

well acquainted with the various characters of the people who were settled there. They generally consist of those who have been hunters in the mountains, and were still full of the recklessness of that kind of life. Many of them, although they have taken farms and built log houses, cannot be classed among the permanent settlers, as they are ever ready to sell out and resume their old occupation, when an opportunity offers. Our party found them, with one or two exceptions well disposed.

The gentlemen of the party, who had more time and opportunity to become acquainted with the operations of the missionaries than I had, were less favourably impressed than myself. One of the principal complaints of the settlers against the members of the mission was, that they never had any religious service, although several ministers of the mission were unemployed. This complaint, however, could not be made on our part; for, the first Sunday the party was encamped, the Rev. Mr. Leslie invited them all to his house for that purpose, which invitation was accepted. Tibbats, one of the party, was sitting by an open window during the sermon, and, as many have done before him, was nodding, in which motion he threw his head back and struck the stick that supported the sash, which coming down suddenly, caught him by the neck. This accident occasioned no small disturbance in the congregation, but no injury resulted from it to the man, who was inclined to join in the laugh that unavoidably took place after he was extricated. This anecdote will show the character of the class of settlers which the missionaries would have to deal with, and I am inclined to believe that for the neglect of duty imputed to them, those who make the charge are themselves chiefly to blame.

It was the general impression of our party, however, that the field for a mission was but small, and not sufficient to warrant the expenses that have been lavished upon it. Their school was in operation, and included twenty pupils in all. Dr. Babcock mentioned to one of our gentlemen that he had a native boy for a servant, of whose qualifications and education he spoke, saying that it was a great trouble to get him into cleanly habits, such as washing his face and hands in the morning, before he milked the cow. He next taught him to make a fire, boil a tea-kettle, and make tea; he then taught him to fry and bake; he could wash clothes, and would in a short time be able to iron.

All our gentlemen experienced the same kind treatment and good fare that I have before spoken of, and nothing seemed to be wanting in the way of substantial comforts.