



ALGOMA.

A VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY.

Dear Sir :

As many among your readers are by this time looking out for tidings from our missionary diocese, I beg leave to send you some hurried notes of a recent voyage of discovery undertaken by the Bishop of Algoma along the northern shores of Lake Huron and round the Georgian Bay, as far as Parry Sound, which will doubtless prove interesting to many of our church people in the organized dioceses, illustrating, as they do, the peculiar nature of the work incumbent on a Bishop in so scattered a diocese, and showing how in many places where the soil seemed as unpromising as the natural surroundings, and there was no visible likelihood of success, a door was opened, and opportunities of sowing the good seed provided by the Chief Shepherd and Bishop of souls.

J.F.S.

On Saturday morning July 4th. the *Evangeline* commenced her missionary labours for 1885 by steaming out from the dock of Sault Ste. Marie, under the guidance of her faithful pilot Joseph Greckasky, having for her passengers the Bishop of Algoma and the Rev. J.F. Sweeney, incumbent of St Philip's Toronto, bound for the north shore of Lake Huron and the Georgian Bay on a tour of exploration, with a view to the discovery of any isolated settlements along these rock-bound coasts in which scattered members of the Church of England might be found in need of the sympathy and public and private administrations of their own communion. A liberal supply of bibles, mission services, tracts, and general literature had already been stowed away, with, of course, the supplies necessary for passengers and crew during a three weeks cruise. A start having been effected about 11 a.m. our first stopping place was

BRUCE MINES,

which we reached in five hours. Here the Missionary, Rev. F.C. Berry, had commenced the erection of a church edifice, after plans drawn by himself and approved by the Bishop, the people lending a very willing and energetic co-operation. A solid stone foundation has been put in, and the skeleton of the building set up, giving promise of a structure at once substantial and church-like. The need of

the church has been sorely felt, as the congregation has hitherto been dependent for its services on the partial use of a "Union Church," an arrangement which, according to all past experience, had worked very unsatisfactorily. In the evening a meeting of the parishioners was held, at which the church-people gave very unmistakable evidence of their desire for a church in a contribution list (made up prior to the Bishop's visit) amounting, in money and free-will offerings of labour, to upwards of \$300. The Bishop was only too glad to be able to second this earnestness by promise of assistance from the Diocesan Fund, and also of a grant, which might be relied on, from the "S.P.C.K." He was also able to say that a contribution of about £30 which had been given him while in England for another district, in which it was now no longer needed, would with the donor's consent, be transferred to the Mines, an announcement which was received with no little satisfaction. About \$200 more, however, will be needed to complete and furnish the church, but this will doubtless be supplied from some source or other, in God's good time and providence.

Early on the following morning, Sunday the 5th, the *Evangeline* transferred us to

ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND,

opposite Bruce Mines, where the Bishop had arranged to do duty for the Rev. H. Beer, who supplied services at the Sault. After a hot and dusty drive Jocelyn was reached, and service held at 3 p.m. in the church of the Holy Trinity, the Bishop reading and preaching, after which the return journey of 12 miles was accomplished, and the Bishop officiated again at Marksville. The congregations were large in both places, a fact which furnished no slight testimony to the Missionary's faithfulness, as the Bishop's visit was wholly unexpected—he had simply "dropped in" on the mission, and thus was better able to form an estimate of the average church-life and interest than if he had come with "the flourish of trumpets," which usually ushers in Episcopal Visitations.

ENVELOPED IN FOG.

The night, like the preceding one, was spent on the *Evangeline*. Monday morning the trip along the north shore was again resumed, but not under very favourable auspices, as a strong wind was blowing and a heavy sea running, which was productive to one of our number, at least, of sensations not the most pleasurable. Our objective point was Missis-

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA.

GENERAL SYNOD, ARCHIVES.