

BELLEVILLE DISTRICT.

For several years appeals have been made for one or more Missionaries to be set apart to visit the Lumbering Camps of the vast Ottawa and other places. The Rev. H. F. BLAND, Chairman of the Belleville District, has succeeded in the initiation of this enterprize; though the Committee would doubtless have made a small appropriation for this deserving and real Missionary work, it has been done effectually during the winter months without any cost to the Society, through the generosity of the lumbermen themselves and some of their friends. A few extracts from the journals of these Evangelists may interest some of our readers :

Sabbath, Feb. 4th.—Bro. Davidson taking the regular work, I proceeded to a shanty in M'Learn's firm, thirty miles from Vennachar, a Mr. Barber, foreman. I was made welcome and treated kindly. There were forty men, half Roman Catholics. Several of the men were engaged in washing their clothes, others mending their mittens, which they left immediately at the foreman's request, and were seated in order to hear the word. Still there was one who continued to sew, although requested to lay it aside, but as soon as he was spoken to in French by the foreman he laid it by. Here the men all engaged in singing a hymn, something unusual, yet very pleasing. They were all attentive. This, I was informed by the foreman, was the third time of Protestant preaching in the shanty where he labored in twelve years.

Thence I proceeded five miles to another in the same firm, a Mr. Cameron, foreman. Here were fifty men, half Roman Catholics. Many seemed rough, careless, and indifferent, still I was made welcome and listened to attentively by all. This was the first time of preaching with that foreman in fifteen years. Thence to another in the same firm two miles distant, a Mr. Cue, foreman, bearing the marks of a gentleman, having also full control over his men, yet seemed kind. There were thirty-six men, half Roman Catholics: there was not the least sign of immorality; all were eager and attentive. The cases of necessity of washing and mending on the Sabbath were not manifest; but, best of all,

here during worship seemed to be the presence of the Saviour. Many expressed their desire for salvation. All seemed as though the service was too short. I felt it was good to be there.

These shanties just referred to, lie along a lake called Masassagon, south east of the beautiful Masanaga. It is in connection with the Mississippi waters. It is long, and surrounded by a scenery of grandeur; the lofty pines towering toward the sky, and dotted with beautiful islands covered with evergreens. Here and there may be seen the tracks of the otter, fox, deer, and other animals. Among the islands is one known as Bednigo Island, noted as a source of terror to the Indians. Its circumference is small, but it is high. I was informed that there is a hole in its centre reaching from the top down to the water, the motion of the air and water in which makes a great noise: this is supposed to be the cause of their terror!

Wednesday, 7th.—Bro. D. again directed his course to the shanties. Drove 23 miles, but did not reach the expected place, the road being so heavy. Remained all night in a lumbering depot, M'Learn's firm. Next morning proceeded to a shanty in the same firm, a Mr. McGregor, foreman, who seemed friendly at first, but when the matter of preaching was introduced he objected to having it in either of his shanties, on the ground that the men were mixed in point of faith, and it would most likely stir up a feeling of strife between them. Seeing the door shut there and supposing the case hopeless, he proceeded at once to another in