

perhaps be an individual or two. The young men under Mr. Walker's leadership have formed themselves into a "Christian Association," in imitation of the Y. M. C. A. of the cities. By this agency Mr. Walker gets hold of intelligent young Indians, who although they have not professed Christ in church membership yet are brought under the influences of gospel ordinances and fellowship. He reports this branch of the work as very flourishing. Prayer-meetings and household prayer are faithfully urged and faithfully attended to. The recent Indian Act puts it now in the power of any intelligent and energetic Indian to sever his communal relation to his tribe, and become "enfranchised," and begin the world for himself, with the fee-simple of any unoccupied lot in the Reserve, which he may clear up and make into a farm. The Indians are slow to adopt novelties, but we may expect, after they see a few successful examples of enfranchisement, some of our educated young men at French Bay to develop into successful farmers. We are sorry to say that Mr. Walker has recently suffered a great affliction, in the death of his youngest daughter.

MISSISSAGUA RIVER.

Our next station in importance is Mississagua River, on the north shore, Georgian Bay. When Mr. Lister went up last spring he found that the pagan chief had been baptized by the Romish priests, and then induced to break open our new unoccupied school and seize it for a dwelling. He was, when left to himself, ashamed of what he had done, and without any particular urging gave Mr. Lister possession, and helped to make the house clean and tidy. Mr. Lister at once began with a school for the children, and the attendance for the whole year has averaged about twenty. Although these pagans send their children to school "they fight shy," Mr. Lister reports, of the preaching as yet. Late in the summer, when Mr. Lister was at Owen Sound, visiting his family, a Jesuit priest again appeared on the scene, Mr. McKay only being there, teaching and building. He first suggested a post for Mr. McKay, as a teacher under them; failing in this, he called the Indians together in council, night after night, to get them to petition the government to have us removed. But the scheme failed; we had already obtained official sanction for our missionary operations—(white men are not allowed, under ordinary circumstances, to reside on Indian Reserves),—and the government agent told them, "It was too late." Since that date, the government have notified all "Half-breeds," and others not considered as Indians, to remove from the Reserve by 1st May, 1878. How this will affect our Mission, remains to be seen; but it will probably be favourable, as removing to some other locality the (hitherto) Romish element at Mississagua. Mr. Lister removed his family to this post in October last, and reports good health and abundant labour all winter.

SERPENT RIVER,

Lies 25 miles east of Mississagua. There was scarcely any snow last winter, and Mr. Lister started on a keen winter's day, to skirt

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