. Fraser did not tell me that the people there had sent a petition to the Presbytery praying that Mr. McLatchie may be sent to labor among them for some time. I gave him an account of my views with regard to London, and how these views had been disappointed. He must have felt rather uncomfortable. Mr. Cairns has done all the mischief. Mr. Swartz's boys trapped three large wild turkeys to-day. Mr. Grieve came over and spent the evening with me.

November 22.—The mail waggon—open—came past Mr. Swartz's this morning at five o'clock. I dressed myself and went in it. Breakfasted in Putnam's; the roads horrible; got a covered waggon, at Putnam's. Day very cold; after it became dark two Scotchmen who were passengers whiled away the time by singing Scotch songs. Called at Butler's about 9 P. M. in the hope of getting tea, but the servants were all gone to bed; he could give us nothing but gin and crackers, which of course were not taken. Arrived at Brantford at half past two A. M.; every bed in the tavern was full; there was no wood chopped; we were compelled to go out and chop wood, and make a fire in the bar room, and sit there weary and hungry and sleepless till the folks got up. Did all we could to raise the servants to get us some tea, but not one would move—the worst usage I ever met with in all my journeyings. Took twenty-one hours to go fifty miles.

November 23.—Hamilton. Breakfast at Brantford and dined with Mr. Wilkes. He is about the only man with thought I have met with in Canada; in religion he is an Independent—in politics, bordering on Radicalism. He has a number of

original notions, and supports them with eloquence and talent. He would be very willing I should come and settle in Brantford or the neighborhood, but he will not put himself forward as an active man, though he will subscribe to my support. I understand the meaning of this and consequently notice such countenance but little. From what he said I begin to be of the opinion that the country between Dundas and Paris may form a very fine mission station. I shall look over it. Left Brantford in the mail waggon—open—at half past five P. M.; got on very slowly; roads exceedingly bad. The day snowy when I left; afterwards it became frosty. Came by Ancaster and Dundas, and arrived at Hamilton at one o'clock, A. M., where I got tea and a nap on a chair for half an hour, and waited till after three for the coach for York. There was in the waggon a Mr. Kirkpatrick, settled in the neighborhood of Brantford; from Dumfries sixteen years ago. A very nice man. He got, at an inn on the road, a Buffalo robe which he and I wrapped round our knees, and it was a very great comfort.

November 24.—York, home. Left Hamilton at three A. M. for York in a coach—covered—and after an uncomfortable ride arrived home at three P. M. very much fatigued, after having got no sleep for two nights and a half, and having been out all the time in the cold. But all this was in a moment forgotten, by finding my family in good health and all happy—for which I desire to give thanks to God from whom come all my mercies, and these have been neither few nor small. Mr. Cairns—preacher—called just when I arrived; and I gave him a dressing, which, if he has a soul, he will not soon forget. He has been doing me much mischief. Was delighted at finding a number of letters from my dear bairns at home and other friends. They had been written shortly after I left Greenock, and were intended to meet me shortly after my arrival. These children are very dear to me—they are very little out of my thoughts.

November 25, Sabbath.—Home. Heard Mr. Cairns preach in Mr. Harris' chapel to-day—a very poor concern. Spent the day comfortably with my family, who, I find, have been behaving very well in my absence. My family have been kindly treated by the neighbors.

November 26.—Since I returned I find that the Presbytery at Streetsville have been doing what they can to embarrass me. This is not handsome, but it will never do to allow any cross feeling to come in between me and them because of the medd-

ling officiousness of a man like Cairns. Wrote to-day to Mr. Bell telling him that I wish to put him in possession of facts which have been misrepresented to him. Heard to-day that the York district has returned Mr. McKenzie their member of parliament. He has twice been expelled from the House, and the people have thrice returned him in spite of the Tory party. From what I can learn, Mr. McKenzie is a man of first rate talent as a debater; that he has the power of skinning (sarcasm) to an extraordinary degree; that he mauls his antagonists in a style which they can neither bear nor retort; that he advocates these measures which are for the good of the community in opposition to the selfish measures of the aristocracy. He is popular and deserves to be so. He is, however, imprudent in his severity to his opponents, and does ill to his good cause by creating personal enemies in those to whom he should only be opposed on public grounds. Heard to-day that Duncan McColl, M. P., was this morning found dead in his bed. He has been ailing for some days and was a hard drinker. Warm and rainy.

November 27.—Went to-day to York and called for some friends who were all apparently happy to see me. Got some interesting accounts of the doings of the Presbytery at Streetsville respecting the union, but, as I have not got a copy of the minutes, I shall not write of it till I do. Was informed of dissension in the Scotch Kirk at York, seemingly occasioned by the unpopularity of Mr. Penitout—the most unpopular part of his conduct being his reading his sermons. Some of his congregation seem to have made great progress in dissent, they having declared at a late meeting of the congregation or trustees, that they disliked the minister receiving government bounty, which is unnecessary, as they can support him by themselves, and being got at the expense of other classes of the community, is unjust. They declared it also illegal; but, I do not as yet just clearly understand how it is illegal. Things in that church seem to be troubled, and approaching a crisis. Learned to-day that all churches contain very incongruous material; there are independents in the Kirk, in the Dissenting Church, in the Methodist churches. It is the belief of Mr. Wilkes and some others, that when his son comes to York, the Independents will come out and form a flourishing church for themselves. Received accounts from several persons not very much to the honor of Mr. Cairns, which ought to make me care less for the manner in which he has acted to me. The day fair and cold.

November 28.—Read the 110th No. of the Edinburgh Review, and as usual enjoyed a rich intellectual feast. I never read the review without feeling that I could do something great, such is the stimulating influence of that masterly work. What a difference between men in Canada and at home; and yet education makes the difference in general. But it is ages of education that raises man to the state he is now in, in the Old Country. Fair and cold.

November 29.—Spent the day at home, confined by the muddy state of the roads. Wrote part of a letter to Mr. Newlands; taught in the afternoon Alexander's school. Mr. Harris called and spent part of the forenoon with me, with whom I had a good deal of friendly chat—chiefly about churches. Wrote a long letter to Mr. Christie, and sent to him his parcel, which I had taken with me all over the country in the hope of finding him. About bed-time it began to rain very hard. The day mild.

November 30.—Very much better to-day. Finished a long letter to Mr. Newlands; spent the day in the bosom of my family very happy. The weather to-day has been very peculiar. It rained during the whole of last night, and to-day it has continued to rain and freeze at the same time. The rain which fell upon the railing around the house was converted into icicles as it fell. Contrary to what I had thought, the winter commenced earlier in London district than here. When I was in London there was a hard frost and a good deal of snow, all the while there was mild weather about York; and now the same kind of weather which I experienced at London two weeks ago is just coming on.

December 1.—Mr. Craig come into York to-day to take me out on horse back to Scarborough, and shewed me all such kindness as is wont to be shewn to ministers in Scotland. On my way called at the house of Mr. Brownlee, a Scotchman from Lesmahago, to warm our feet, who also served us a Scotch hospitality. Intended to lodge this evening with Mr. David Thomson, but when we got to his house we found them all tipsy. Mr. Thomson had had a bee on Wednesday, and they had been drinking ever since. Scarborough folks are noted drinkers. In consequence of the disordered state of the house I proceeded to Mr. Johnson's, my old quarters, where I received a most hearty welcome, and where Mr. Craig and I spent the evening in a very comfortable manner. Had a good deal of conversation respecting the congregation and the means by which it may be brought into a state of order so that they may raise with ease a stipend to the minister. The day exceedingly cold.

Hard frost, the trees coated all over with ice, and many of them beaten to the ground by the weight of the ice. Took five and a quarter hours to go to Scarborough—twelve miles—on horse back; the roads were bad.

December 2, Sabbath.—Scarborough. Preached to-day from Matth. 4, 1, and John 1, 2-1. The congregation not so numerous as on former occasions on account of bad roads, and because notice had not been widely circulated. Had a good deal of conversation this evening suitable to the Sabbath, also about the right ordering of the congregation. From all that I heard I came to the conclusion that there is very much to do here, and that the work to be done will expose to a great deal of ill will. Some of those who wish to be pillars in the church are so defective in point of moral character that it would be wrong to admit them to the fellowship of a Christian community. Messrs. Johnston and Craig are very anxious that I should settle here; about this I have many doubts. It is not a missionary station, strictly so. It is under the care of the Presbytery. It is not in a neighborhood I would like for my family. There is no land except what is very high priced. The salary is too small—only £80 per annum. I hope that God will guide me in the right way. Scarlet fever is prevalent here. Females, when confined, do not call the assistance of either midwife or surgeon; the reason is they charge too high. So the neighbors assist, and all goes well enough.

December 3.—Home. Walked from Scarborough home; took six and a half hours—twelve miles, the roads were so bad. The frost began to give way in the morning and by the time I got home they were wrought mire. Called on Mr. Brownlee on my way, and was hospitably entertained. Saw two young men from Lanarkshire who were members of the W. A. Church at Biggar; they were very well pleased to see me and I to see them. In company with Mr. Brownlee I saw a Mr. Jas. Tudhope, from Oro, going home to bring out his two sons. He promised to take some letters from me to Glasgow and gave me great encouragement to go to Oro, where, he said, the people were in great need of the gospel, and where he is sure I shall be most welcome. He told me of a Mr. Gunn in Thorah, a good man, who would do all he could to facilitate my entrance to the people in the place where he lives. He says there is excellent land to be had; the people are doing well and have plenty of money among them. Got for preaching \$41—the first money I have received in America. Mr. Johnstone walked through the lot he wanted me to buy should I become minister

in Scarborough. It is very high priced at \$8 per acre, and 100 at \$7. Perhaps its nearness to the market, where all kinds of farm produce can be disposed of, might after all render it not a bad bargain. The roads muddy to excess.

December 4.—Home. All day writing letters. Alex. and I walked to York in the evening to deliver these letters to Mr. Tudhope. Spoke to a dentist about putting in three teeth. He charged no less than \$5 apiece, which I refused to give, and so I must wear my bare mouth a little longer. It were foolish to buy teeth with that which must be kept to buy meat. I have now been 100 days in America. I have not yet been able to see a place which I think will, in all respects, suit me. I have been dilatory, I expect, and yet when I think of it I do not see what I could have done more. I trust God in His infinite wisdom will so order my steps that I shall have reason to admire His doings and to praise Him who is the health of my countenance. Have heard of many females dying in child bed these two weeks. The season appears to be unfriendly to those in that way. I expect that the same cause which has produced cholera, by the state of the atmosphere which enfeebles the bowels. Can the atmosphere be the cause of it And how? Among those who have died Mrs. Freeland, daughter of Mr. Robert Thomson, Glasgow. She shewed Mrs. P. and me much hospitality when we came to York.

December 5.—Home. Went into York and called for some acquaintances with whom I had some chat and from some of whom I heard a scandal.

#### OFFICIAL REPORT.

The following extract from a letter to one of the officers of the Synod in Scotland, and which is practically his first official report, written before his settlement in London, gives his views of the situation in Upper Canada, in so far as the operations of his church could be carried on; and details the plans he and Mr. Christie proposed to adopt. After describing his reception by the Presbyteries of Brockville and York, as already given in his journal, he goes on to say:

"In order to leave a just idea of Canada as a field of missionary labour under the superintendence of the United Associate Synod (of Scotland), it is necessary to divide the country into the townships within the limits of the United Synod of Upper Canada, and those that are beyond them. The Synod has congregations at wide intervals from Cornwall, fifty miles below Prescott, to London, in the Western territory; and from

York (Toronto) to Lake Simcoe. The number of ministers is fifteen, but some of these have as many as six congregations under their charge. Indeed, I know of only two or three ministers who preach stately on Sabbath in one place. Many of these congregations, which were nice missionary stations, and perhaps are so still, have so grown in numbers and worldly circumstances as to be able to support each a minister at a moderate stipend. But the Synod has not ministers to send to them; and consequently there is reason to fear that some of these congregations will go over to those churches that can afford them a regular ministry, if the Synod receive not help from the United Associate Synod, or from Ireland, whence they have hitherto drawn their chief supply of preachers. Within the bounds of the Synod there are very many townships where small congregations might be collected, which the ministers have never visited, and which they cannot visit. These might be formed into excellent stations for missionary labor.

“As I found that the settling of my family near York would detain me, at least part of the winter, within the bounds of the Synod, I did not think it brotherly, nor likely to do good in other respects, to go over the country without their concurrence. You are aware that the United Synod of Upper Canada holds the same faith, and observes the same forms of worship and discipline, as the Associate Synod. I was fortunate enough to arrive at Brockville on a day that there was a meeting of the Presbytery. I stated to the members the object of my coming to the country. I was most cordially welcomed. All the members expressed joy that the United Secession Church had at length thought of Canada. They named several places where I might preach, and they told me that I might easily find more in traversing the country; and, further, they made me welcome, whether I should join their Synod or not. On 26th September the Presbytery of York met at Streetsville in Toronto (township). I thought it right to attend, the more especially as it was convenient for me to do so.

“I made the same communications as at Brockville and received as hearty a welcome. Two of the members of the Presbytery urged me very much to preach within their bounds, as they were no longer able to endure the fatigue of travelling to their numerous congregations, and they assured me they would be most happy if I could relieve them of part of their labors. In the neighborhood of these congregations there are stations where there is room for as much labor as any man could undertake. From what I have seen of the country and of the re-

ligious parties in it, I think the Synod could not do better than strengthen the hands of the United Synod of Upper Canada. They are a church known over all the country. They have been very useful, and are respected. They have already organized the means of operating upon every part of the province; and not only so, but to act without them would be to fix upon them the stamp of the Synod's disapprobation, which would be the more painful to them as they have hitherto made it their boast that they are of the same principles as the United Associate Synod; and, moreover, it would be no easy matter to satisfy the people that they and we are the same in doctrine and discipline if we keep aloof from them.

"That part of the country that is without the limits of the United Synod is very extensive, and very destitute of preaching. There are places in which the people have not heard a sermon for a year. A very considerable proprietor told me that he had lived on his farm seven years, and there was not a sermon within many miles of him all that time. The evil is in part remedied now by Methodist preachers, who have spread themselves over all the province, and who, owing to the efficiency of their mode of operation, have penetrated into almost every township. It is in these out-field parts of the country that we propose to labor in the first instance, as far as health and the season will permit. I have had a good deal of conversation with Mr. Christie on the plan of our operations, and the following, it is likely, is the manner in which we will act. We shall in company visit those places which are most destitute of the gospel. We shall mark out the country into circles of missionary exertion, according as we shall be encouraged by the inhabitants, taking in as wide a district as a preacher can conveniently go over in two or three weeks. We shall tell the people of the generous purposes of the United Associate Synod, and that, if they wish it, they may have supply of sermon from you. An account of the number and circumstances of these stations we shall transmit to you for the information of the committee and the Synod. It is probable that, if God in His mercy spare us to carry these views into execution, we shall have a report to send by February."

#### LETTER TO HIS DAUGHTER.

Written a month after his return from his first visit to London, C. W.:

York, Dec. 21st, 1832.

My dearest Mary:

As I am at home at present I shall gratify myself, and

you I believe, by writing to you a very long letter. I wrote to you from Mr. McGregor's on the 7th September. On the 4th of this month I wrote you by a man who left York in order to go to Scotland. Mama wrote by the same opportunity to Aunt Betsy. I wrote by him a great many letters; as, however, letters by private conveyance seldom reach their destination, I shall write at present just as if I had not written by him.

I must begin by saying that through the mercy of God we are all in good health, and have been so for the most part since we left Scotland. Indeed we never all enjoyed better health than we have done since we parted from you. I trust that you have been also well—meaning you and Pet, for this letter is for her as well as you.

We often talk about you both for a long time at once, and all the children tell everything they can remember about you. Hart remembered a great deal, and whenever he and Jessie see a pen or a bit of paper lying about, it is taken to write a letter to Mary and Anna. Jessie, when she wishes to coax me, begins a long story about Anna Mary. You know I left the family at Mr. McGregor's and his father's for about six weeks, during which time I was about York. All the time I was away Jessie was complaining that I had left her; when they all came up in the steamboat I went down to the wharf to meet them, and Jessie, whenever she saw me, sprang into my arms and cried "Found papa again;" then hid her face in my bosom and wept aloud for joy. And had you seen her you would have wept too. Hart writes letters to you every day on a slate, and Bobby reads them. When they came up to York they encountered a very heavy storm on Lake Ontario; there were greater waves than they had seen in the Atlantic; the cabin windows were drawn in; and Jessie was more alive to the danger than any of them. She always cried out that the boat would coup, and clung to Maggie for safety. They are all growing fast, their clothes are become too small for them. There is not a finer looking set of boys in America, and so says everybody that sees them.

We have got a small house about a mile out of town. It is built as almost all the houses are, of wood. It has a kitchen, two rooms, two bed closets, and a store room for five dollars per month which, as things go, is cheap. There is only one fire place in it—the kitchen—and we have two stoves, each of which heat two rooms, by carrying the pipes through the partitions. The rooms are all very small, but they are the warmer on that account. I have bought very little furniture. The chairs cost 3s. 8d. each. They have wooden bottoms, a little hollowed out,

are painted, and look very well. Now you must know that the very best people here use nothing but wooden chairs, and few of them cost more than a dollar, so we are quite in the fashion. Tent beds, very handsome, cost seven dollars. Your mama regrets very much that she sold her feather beds, for feathers cost here half a dollar a pound, but they are very fine, equal to the best down in Scotland. People here keep geese for their feathers, and pluck them all over four times a year; each goose produces, every year, a pound of feathers. The feather bed that mama brought with her, in consequence of being unturned for a week in the ship, got the tick on the under side rotted all off. I have got a nice black walnut table, (there is no mahogany here) which dines us all, for twenty-five shillings. It looks nearly as well as mahogany. Everybody here who is not in the very highest class has just as little furniture as will possibly do. The better class have things just as in Edinburgh, only less of it and not so costly.

Alex'r. is employed in chopping wood for the fire. It is brought in in pieces four feet long, and these need to be hacked through the middle. He also teaches the young ones; and he has five scholars to teach with them for a month or two, for each of which he gets a dollar per month. John is not very willing to call Alex'r. master, yet his good sense teaches him to behave well, and so does the warm hearted, thoughtless, pretty Willy.

Mama has very few acquaintances; the roads have been so bad that she cannot leave home; but there are two nice families close to our home, where she calls frequently. We received much attention in York; and were we able to go in dry shod we might have very good society. There was a very nice lady with whom we were very happy, a sister of Michael Thomson, the preacher, but she died about a month ago of puerperal fever.

I forgot to say, when writing about the bairns, that Jessie is exceedingly like you, Mary. Everything she does brings you to our remembrance. She is a most joyous little creature, petted by all her brothers, and humored in every whim she takes. Her ordinary mode of expressing joy is by jumping for a minute or two as high as she is able. Alex'r. is trying to teach her the letters, but she generally tires after saying three or four letters; and then, it would be cruel to make her look on the book after she is tired. Hart is reading in Lennie's Reader, and is making very good progress. He is growing very stout and improving every day in his appearance. Bobby, the great fat baby, is as fat as ever, and as much Maggie's man as ever. He is reading

and writing very well; he is fond of reading; he is at the second Commandment in the Shorter Catechism. John and Willy are in arithmetic, and are revising their Latin. There is no meal here, and the Indian Corn was all destroyed by the frost, so the children get no porridge. Indeed, nobody uses porridge in this country. The children breakfast on fried ham and potatoes, and tea and bread, and they like it far better than porridge. Dinner is at one o'clock and tea at six, and all meals are the same. There is no supper in this country. The bread is all baked in the house, and this is the way it is done. Your mama buys a barrel of flour, which costs at present five dollars, about 21s. 6d. Sterling. The barrel contains, I suppose, 190 pounds. This serves the family for bread about a month, and they have as much as they can consume. Yeast is got from a brewer for 2s. a bottle, or it is made of hops. The bread is fixed in the oven, i. e., the cast metal oven used for boiling potatoes in. The loaves are like cheese in shape; and the bread is well raised and well fired, and is as good as any bread I ever ate in Scotland, not excepting even Perth. Mama bought three pigs and killed them; and she intends buying seven or eight more, and a great quantity of beef. Farmers bring cart loads of pigs ready killed to market, and she buys what she needs from the carts as they pass into York. People here need to lay in butcher meat for summer in winter, because the winter is so severe and fodder in general so scarce, that there is little good butcher meat to be had all summer. The beef and pork cost  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. at present. Fire wood is a dear article here; we pay 12s. 6d. for a cord. A cord consists of pieces of split wood four feet long. They are then laid down till the heap be eight feet long, four feet high and four feet broad, or in other words it contains 128 cubical feet. The pieces are about the size of a tree two feet in diameter split into four or five pieces. All these have to be cut with the axe and split again before they can be used in a room fire. We burn a cord in two weeks, and thrift is necessary to make it last so long. To save wood the people in York and all the towns use stoves. They are in general handsome articles; they have pipes which conduct the heated air through two and sometimes three rooms. The heat produced by them is very disagreeable, to me at least. Indeed I hear every person complain of it as weakening the eyes and taking away the appetite, and producing a kind of watery state of stomach. We sit a great deal at the kitchen fire, just to be away from the stove heat. In the country houses no stoves are used; there there is plenty of wood, and the faster it is burned, so much the better.

I will tell you what sort of a thing a Canadian fire is: The fire place is about eight feet wide and as much in height, built of brick. There is not such a thing as a grate in the country. The fire is laid on the hearth, the ends of the logs are suspended off the ground about four inches by two pieces of cast iron in this shape: + + + (drawing) this is not well drawn, but you will understand it. Now there is first the back log, which is generally about eighteen or twenty inches in diameter and sometimes two feet, and it is four or five or six feet long. This is laid at the back. Next, there is the top log laid above the back log, this is smaller, from nine to twelve inches in diameter. Then there is the fore log, about six inches in diameter; and between the forelog and the back are laid four or five pieces of split wood, each thicker than a man's leg. And all this is in a blaze at once. He who can stand within three feet of the fire has a tough skin. I must now tell you how the Canadians live. Breakfast is composed of fry and potatoes, cold meat, bread and tea. This is the fare in the very poorest log houses I have seen. In better families, there is pickled beet root, and pickled cucumbers, preserved plums or peaches, and apple pie, and in the season, apple sauce is eaten to all butcher meat. Dinner is the same at six o'clock. There you see the Canadians live well, and many who live thus every day, tell me that they scarcely ever saw butcher meat in the Old Country, and had difficulty in getting porridge and potatoes.

The young people here dress very gayly in towns. They have all the newest fashions, I suppose, as soon as they have them in Scotland. They come first to New York, and then to Canada. In the country the young women spin and dye and weave all the clothes which they wear. They are, of course, not finely, but substantially dressed. The country is so muddy in winter, and so dusty in summer, that nobody in the country ever thinks of cleaning shoes; and even they who live in towns do not get their shoes cleaned unless they can afford to keep a boy in the kitchen to do it. No female servant in York will clean shoes. I never get mine cleaned when I am away from home. In taverns they charge 3½d. for cleaning shoes, which I take care to save.

There are good schools, they say, in York for young ladies, but I think they who teach them are not by any means well qualified. I asked one who has a large school what she taught. She said astronomy and writing and cyphering and needle work. Astronomy is you see taught to girls ten years old in this country. I suppose the Astronomy is all contained in

Pinnock's Catechism. I think there is room for a good qualified teacher, and nothing in the country pays better. There are some few pianofortes in York, but I have never heard one play, so cannot judge. I think if such a person as Miss Maria Graham were to come here, she would make a fortune in a few years.

I had almost forgotten to tell you that our house is about a mile out of York, on the west side of Dundas street. It is also about a mile from the lake shore, and all the space between the house and the lake is cleared, but as it is what is called a common, it is not cultivated. Directly before the house but close on the lake are the barracks. We have from the windows a very fine view, one of the finest in the country. Lake Ontario stretches to the east and west and south as far as the eye can see. Until winter set in, there were constantly seen many small ships or schooners entering the harbor or leaving it. The light house is just before our windows at the distance of about three miles.

I do not know if I shall be able to convey to you an idea of the appearance of this country. It may be said to be a vast flat, at least it has nothing in the whole extent of it that can be called a mountain, scarcely anything that can be called a hill. There are slight undulations which, were the country cleared, would diversify the surface of the country, but covered as the whole land is with wood, there is hardly any eminence from which a person can see to any distance around him. In the lower part of Upper Canada I have been told that there are hills and precipices; and about twenty miles back from York there is what is called the Oakridge. At the head of Ontario there is a steep bank, called the mountain about three to five miles from the lake, and perhaps 300 feet high; but when you climb to the summit, you have only got up to table land which extends the whole length of Lake Erie, level in a straight line to the west but sloping very gently to the south. Nothing can be more dull and cheerless than the aspect of Canada (Upper Canada I mean) In every direction there are open places cut in the forest; these are the farms of the settlers; but as every farmer leaves a large portion of timber for fire wood, the general appearance of the country is still that of a forest. In scarcely any place can be seen 100 acres cleared of timber; and even in cleared places the stumps of the trees are in general still standing. When I first saw Upper Canada I thought nothing could be more unsightly, I have now got so accustomed to the stumps that I seldom heed them. The trees are very large in some places. There are, however, not many that are three feet in diameter

at six feet from the ground. They, in general, grow very closely together, and this makes them rather very tall than very thick. There are many far bigger trees in Britain than I have seen in America. Trees here, by growing close, have very few branches; and by being so thick set, they have very little hold of the ground; hence in a high wind there are constantly trees falling, which makes it rather dangerous to be in the forest in a high wind. In going through the forest one meets at every stone cast or less, great trees lying rotting in all stages of decay, some newly fallen, and others rotted away to powder, or sunk again to earth. Walking through the forest is very hard labor; riding is still worse, except where a path has been cut.

I have been all around the head of Lake Ontario. I had not time to visit the Falls of Niagara, though I was within fourteen miles. I purpose yet to see them. I have been up by Hamilton, Dundas, Ancaster, Brantford, Burford, Oxford, Dorchester, Westminster, and London to the west, and I have been about twenty miles on the road to Lake Simcoe. I have seen a good deal of the country. I have met with uniform kindness from the people. Indeed the people are very hospitable, and in general very polite. Canadians speak very well, but late settlers from every country speak just as they did at home, and when you go into a Scotch settlement you see the same dress and hear the same dialect as you would do were you to visit the places they came from. In some places nothing but Gaelic is spoken or understood. In others nothing but Dutch; in others nothing but French; and there are many who "guess" and "calculate" and "expect" from Yankeeland. In this country a person may place himself amongst people where he will feel himself as if he were at home.

I believe I wrote to you in my first letter how grand a view the St. Lawrence is. Indeed, I had no idea of so magnificent a stream. When within ninety miles of Quebec it is one grand and beautiful picture, studded with islands of every picturesque form, some naked rock, and others clothed from the summit to the water edge with evergreen. And then the banks, so richly cultivated and so beautifully settled. From Green Island to Quebec, ninety miles, there is one continued street of cottages, which street thickens every four or five miles into a village, having its church, and steeple glittering in the sun. I never could leave the deck in daylight all the time we were in the river.

I must now tell you our plans about you and Anna. We are

very anxious to have you come out to us, and we hope to be in a place of our own as soon as Spring will make it advisable in us to move. With regard to the time of your coming out, I would like it to be about the same time we came, as the weather is then calmer though the passage be longer. In the event of your coming out I shall feel it necessary to write to some of our good friends to have you sent out under the protection of some one whom we can trust. That is very necessary in a voyage. There are so many dangers of being imposed upon in the boat and out of it. Meantime I expect you are engaged as an assistant to Miss Dobie. She promised this last time I saw her. I shall write to Aunt Betsey and Mrs. Aitcheson and Mr. Wm. Turner as fast as I can get time; and I shall explain to them my plan in full length. I do not know but it would be better that you do not come out till another year, but I cannot afford the expenses which would be necessary, especially for Anna. I think you should sail from Leith, as giving your friends least trouble. Greenock is the best place to sail from, but there are many inconveniences connected with going to it. Mamma thinks that if John Small and Bell Rodger were coming out she would be satisfied with your coming with them. It is my intention to go down to Quebec to receive you. We dare not hope that Aunt Betsey would come out with you, as she talked, I suspect, in jest. I hope you will write your own opinion immediately upon the receipt of this, and I shall, I hope, have time to write to you a particular account of what you must bring with you, and of all things necessary to be attended to on ship board. But you must not lose a day in writing an answer.

I received all your letters by Dr. Blackwood only two weeks ago. He sent them all by post from Montreal.

I hope you are endeavoring to derive all the advantages from your present situation. I expect to find you an excellent scholar and very genteel in your manners. As having received such attention from Miss Dobie, I hope you will see it your duty to have her interest deeply at heart, and to promote it by every means in your power. I hope you consult Aunt Betsey about everything, and that you follow her advice. And you, my dearest Anna, I hope you are in every respect dutiful to Miss Wilson, and to Dr. Turner and Mr. Wm. Turner. You owe a great deal of gratitude for their kindness to you, which I hope you endeavor to discharge. My dearest Mary and Anna I beg you to remember your Creator in the days of your youth. Read the scriptures every day, and pray to God that He would make you to love him and to avoid all sin and to do His commandments,

and that He would direct and preserve you and keep you in all ways. The wisest course is to live remembering that you are to die and that after death comes the judgment. On that day it will be found that they have been wisest who have labored to do the will of God in sincerity and truth. I must leave a little corner for the bairns and conclude by expressing my hope that God by His infinite mercy will keep you both and us to meet together in health and comfort.

I am, my dear children,

Your most affectionate father,

Wm. Proudfoot.

Dear Sisters:

We all feel the deepest anxiety about your welfare, and are most anxious to see you both safe in Canada. We have not yet got a place of our own, but we expect to be settled in a house of our own in the Spring. Papa has not seen any place that in every respect pleases him, and he thinks it better not to make a hasty choice.

May God bless you, our dear sisters. We are yours affectionately,

Alex'r. Proudfoot

John Proudfoot

William Proudfoot

Hart Proudfoot

Jessie Proudfoot

Robert Proudfoot

Dear Anna Mary.

"Huron" is pronounced Heuron, the "U" sounded as in June.

Address to me to the care of Rev'd. James Harris, York, Upper Canada.

My dearest Mary and Elizabeth:

I see everyone has forgot to mention Mamma. I am wearying much to see you both. Papa is very much liked, and might have been settled long before this time but it is not easy to get a place every way suitable. I hope in the Spring we will be in a place of our own. I trust Aunt Betsey will keep her promise and come out with you. Give my kind love to my Uncle Paterson when you see him, and tell him I felt very vexed I did not see him and my dear Amelia Famer before I left Scotland. I will write to all my friends when I get to a place where the air is clean, but I can tell you this is not the case in York; it is rather a low lying place. Give my kind love to Aunt Betsey, and tell her I have gathered very little information for her, as we have been very busy ever since we came

here so that I scarce know the price of anything. I will write her again soon.

I remain, my dearest children,

Yours most affectionately,

I. Proudfoot.

My sweet Anna, give my kind love to my dear Aunt Miss Wilson, and tell her I often think of her, how neatly she slipped away in Glasgow, for fear, I suppose, of a parting; also give my kind love to Dr. Turner and also to my dear William. Remember me to Uncle Robert, and tell him I will write him as soon as I am able to give him right information. Also remember me to my brother W. and his better half. Jessie is quite a delight, and often talking about Anna and Mary; she is very heavy and good humored, and very fond of Maggie; she remembers Aunt Betsey.

Maggie Lorrie is quite well and is doing well.

Snow came on yesterday, and such sleighing.

"Sleigh" is pronounced "slay."

"Niagara" is pronounced Ni-ag-a-ra, accented on the second syllable.

"Michigan" is pronounced Me-she-gan, accented on the last syllable.

"Ohio" is pronounced O-hi-o, the "i" long as in "time."

#### LETTER TO HIS DAUGHTERS

Written a week after his return from his second visit to London, C. W., and three weeks before his final departure from York to his Western home.

York, U. C., 5th April, 1833.

My dearest Mary and Ann:

We are all wearying exceedingly to hear from you. The last letter written by either of you which has come to hand was written by Mary and dated the 15th October. I have written several times, time enough to have received answers since the letter I wrote from W. McGregor's; but I do not blame you, for I suppose my not having received letters is because I did not tell you to direct them via New York.

I have now resolved upon settling in London, which is about 123 miles west of York. It is a fine village and will soon be a large town. I am to preach to two congregations, the one is in London, and the other about nine miles due North of London. This will be the case for some years (if spared) and then I purpose to give up one and to keep the other. I have bought 100

acres of excellent land in the Township of Westminster.\* The farm is two and a half miles from London and eleven and a half miles from the other church. The price is 800 dollars, which is £200 currency, or about £180 sterling. The land is of the very finest description in Canada, and will bear as good crops as the best in the Carse. Indeed it is better land than any I ever saw in the Carse. There are twenty-five acres clear of timber, of which there will be four and a half in Spring wheat; as much for potatoes and Indian corn. The rest is in grass, which will graze a horse and a cow this summer, and produce as much hay as will keep them all next winter. I am just drawing the plan for a house, which I purpose to build immediately, and which will be ready for you both and Aunt Betsey when you come. It is to be a frame house, and will be far better than Pitrodie Manse.

In London there is some pretty good society. I have seen some pianofortes, and the young people dress very well. They walk a great deal and pay visits to one another. They are badly off for books. The Thames, on which London stands, is a very fine river, not just so large as the Tay at Perth, but not much less. The country is very rich in point of soil, and will, in a few years, be very thickly settled.

As we are all longing very much to see you, we have begun to make arrangements for your coming out to us, and we earnestly pray and hope that you may be conducted in safety. I have written to Mr. Wm. Turner, and Mr. Wm. Peddie, about getting a ship for you and getting some person to take care of you. The following directions will be of use to you. Indeed I intend it as a guide to you all the way.

1.—Preparations for sailing:

As you will come out in the Cabin, it will not be necessary for you to lay in any provisions; yet even a Cabin passenger is the better for having a few articles. Ten pounds of fine biscuit; two or three dozen porter or ale; a bottle of brandy, and one or two of Port wine. Aunt Betsey (who is coming out with you, I hope), will tell you all that is needful, only let me remind you not to touch these articles till you cannot do without them; do not even tell any person on board that you have them. You will soon dislike the ship water, and you will find the porter and ale at that time very delicious. If you write to Uncle Sandy, he will make a strong box to hold all these things. You will need a few doses of medicine. Dr. Turner will tell you what kind and how to use them.

\* London Township.

With regard to clothing, you need not be particular about what you wear on ship board, so all that you need to provide is something stout and warm. Be sure to have stout shoes. Any old bonnet will do, but I do not need to be particular, as you will have Aunt Betsey—one who knows all about it.

2.—On ship board:

I. Take care of youelves in damp weather particularly; a rainy or foggy day on ship board is exceedingly disagreeable. Guard against damp feet, wear woollen stockings and stout shoes, and have some pieces of flannel in case of sore throat. The most disagreeable part of the voyage to us was on the Banks of Newfoundland, when we were kept for two weeks, and during the whole time it was either dense fog or a thin, drizzling, cold rain. We were obliged to be on deck sometimes, because the Cabin'got uncomfortable and we seldom went on deck without being wet.

As I suppose you will have to provide your own bed, your best way will be to buy a feather bed, and you will be sure to turn it over every day and expose it to the air. Your mother's bed lay unturned for two weeks, and the tick was all rotted off on the under side. This alarmed the other cabin passengers, and their beds were all mouldy, though not so much damaged as ours. One bed will serve you both, I suppose.

II. Keep the key of your trunk in your pocket, and never leave anything lying about, for you may never again see it. Johnny's pocket was picked of 8s., his whole stock. He left his trousers lying at his bedside, and in the morning his money was off. The cabin boy was suspected. Books and work must all be laid aside under lock and key.

III. You will provide yourself with a quire or two of paper and note down the events of every day.

IV. Never favor a party in the ship. You must keep your mind to yourself and never tell one what another may say. You know what I mean, so I need say nothing more, only let me impress this upon your mind, that if you neglect the above, you will make yourself hated and be very unhappy.

V. Never forget to read a portion of the Bible, and to pray every morning and evening to Him whom the winds and waves obey.

VI. Resolve to be always employed; this is one of the best means of avoiding that ennui which is so often experienced in fine weather at sea. With regard to sea sickness, I can give you no directions. I never saw those who used remedies any-

thing the better for them; and I can say nothing from experience as I never felt it.

3.—When you enter the St. Lawrence the pilot will come on board with whom you will have an opportunity of talking French. He will tell you the names of all the villages which you may see. The pilots are all Frenchmen.

Upon your arrival in Quebec, you will need to look out for a steamer proceeding to Montreal—180 miles. The charge for this in the Cabin is, I think, four or five dollars each. I am not acquainted with any person in Quebec to whom I could direct you. Perhaps some of your friends in Edinburgh may have acquaintances in Quebec. At any rate the law entitles you to remain on board the ship you cross the Atlantic in for forty-eight hours after dropping anchor, and this will be sufficient time to get a steamboat for Montreal. I do not remember whether food is included in the five dollars freight. You will enquire about this. When you arrive at Montreal, enquire for Mr. Alex. Miller; he lives in San Francisco Xavier Street. I have written to him to receive you. If he be in his country house when you arrive, his brother will receive you. Call for Mr. Rattray, tobacconist; he is from Dundee, and will shew you kindness. Perhaps you will find yourselves very comfortable with Mr. Brunton, grocer; he is son to the Rev. Mr. Brunton who stayed in Dundee, and who baptized Alexander. He has a good house. His sister, a very nice young woman, stays with him. You will also call for Mr. John Simson, an old school-fellow of mine. He keeps a store near the large Catholic Chapel, on the east side of it. Mr. Millar's is on one side of the chapel and Mr. Simson's is on the other side. Dr. Turner may give you a letter, if he thinks proper, to the medical gentleman who brought out a packet of letters from you last year.

Mr. Cleghorn, an acquaintance of Dr. Turner's, is a good way from Montreal. I did not see him because the sailing of the steamboat for La Prairie is such that I could not go and return the same day. I have some more acquaintances in Montreal, but Mr. Millar shewed so much kindness to us all, and is so friendly and kind a man, that I wish you to look to him for directions about the rest of your journey if you find him at home. If the steamboat in which you come up from Quebec arrives late at Montreal, you had better stay on board till the following morning. Mr. Millar is from Perth, an acquaintance of Mr. Archibald Reid's. Mr. Reid will, I am sure, very willingly write to Mr. Millar by you.

Mr. Millar will take out your ticket in the coach for Pres-

cott, and will give you all the necessary directions about the way. Your tickets will cost you eight dollars apiece. You must here (at Montreal) leave your big trunk, if the coach will not take it. If the coach will take it, so much the better. If the coach refuse it, Mr. Millar will get it sent by the forwarder as the carrier is here called. Mr. Millar will direct your trunk to the care of Mr. Thomas Bell, King Street, York. I shall give him directions how it is to be forwarded to London.

When you arrive at Prescott you will be set down at the inn kept by a Mr. Warren. Miss Warren knows Aunt Emily; she shewed your mother and all the bairns a great deal of kindness for three days that we were in the house. Tell her who you are, and she will shew you kindness for the sake of mamma. When at Prescott you will call for Rev. Mr. Boyd. He is a Presbyterian minister there. He and Mrs. Boyd are very nice people indeed; he will lodge you in his house, and will see you to the steamboat that will bring you to York.

If Aunt Betsey be with you, you will, of course, wish to pay a visit to Aunt Emily in passing. It will cost you a good deal of trouble to do it, and some expense. The way is this: Mr. Boyd will see you over the river to Ogdensburgh; when there you will get a steamboat that will land you at Morristown, about ten miles from Ogdensburgh. When at Morristown you will need to hire a waggon to take you to Hammond to the house of Mr. McGregor. He is well known at Morristown, for he preaches there every alternate Sabbath. The waggon will cost you one and a half or two dollars. You must bargain to have seats in the waggon, and a span of horses, i. e., two horses. If you go to Mr. McGregor's, he will see you on board the steamboat that is to bring you up the river. I would scarcely advise you to go to Hammond unless Mr. Boyd, or some person deputed by him, were to go with you. at least to Morristown. Well then, I shall suppose that you do not go to Morristown. Miss Warren will send a servant with you to the steamer for York, or Mr. Boyd will go with you. The charge is eight dollars in the cabin, and this includes, I think, your food. If any accident should detain the boat at Brockville, twelve miles above Prescott, you may call for the Rev. Mr. Stuart. He is no witch for hospitality, and it will be better that you do not need to call for him. The boat sometimes stays for some hours at Kingston. If you be disposed to go on shore, you may call for Mr. Mowat, cooper, who will shew you good hospitality for my sake, though I have never seen him. Your mother was very hospitably entertained by him. When

you come to York, if it be before nine o'clock in the evening, you will call for Mr. Thomas Bell, King Street, or for the Rev. James Harris, Bay Street, or for the Rev. Mr. Stewart, Yonge Street. Take Mr. Bell first; if once under his care you may think yourself home. He has some very nice sisters, who will treat you with all kindness during the time you may choose to stay in York. You will find here plenty of friends.

On leaving York, Miss Bell has promised to see you to Hamilton in the steamboat, the last you will need on the way. When at Hamilton call for the Rev. Mr. Marsh, and tell him you are come to stay with him for a night. If Miss Bell has any friend in Hamilton, you will of course stay where she stays. The mail stage leaves Hamilton for Brantford every morning at seven o'clock A. M. You will arrive at Brantford in the afternoon and stay there till the following morning, in all probability. When at Brantford, you will find yourself very hospitably entertained by Mr. Cotter, the innkeeper; he knows me well, and is a great friend of mine. While at Brantford you may call for Mr. Wilkes, whose wife and daughter and daughter-in-law will be very kind to you. I stayed nearly a month in his house. At Brantford you will get directions for London. You will start in the morning and be in your father's house at night. When you come to York, if it be after nine o'clock at night, your best way will be to get the captain or the steward of the steamboat to shew you to "The Ontario House," the best inn in York, and you can send a note to Mr. Bell to tell him that you would be happy if he would come to see you. The above directions will enable you to find your way to York, even though you have no person to come with you; but I hope you are to come under the guardianship of some of our ministers.

I would hardly advise you to call for Mr. McGregor without a guide; if you do go to see him, you will write to me and name the day you intend to leave Hammond, and be sure to write to me when you come to York, and tell me on what day you intend to leave it, and I will come down for you to Hamilton or York, and take you home with me. Walter Lawson is at Brantford; he was delighted exceedingly to see me. I had almost forgotten to tell you not to drink the water of the St. Lawrence. It almost always brings on a diarrhoea; indeed, whenever you come to a resting place, you should take a good dose of Calomel and Jalap. We were never right till we did so.

I had a letter from Mr. McGregor about a month ago; he is wishing to come to Canada to settle. He does not like the

States very well, so, if we be spared, we may ere long have him for a neighbor.

You will need at least £12 in your pocket each, when you leave Quebec. Your expenses will amount to nearly this. If you run short by any accident, Mr. Bell at York will supply you or I will bring it down with me.

I came down from London on Saturday for the purpose of taking all the family up. The carriage of ourselves and luggage will cost more than a hundred dollars.

I am happy to say that we are all well. Your brothers have grown great stout boys since they came to America. The clothes which they brought with them are all too little for them. Alex. has been teaching the younger ones all winter while I was from home, and he taught five children besides, from each of whom he received a dollar per month. He has been unwell by boils, which he brought on himself by heating himself chopping fine wood. John and Willy have been through Gray's Arithmetic twice, and have been working away at the Rudiments. Robert is still Maggie's favorite, and has a pair of plumper cheeks than are to be seen in all Canada. He reads very well. Hart is a noble fellow; he is grown very stout. Jessie, the dear sweet Jessie, is as lovely a child as you ever saw. She is petted by everyone, and is quite a Madam. The boys say that when Anna comes she will find the petship is occupied; but Anna will, I am sure, find that she has lost none of her father's affection. They all talk frequently of you and all are wearying exceedingly to see you both. They often lament that you will be sea sick and may have nobody to attend to you, as they had when they were sick.

You will call for all your friends before you come away. I would like that both of you saw my mother, but it will lead to too much expense. I am sure your uncles will come in and see you before you sail. As to going to the Carse, I fear that also is impracticable. Indeed you must take care not to spend a cent that can be saved. You will need it all here.

I have not heard a word about Pitrodie since I left it, except what was contained in Mary's letter of the 13th October. I have written to Messrs. Harlands, Pringle and Johnstone, and I expect a long letter from each of them very soon. I mean to write to some Carse man after I am fairly set down at London, to Mr. Turdal and Mr. Williams.

I wrote a long letter to Uncle Sandy at the same time that I wrote you last, and I purpose to write to him soon again.

I have been conversing with Mamma about the expense of

travelling up the river St. Lawrence from Quebec. She says that the charge from Quebec to Montreal was a sovereign for each of the grown-up persons, and that this included bed and victuals. The charge from Montreal to Prescott was eight dollars each, or £2 currency, but that this did not include victuals. We were two nights and a day on the passage. We were in three coaches and in two steam boats. The charge from Prescott to York was £2 each, including victuals. The charge for each meal is 1s. 3d. We have just three meals in this land. The steamboats on the St. Lawrence surpass all that is to be met with in Britain in point of grandeur and size. You will need to be pretty well dressed in them; not braw, but more smart than when crossing the Atlantic. Remember to give nothing to servants in steamboats and inns. Nobody gives to servants in this country. It is never asked, never expected.

I have written the above so that you might find your way to us though you were alone, but I do not look for you alone. I do not bid you come till you can find some guardian approved of by your friends; and in that case you will have one who will see that you are not imposed upon. Aunt Betsey, whom I expect with you, is as good as any gentleman can be; but she will be the better of some one to take the fash off her hands. What money you bring must be in gold; and if you do not take care, you will be cheated in the change. A sovereign is worth 23s. 9d. of the currency of the country.

I had intended to write to Miss Dobie, to whom I feel much indebted. She will accept the assurance of my esteem though I do not write to her.

You will write to me upon receipt of this and tell me all about your views of coming to America. Write very small on a large sheet of paper and fill it full. Present my kindest remembrances to Mr. and Mrs. Aitcheson at Drummore; also Mr. and Mrs. Aitcheson, St. Johns Street; to Mr. Black, and to Mr. Renwick, if either of you see him.

I hope you are both conducting yourselves so as to give entire satisfaction to the many kind friends who have taken so deep an interest in you, and above all, so as to please God, whose favor is better than life. I hope you never forget to read the Bible every day, and to pray to your Heavenly Father; and that you attend the church every Sabbath. Preaching is needful, and I trust you both make choice of that good thing which can never be taken from those who possess it.

Tell Uncle Robert that I purpose to write to him a very long letter some day soon, but that as I know he must be told

all about prices, I shall need to make a great many enquiries. I wish he were here. I am sure he would like the country, and that the country would suit him.

We all unite in most affectionate love to you both; and I am, my dearest Mary and Anna,

Your ever affectionate father,

Wm. Proudfoot.

Address to me at London, Upper Canada, via New York.

The original of this letter is written on a large sheet of paper in a small copperplate hand, legible as print. Pages filled very full, and divided in two columns. It is folded in two, meeting in the center, then in three, without envelope, sealed with red wax, and addressed—single sheet:—Misses Mary and Ann Proudfoot, No. 23 Castle Street, Edinburgh, Scotland (Via New York).