

wishing to leave the church at Cookshire unsupplied upon these occasions, the bishop inquired whether I would be willing to conduct the public service on these Sundays, and read a printed sermon. I willingly consented to do so, on condition of being duly authorized. The bishop therefore gave me a licence to act as lay-reader, and I entered upon the discharge of my duties. Mr. Taylor falling into such ill-health as to be unable to leave his house during the winter, the whole duty in this manner gradually devolved upon me; so that during the last three years of my residence at Eaton, I not only conducted the public service in the church twice every Sunday in the winter, and frequently in the summer, but at the last confirmation held in that time, the candidates were prepared by me, and were confirmed upon my tickets, although a lay-man. Thus, although I was not ordained until 1843, I may count several years besides as spent in the service of the Church. About this time, I was spending the evening with my friend Lloyd, when he drew my attention to a statement of the Bishop of Quebec, in a printed letter, in which he stated that he could open several new missions, but could not find the men to occupy them—and then added, addressing me—"Why should not you occupy one of these missions? You have nothing to hinder you." This remark made a deep impression upon my mind, and I had much serious conversation with my wife upon the subject. Whilst we were pondering these things I received a letter from the bishop, inquiring whether I would be willing to present myself as a candidate for orders. The fact, however, that my entering the ministry would involve the necessity of a permanent residence in Canada, which we did not then contemplate, and consideration for the feelings of my dear mother, who always looked forward to my return, seemed to my wife and myself to present such insurmountable obstacles, that I felt reluctantly compelled to return a negative to the bishop's proposal. Still my mind was not at ease, fearing that I was disregarding a plain call of duty, and we eventually came to the conclusion that, when the Bishop visited us in the beginning of winter, I should place myself in his hands. This I did, and the result was that I was directed to prepare for ordination on the next Trinity Sunday, which fell in May, 1843. I