

vitality of that great Church of England whose sympathies thus flow forth, like life-blood, to the extremities of the vast Anglican system? Need I say it helped me to understand better the secret of our great Empire's power and glory?

May the generous help and sympathy which flow out towards us in so full and constant a stream refresh us in the best and truest sense, calling forth in us the spirit of unselfish gratitude, and quickening us to show our thankfulness by doing whatever may be done to hasten the day when Algoma shall be entirely independent of outside support!

Till that day comes—while we strain every nerve to do our very best, and even, in our poverty, try to keep open the springs of unselfish devotion within us by contributing our mite to the needs of the Church at large—we must of necessity lean somewhat heavily upon those who are stronger than ourselves. What an unspeakable comfort, as we thus lean hard upon the Church's arm, to feel its mighty heart throbbing in warm sympathy with our own, and to be assured as we seem to be by the events of this great Jubilee year, that the sense of a God given stewardship and the spirit of true missionary zeal are more and more "possessing" the great Communion of which it is our great privilege to form a part!

G. ALGOMA.

### ON THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.

BY THE REV. E. J. PECK.

I CANNOT, in this short account, mention the many providential incidents through which the late Mr. Parker and myself were led to go forward to Cumberland Sound, neither can I dwell upon the kindness of Mr. Noble, without whose friendly aid it would have been impossible for us to have prosecuted our Arctic Mission; I shall only mention here some facts in connection with the voyage out and our life and work in our distant home, which facts, I think, will speak for themselves and will be of interest to our friends.

Some time before leaving home Mr. Noble informed us that it was probable that his vessel would not proceed to Cumberland Sound the following year. Provisions and fuel had therefore to be provided for two years. To combat successfully that terrible disease (scurvy) it was necessary to take the greatest possible variety of home produce. The following were some of the items:—Flour, 1 ton; biscuit, ditto; oatmeal, 6 cwts.; preserved meats of various kinds about 10 cwts.; tinned and dried vegetables, 3 cwts.; condensed milk, 380 tins. Add to these items 15 tons of coal, stoves,

cooking, utensils, etc., etc., and friends will perhaps be able to form some idea of the care needful in making out an Arctic provision list.

#### THE VOYAGE.

Mr. Noble's brig, the *Alert*, a little vessel only 90 feet long by 21 broad, left Peterhead on the 13th of July, 1894. The voyage to within eighty miles of Cumberland Sound was accomplished, through God's help, with but little difficulty. We then, however, encountered a vast ice "pack." This extended fully a hundred miles in a northerly direction, and had evidently been driven down Davis



THE LATE MR. J. C. PARKER.

Straits by the winds and Arctic current. The "pack" consisted of large blocks of ice of every conceivable size and shape, and the roar of the sea was like that of thunder as the mighty Atlantic waves rolled in upon this icy reef. To force our little vessel through such a barrier was impossible, and for several days we sailed along this heaving sea of ice before we found an opening through which we might sail into Cumberland Sound.

#### BLACKLEAD ISLANDS.

Here we arrived on August 21st. It is one of Mr. Noble's whaling-stations, and is situated on the Southern side of the Sound. No trees are to be seen on this barren isle, and only in the sheltered spots are a few grasses and mosses to be found. After casting anchor quite a number of our Arctic friends came in their sealskin canoes to see us. Men, women, and children climbed up the vessel's side in the most unceremonious manner. With these we shook hands, and I was delighted to see how readily they understood me.