



THE CHURCH AT PORT SYDNEY, MUSKOKA.

ping on board the former, I was soon enjoying the passage of the "Narrows" and an extremely pleasing succession of natural pictures in the form of bare rounded rocks, lofty wooded islands, and intervening stretches of sparkling water. At 4.30 p.m. the *Nipissing* entered the pretty little harbour of Beaumaris, on Tondern island. As this place was to be my headquarters during my ecclesiastical survey, I disembarked, being met at the wharf by the kind-hearted proprietor of the Beaumaris hotel, who had previously offered to the Rural Dean of the district to receive me as his guest, free of expense. The "prophet's chamber," which was in a high and airy part of the establishment, afforded a delightful view of the harbour, with its fleet of steamers, row-boats, and canoes.

Tondern island appears to have been named after the scene of a battle fought between the Prussians and the Danes in the year 1864, the name having been bestowed upon the island by a former owner and settler. The area comprises about 340 acres, or a little more than half a square mile, but only about 170 acres are fit for the plough. This proportion of soil to surface applies generally to the land in the Muskoka region. The country is very picturesque, and a taste for the beautiful can easily be satisfied. An appetite for the food products of the earth cannot, however, be gratified so readily, for often the seed falls upon stony places and the yield is very small indeed. Hence, missionaries in this part of Ontario are obliged to look to societies, congregations, and women's auxiliaries, existing elsewhere, for most of their support. Beaumaris, as a name, comes from Carnarvon county, in N. Wales, the original home of the principal residents of Tondern island. Applied to a watering-place possessing

many, natural beauties it is not inaptly used by Muskoka-people. I may add that the word is pronounced *Bo-morris*, with the accent on the second syllable.

I found here in course of erection a building which afterwards recalled to my mind what is related concerning one of the most interesting structures on the island of Philæ in Egypt.

This Muskoka edifice was for some time a *hypæthral temple*, a church without a roof. The people "began to build, but were not able to finish." I took away with me a sunlight image of this interesting object, and afterwards,

during a sojourn of three months in England, I put it to good account by making it serve in the form of a lantern slide, as a visible appeal to the supporters of missions of the S.P.G. for help for the diocese of Algoma. I am happy to learn that this little wooden structure has, since my visit, been furnished with a roof, and that it now rejoices in the name of St. John's Church. Before leaving this delightful summer resort I obtained, under favourable circumstances, a photograph of Beaumaris as a whole, including harbour, dock, vessels, buildings, etc. A lantern transparency made from the negative by Newton & Co., the well-known opticians of London, England, always interested my English audiences.

We read of strange experiences on the part of amateurs. Here is one which was both strange and annoying. I had very carefully prepared the prophet's chamber as a dark room for developing some plates. I had hung up against the fan light a piece of carpet and placed against the front window one or two bed quilts. I had procured an abundant supply of water in pitchers and basins, had added a lump of ice to keep the films cool and safe, and had mixed the chemicals according to directions given on the labels. I was anticipating some real quiet enjoyment. Scarcely a trace of an image, however, could I obtain. Several plates were tried with the same unsatisfactory results. At length I discovered that one very important constituent had been omitted by the dealer. The developer was no developer at all. Fortunately I was able, a few days afterwards, to get a small supply of developing solution from a professional in Bracebridge, and thus proved by means of other plates that the fault had not been in the exposure or any other operation under my own control.