

pils from both Homes, together with the teachers and employees, and a few friends from the Sault. A beautiful Christmas Tree it was, loaded down with presents, including the candy bags, there must have been at least 500 gifts. Besides the forty seven Indian pupils, all the employees and their children came in for presents, and all went away loaded with as much as they could carry. Another part of the entertainment was 'the fish pond';—a payment of 1 cent entitled an individual to cast his hook and line over a curtain suspended in a door way, and great amusement was caused by the various articles that were hooked and brought up dolls, trumpets, pin cushions and all kinds of things.

It is satisfactory to be able to say that both the Indian Homes, the Shingwauk and the Wawanosh are in a prosperous, hopeful state, the number of pupils is not so large as in some former years, but those that are with us are a nice class of children, and the staff of teachers and employees all that could be desired. The little chapel is a great addition, and services are held regularly every Sunday, and on Wednesday evenings, boys and girls both usually attending. Some little change has been made recently in the Industrial Department. The printing office has been closed and presses &c. disposed of, and a factory for sash and doors and flooring started in its place. The Algoma Missionary News is still published at the Shingwauk Home, the printing being done at the newspaper office.

Christmas At Sheguiandah.

We spent a very pleasant Christmas here. The Indians decorated the church very prettily with evergreens and artificial flowers of their own manufacture. One old woman named Keezhegook gave a large new mat to put down before the communion table. She gave one some time ago but it had grown shabby, so she made another to take its place. The service on Christmas day morning was well attended and the people gave great attention to a suitable discourse from their missionary. The singing of the Christmas hymn *Angeling nuhguhnowug*, is a very important feature in the Christmas here. the people join in with energy.

In the afternoon there was service in the new church in the White village, and in the evening the Indians made a grand feast and bade many, amongst others the missionary and his family were invited, and they went without making excuse. The tables were set well, the eatables were abundant, and varied. Rabbits I think were most prominent. There was pork and fowls and fish and bread, cakes, potatoes and tea. A goodly assembly was there and did justice to the feast. There was enough and to spare. After all had eaten and were filled some large basketfuls of fragments remained.

During and after the supper the people were entertained with music and singing by the young men and women of the band, the missionary presiding at the organ. Several of the hymns in the Saingwauk hymn book were sung. Then the Chief Manitowasing made a speech exhorting his people to godliness and virtue. The strength of the white man said he is owing to his religion. He is powerful because God's blessing rests upon him. Trust in God and serve him and you Indians will prosper likewise. Some of the other Indians made speeches. The missionary made a few remarks and pronounced blessing and all departed.

On Thursday evening Dec. 27th there was an entertainment of a slightly different character. It was a Christmas tree for the Indian children in the school house. Last summer the ladies of Toronto kindly sent some presents for a Christmas tree for the children. We never had one here before, so the Indians scarcely knew what kind of an affair it was. A good tree was procured and set up in the school house, the things were hung upon it after being ticketed. The room was decorated and at six o'clock in the evening the bell rang to let the people know that the proceedings were about to commence. The room was soon crowded with the children and their parents. Santa Claus was there, a little fat old man with white hair and whiskers, about 3 feet in height. He distributed the presents to the children. There were little dresses and petticoats, and knickknacks for the girls, and knives, pencils, paint boxes &c., for the boys, and a small bag of candies for each and every one. Santa Claus caused great merriment. All were highly delighted. There was singing &c. afterward. The Chief gave a vote of thanks in the name of his band for the trouble taken for their amusement. He said he had often heard of Santa Claus and Christmas trees, but this was the first time he had seen either things. He said it was "onesheshin asheche," (very good).

An entertainment of a more profitable character, financially, was held on the Thursday before Christmas day. This was among the white people for the benefit of the church at the corner. There was tea and musical and literary entertainment. A large crowd assembled 25 cents admission. \$35 was realized.

The church is already plastered, but we have to get pulpit or rather desk and communion table, pews, &c.

FRED. W. FROST.

Muskoka.

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—On behalf of the Huntsville Sunday School I have to thank Miss Muttelbury, of Toronto, for her very valuable present of books, papers, and Christmas cards just received. At such a season as this, our little ones are not only cheered, they are encouraged by her kind remembrance. I wish I could in any way tell her how very grateful we feel. Although we are not wholly lost in the woods up here, our position is in a certain sense that of isolation, and we need many aids and helps to keep us abreast of the times. If some friend would only supply my mission with one or two good libraries, I should esteem it a very great favor indeed. I have also to acknowledge with thanks a gift of papers, etc., from the Rev. J. Griddle, of Port Dalhousie, for our school. Most grateful we always are for these kind tokens of goodwill.

C. A. FRENCH,
Incumbent of Huntsville.

Algoma Mills.

The Hospital at Algoma Mills has been very full for weeks past. Fever and suffering and death were there. About two months ago, a young man, a Finnlander, speaking the Swedish language, was brought in, with compound fracture of the left leg, above the knee, caused by a fall from the cars at night. He was greatly prostrated, and the Doctors, con-