

influence mainly the authorities of the Church were led to open a mission there and to appoint the Rev. J. Semmens as their first missionary. Upon him rests the heavy responsibility of making this mission a success, and his will be the honor in that case from the Church of the future. As I understood that the Indians were generally away in their hunting-grounds I decided not to extend my long and tedious and costly trip to that point, but during my visit to Oxford House the missionary, the Rev. John Semmens, with his splendid train of five dogs, arrived at Norway House, so that on my return I met him there and received from him a full statement of the work done and of his plans for the future. During the last few months he has baptized fifty-five persons and conducted services regularly on the Sabbath, with congregations not very large but attentive, some of whom have become communicants. According to returns made to the Hudson Bay Company there are over five hundred Indians to whom our missionary there can preach the blessed Gospel.

"The new mission at Beren's River is situated on the shore of a pleasant little bay which puts in from Lake Winnipeg, on the east side of the lake, and about midway from the mouth of Red River and Norway House. The mission was opened by Rev. E. R. Young in 1873. When the statement of Rev. John Ryerson, as published in his book of travels through this land in 1854, is remembered, that this point ought to be made a mission, that the Indians and the company's officials desired it, and that missionaries in passing had promised they should have a missionary, and then the fact noted that despite the importunity and recommendation of promise no missionary was sent until 1873, the old adage, 'Large bodies move slowly,' will be apt to occur to the mind. On Sabbath, December 13, I reached this pleasantly situated mission in time to enjoy a service in the 'tabernacle,' as they call it, erected a few months ago. Our arrival was followed by no small stir among the natives, who, upon the call of the beautiful bell given by James Ferrier, Esq.,