

return of their pastor, the Rev. Mr. Kirby, and family.

Uffington Mission.

REV. A. H. ALLMAN, INCUMBENT.

Thus far the new year has not revealed here anything of a specially novel or exciting character. The report is simply one of daily duty attempted, with a view to accomplishment, for the Master's sake, and for the sake of souls redeemed by Him.

The Church's services have been held at the accustomed places and times, and notwithstanding the broken character of the winter, good average attendances have been realized. Pastoral work in general, and special visits to the sick and needy, have occasioned long journeys, as usual. In the winter, however, it is possible to obtain some pleasure in duty, when the sleighing is good, and to travel from 130 miles and upwards in a week without being over-wearied by it.

At Uffington a regular mid-weekly service has been maintained, with an attendance varying from 10 to 22, which means that several of those present had come some two or three miles to join in public worship after a day's work. As the days lengthen the difficulties in the way of keeping up an attendance increases. Two cottage lectures have been recently given, in each case for the benefit of an aged and infirm member of our Church, and the result showed plainly that sympathy and appreciation was felt.

The Sunday School register (at the home centre) contains a list of about 50 scholars, and the average attendance is about 30. A Sunday afternoon Bible Class, held fortnightly for elder scholars, is growing, and is evidently appreciated by those who have come along steadily since it commenced. The beginning of the year witnessed the starting again of a Sunday School at Vankoughnet, and faithful perseverance will yet accomplish something there. At Purbrook and Clear Lake the blocked state of the roads during winter necessitates the suspension of Sunday School work, but the opening up of spring will (D.V.) witness renewed efforts on behalf of the children at each point.

In January last special vestries were duly held to nominate delegates to the Provincial Synod. Since then two concerts have been given in order to

help some local needs, but it sometimes happens that the worst storms fall upon us on Sunday, or on some day marked out for a particular occasion. But even though times, seasons and persons may be adverse, one knows that "the Lord reigneth," and may calmly rely upon the inspired words of the Psalmist: "Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily there is a God that judgeth the earth." A H.A.

Gravenhurst.

REV. W. A. J. BURT, LOCUM TENENS.

At the last Triennial Council it was decided that each missionary should contribute, to the columns of THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS, items of news at least once in three months. I have endeavoured since then to do my share in this matter, but, at times, not with any too great pleasure, for it is very difficult to write about one's own work, and especially so when nothing out of the ordinary happens. It is just three months since anything appeared in THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS from my pen, so I suppose I am obliged to write again.

The Christmas services passed off very satisfactorily. Quite a large congregation assembled in the morning, and a fair percentage of that number remained to join in the Eucharist.

The Epiphany service was fairly well attended, and the offertory was devoted to the Mission Fund.

Lent is once more here, special services are being held twice weekly, which, so far, are not very well attended. The Solemn Season was ushered in by an early celebration of the Holy Communion at 7:30 o'clock on Ash Wednesday morning, when a representative number partook. In Holy Week there will be services every day.

On Sundays the services and the number in attendance are very encouraging. The morning congregation has been steadily increasing, while the evening has not diminished in numbers; but the early celebrations have not been so well attended as one would like to see in a town like Gravenhurst. However, as the warm weather is at hand we shall look for improvements in this most important matter.

The services at Northwood are very well attended, and especially the Lenten services, notwithstanding the fact

that the people are farmers, and this season finds them very busy.

During my absence at Toronto on Sunday, 27th of February, the Rev. Eustace A. Vesey, incumbent of Harrison, officiated, both morning and evening, in St. James' church.

Mr. Vesey was at that time away on sick leave from his parish, but has now returned, much benefitted by his stay in Muskoka.

The incumbent of this mission, now in England, is expected to sail for Canada about May 1st, getting here in time to attend the Triennial Council.

On January 1st I accepted the offer made me in November by the Bishop of the mission of North Bay. I expect to take charge on May 6th, so that on and after that date all communications should be addressed to me there.

W.A.J.B.

Burk's Falls Mission.

REV. CHARLES PIERCY, INCUMBENT.

Churches must sometimes be moved—bodily. When some of the structures were erected a few years ago they were placed on sites then deemed the best. But a railway crossed the country, the course of trade was diverted, the timber and lumber trade is almost gone, new roads were opened, and the Church building is now out of the way and far away from those who would assemble there on the Lord's Day. Not a few of our buildings but have been or will be moved.

At Burk's Falls the church is in the village, but in a most awkward spot. The site is on the top of one of the hills on which and about which Burk's Falls is situated. It is difficult of access—a fact that tells against it. At one time it was not so bad in this respect, but a diverting of the road for the general benefit and improvement of the village was its misfortune. Now it is situated where it is unlikely that the "powers that be" will improve the approaches. Once talking to "an old resident," advocating the removal of the building to a more favourable spot, I was met with the objection that the present site would then be a loss, since it was a gift for a church. Looking over some papers of the year 1881 I have apparently come across a similar statement, and its complete refutation.

In *The Evangelical Churchman* (June 16, 1881) appears the following paragraph: