

at heart that he was not able to do more both for the Indian and white population of the Manitoulin.

### Gore Bay Mission.

REV. LAURENCE SINCLAIR, INCUMBENT.

I have the honour, this time, of writing a few words on the Right Reverend Bishop's first visit to Gore Bay. His Lordship arrived in Gore Bay about 5 a.m. on Saturday, November 6th, and after answering a large amount of correspondence, spent the afternoon visiting among the parishioners. Next morning at 7 o'clock we left for Kagawong, where the Bishop preached and confirmed one candidate. After the service His Lordship called the congregation together and appointed Mr. Moses Lloyd to be warden until Easter, and kindly urged upon the members to do their best in getting up their quota towards the stipend of the incumbent. In the evening the Bishop preached in Gore Bay, holding a business meeting at the close. Next morning we went to Mills and held service in Trinity Church, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather and the unpleasant state of the roads, the Bishop, to the surprise of not a few, ventured on to Silverwater, a distance of forty miles from Gore Bay, and held service in Mr. Kemp's house about 8 o'clock in the evening,—in addition to which all the particulars concerning the preparations for the building of a church there, were entered into. Early next morning we started for Gore Bay, where His Lordship had just the time to get a little hurried refreshment and then catch the steamer for Manitowaning — after driving through the Gore Bay Mission, a distance of one hundred and five miles, preaching four times and holding four business meetings, in addition to some visitations among the people. I will just add that His Lordship's manner of preaching and way of dealing among the people have left an impression for good both spiritually and financially.

The Sunday School entertainment on Christmas Eve, and the service on Christmas proved very successful, and it is with gratitude that I mention the kindness and appreciation shown towards me by the congregation of All Saints' Church, not forgetting the outstations of the Mission.

L. SINCLAIR.

### Christmas at Garden River.

In my last contribution to the columns of the ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS I reported events up to the week before Christmas. I now resume my narrative. The Indians made a special effort to surpass themselves this Christmas in the decorations and illuminations for the Festival. A good store of firewood was brought to the church to last over a good part of the winter. This, probably, was the most *useful* part of the whole proceedings. However, all things in their place. The midnight service on Christmas Eve, which has been kept up for nearly forty years, whether a missionary was present or not, was attended with fully the usual interest, notwithstanding the severity of the weather and the distance some had to travel. I noticed that some of the elderly ones were present, and joined in the services. I had taught the children the Christmas hymns, so that they could help. On Christmas Day we had a celebration of Holy Communion, a great number partaking. There were the usual greetings and good wishes, and the Indians departed to their own social festivities, to some of which the missionary was invited and found pleasure therein.

The annual Christmas entertainment was held in the schoolhouse on the following Wednesday. We worked hard and patiently, and as wisely as possible, to distribute the gifts so that each one should get something, and jealousy as far as possible be prevented and yet the needy be blessed. We succeeded, not entirely, but still better (so the Indians said) than in any former year. The children enjoyed themselves immensely at the way the things were distributed, and the little girls were made supremely happy with the dolls. I do not remember ever seeing Indian children show so much pleasure in their faces. As a rule they do not excel in this respect.

We held other services. At the Feast of the Epiphany and at the evening service the Christmas illuminations were consumed—almost too much so—for the greenery took fire. We had a grand service, nevertheless, and the Indians expressed themselves as very much edified and helped both by the service and the sermon. After service, the Chief gave a feast to the congregation at his own house. They did not

all obey the invitation, some departing to their homes, but a good many did, myself among the number. The Chief made a speech before the feast began. (I notice the White Man speechifies after the feast—the Indian before) He told his people to be faithful to God and His Church, and be kind and good to each other and not drink and smoke. In fact he gave them heaps of good advice. Then they all fell to. There were three or four tables. Then followed some Indian dances which were very entertaining; the women joining in as well as the men, keeping time to the chant. Then the old man chanted a piece composed by an Indian warrior (a friend of his father's) who fought under General Brock. It was on the occasion when some scalps were secured—I forget how many. The song was chanted to the beating of an Indian drum; rather more like a dirge, I thought, than a shout of victory. It was a narrative of events chanted, or rather recited to the music. It was most interesting—I mean the whole of the entertainment. The best part of it was, it broke up early. Everyone went home before midnight. I visited every home in the village to greet them at New Year.

F. F.

### Aspdin Mission.

REV. W. H. FRENCH, INCUMBENT.

Since the publication of the last items from this mission, Harvest Festivals have been held in each of the four parishes. The churches were nicely decorated and a fair attendance bespoke the people's interest in the services. The offertories were for the slowly accumulating Superannuation Fund. It is a matter of general regret that the national Thanksgiving is always set for a date so late as November 25th, when it is out of the question to procure flowers for decoration.

The tower of St. Mary's, Aspdin, has been made thoroughly solid, and the concrete in the aisles of the church replaced by hardwood flooring. Through the kindness of English friends, together with funds locally raised, the whole cost has been met and a balance left for future emergencies.

We are without a driving-shed either at St. George's, Lancelot, or at St. John's, Stanleydale. The absence of this important structure very much