



THE VILLAGE OF ELKHORN, MANITOBA (From Rev. E. F. Wilson's *Forest Children*.)

THE WASHAKADA HOME, ELKHORN.

THIS institution was only built last autumn, and was arranged to be opened on June 15th by the Rev. E. F. Wilson. The Washakada is a branch of the Shingwauk Home. It has cost \$1,350, and will accommodate from eighteen to twenty children. The Indian Department have come to our aid, and we are hoping to build almost immediately. When one of the other buildings is up we hope to accommodate eighty children, for which the Department are willing to provide \$100 per head per annum. They are also willing to give us a 640 acre farm. Mr. Wilson left the Shingwauk Home on May the 24th, taking with him two boys from there, to make an opening at the new Home. The lady superintendent, Miss Robinson, niece to our much beloved and lamented Bishop Fauquier, came up from Sarnia and took one of the girls from the Wawanosh and went up Lake Superior, Monday, June 11th, expecting to reach Elkhorn in time for the opening of the new Home.

THE CONVERSION OF VICTORINUS.

FROM ST. AUGUSTINE'S CONFESSIONS, BOOK VIII.

VICTORINUS was a prominent figure in the intellectual society of Rome about the beginning of the fourth century, whilst the old idolatrous worship was still alive and vigorous in the capital of the world. He was well versed in all the liberal sciences, and had read and reflected deeply upon the principal works of philosophy. Many of his pupils had risen to great eminence in the State, and he had established for himself a reputation which won for him the honor of a public statue in the Roman Forum. He was an orthodox worshipper of idols, and an eloquent champion of the old religion. But

the Bible of the Christians exercised over this cultured Roman gentleman a strong fascination. He read it studiously.

One day in conversation with his friend Simplicianus, who was a Christian, Victorinus remarked, "You know I am already a Christian."

"How can that be?" replied the other. "You are not baptized, you are not in the Church of Christ."

"Not in the Church!" retorted Victorinus scornfully. "Do walls, then, make a Christian?"

This dispute was repeated again and again, Victorinus again and again declaring that he was a Christian, and Simplicianus as often refusing to recognize him as such until by baptism he had entered the Church of Christ. For Victorinus feared to offend his friends, who remained externally faithful to the old religion though all real faith in it had long ago crumbled away, at least among the educated classes. But Victorinus read and studied on, and those words of Christ recorded in St. Luke's Gospel (ix. 26) stabbed him to the heart:—"Who-soever shall be ashamed of Me and of My words, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed when He cometh in His own glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels;" and the conviction came home to him that he was guilty of a great sin in being ashamed of the sacraments of Christ when he was not ashamed of those idolatrous rites in which he did not believe. So he said one day to Simplicianus, quite unexpectedly, "Come, let us go to the church, I wish to be made a Christian." They went forthwith, and this cultured, learned and highly intellectual man, was admitted as a catechumen, and after due instruction he made a public profession of his faith and was baptized.

All Rome wondered, and the Church rejoiced. "The proud saw and were wroth; they gnashed with their teeth and melted away; but the Lord God was the hope of His servant, and he regarded not vanities and lying madness."