

and they squat down on the floor Indian fashion while I tell them some simple bible story in Indian or ask them some easy questions about the creation, or about the life of our Saviour.

E. F. W.

OLD COUNTRY SCRAPS.

This Column is Intended for Our Backwoods Settlers.

The great north door of Westminster Abbey is being restored at a cost of £12,000.

Dr. William Boyd Carpenter, is the new bishop of Ripon.

St Lawrence Ventnor is the smallest church in England. It is only 20 feet long by 11 feet wide and 6 feet to the eaves. The bell is said to have been used in ancient times to summon the monks to dinner.

A new edition of the prayerbook will shortly be published, arranged in the order in which the prayers are read.

An ancient Hebrew manuscript has been discovered on the Island of Rhodes in the Mediterranean Sea. It is written on scraps of old parchment and contains parts of Hosea, Joel, Malachi, Ruth, Jeremiah, Esther, Daniel, Isaiah, Obadiah, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and the Proverbs of Solomon. There is of course some doubt at present about its authenticity, but several experts who have examined the fragments believe them to be genuine. It is known that there were Jews inhabiting the island of Rhodes as early as 140 B. C.

There is to be an exhibition of inventions and musical instruments next May in London.

Lord Dufferin is appointed Viceroy of India.

12000 copies of the Holy Scriptures were sold at the Fisheries Exhibition last year.

The revision of the Old Testament was finished last July, and the book will soon be in print.

An old lady left the church and joined the Salvation Army. Her minister thereupon visited her to know the cause of her desertion. In answer to his questions she could give no satisfactory reasons for the change, but at last clasping the ministers hand, she exclaimed, "Oh sir, the big drum is such a comfort to me."

Canon Liddon has been acting guide in St. Pauls' Cathedral and explaining all the objects of interest to a number of working men.

The Emperor of China, Kwang-su, has just completed his 13th year.

Bishop Kelly, late of Newfoundland, is the new Archdeacon of London.

A man named Proctor, who pretended to be a clergyman, and solemnized a marriage, has been sentenced to 14 years penal servitude.

A French engineer named Capt. Renard thinks he has invented a balloon which can be steered through the air like a ship.

The English harvest is one of average abundance.

Bradlaugh, the atheist, was coming to lecture in the States, but backed out.

Lord Wolsley has gone to the Soudan to fight the Malidi.

Cholera has been raging in the south of France, and in Italy.

The total population of the British Empire is 305,000,000. Of this number 188 millions are Hindoos, and 45,000,000 only are of the fair races.

PRIZE \$5.

FOR THE MOST AND FULLEST ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

Open to any genuine backwoods settlers within the Diocese of Algoma, but the answers must be accompanied by a note from the clergyman of the mission testifying to the genuineness of the communication.

The object is a good one:—namely to let the outside world know something of the trials and privations you have to undergo in your new homes, and to show them, as we hope to do through the medium of your replies, that you have brave hearts to meet and overcome all your difficulties, and that you still love 'the Old Church' and value her ministrations.

You need not give either your name or the place where you live if you prefer not. Just an initial letter is sufficient.

We are doing this because we want to make the *Algoma Missionary News* more really useful, and to fill it as far as possible with actual facts, for that is just what our kind friends who help us want to know. At present we have 1000 subscribers, but we want to raise the number to 5000.

As soon as 15 replies are received the prize will be decided, and the \$5 sent to the winner.

QUESTIONS.

- 1 What part of the old country did you come from; what made you think of emigrating; are you glad altogether that you did so?
- 2 How many are you in family; What means have you for getting the children educated?
- 3 How much land have you? How much cleared? What sort of house? Tell us all about it.
- 4 How many neighbours about you? How far apart are they? Is there any village? How far is the post office?
- 5 How far off does the clergyman live? Is there a church or school within reach? How often is service held?
6. If there is a church, tell us when it was built and how the money was raised? What do you think is the best way to raise money for church purposes.
7. Tell us about the inside of the church—Are all the things there that ought to be, such as you would see in an English Church, though of course plainer?
8. Is there a Sunday School for the children? How many teachers? What lessons do they learn? Have they library books? How often do you have collections in the church? How much is raised in a year?
9. Are all your children baptized? How is it with the neighbours about? Are children generally baptized in the church or in the houses?
10. Are most of the young people about confirmed? Are there many of the folks attend the Holy Communion?
11. Will you tell us how a funeral is conducted in the backwoods?
12. Tell us about the farm—All about the soil and the trees and your crops and live stock? Do you have to hire labourers or do you manage without?
13. What do you find to do through the long winter? How do you get about in winter? How far do you have to go to market, and how far to the mill?
14. Is any machinery used round about you—threshing machines, or reaping, or mowing machines?