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REPORT OF THE ANNUAL DEPUTATION.

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The Board of Directors requested the President—Rev. F. H. Marling and the Revs. William Clarke and Robert Robinson—to make the usual annual visit to the Mission Stations and preach the Gospel to the Indians wherever they might be found. The President was prevented from taking part in the work, which was accomplished by the others as here reported.

On Wednesday, 19th June, the Indian Teachers, Messrs. Barrell and Keshick, with Rev. R. Robinson, started from Owen Sound in the good boat *Nereid*, for Spanish River, hoping there to find Rev. Wm. Clarke, and with him proceed on our annual evangelization tour among the Indians. Our custom was to rise about dawn and carry on sail until we could find a harbour, where we camped for the night. Occasionally we were compelled by stress of weather, or by calms, to stay in camp most of the day, and sometimes we spent a great part of the night in getting to port. Our tents pitched and supper eaten, we sang our Indian hymn, read a chapter of the Bible in English, and then in succession, one in Indian and one in English, we offered prayer to our Heavenly Father. The like worship we held each morning after breakfast before hoisting sail, and thus we had subject for conversation in our boat, enlivened sometimes by the sight of a passing canoe or sail, and sometimes by singing a familiar hymn. Thus camping and sailing, we found ourselves, on Tuesday, 25th inst., about two p.m., at Spanish River Mills, surprised to learn that Mr. Clarke had not yet arrived; but about midnight he stepped off the *Algoma*, having been in that vessel aground on the rocks at Byng Inlet, and so detained. Next day we visited

Miss Baylis' School, in which she teaches the children of the Indians camping in the vicinity, conversing with their mothers after school hours, and presenting the gospel to all who will listen. This earnest lady is labouring to bring souls to the Saviour. The Indians frequently move away and others arrive, so that access to a considerable number can be had at this point. After having repaired the school-house, and having our sails mended, so that it was possible to reef and continue our journey in stormy weather, we started, on Thursday morning, for She-she-gwah-ning, taking Miss Baylis along. Owing to head winds, we made only about thirty miles ere we camped on Barrie Island. Here we were fairly worried by the flies the greater part of the night, and our features bore amusing marks of the fact in the morning.

Taking an early breakfast, and having worship on board, we started about five o'clock, and reached She-she-gwah-ning in about three hours. Many of the Indians were absent, but a pretty fair congregation listened to a sermon on the parable of "The Prodigal Son;" after which Mr. Clarke spoke, the children sang several hymns, and the chief made a speech expressive of his desire for a teacher. We promised to do our best to secure the needful instructor, but meantime the squaws had become greatly interested in Miss Baylis, earnestly desiring that she would come and spend a month in teaching them and their children, and proposing, in case their men could not go to Spanish River for her, themselves to navigate the boat for her conveyance. Miss Baylis was strongly inclined to make the attempt, but uncertainty of conveyance, and absence of camping convenience, compelled her to postpone her visit to another season. Leaving these interesting