

vast majority of well-educated Englishmen. The selections are admirable, the type is good, and the paper quite respectable. The price of each number in Canada is 5 cents—quite a reasonable price.

FROM THE BISHOP OF ATHABASCA.

My dear friends and fellow-workers,—It is with much pleasure and with earnest prayer for our mutual benefit that I take up my pen to write you a few lines for 1897. Finding there was no pressing need for my presence at the missions or the diocese outside those I visited during the months of January and February last, I accepted an invitation from the Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary to visit the Church Missionary Societies' missions in his diocese during his absence in England. Letters from Rev. J. R. Lucas, in charge of St. Paul's mission, Chipewyan, report a steady maintenance of the work there. He has not been in so much contact with the Chipewyans as last year, but hopes to be able to visit them in their camps this winter. Mr. Lucas is busy compiling a vocabulary and grammar of the language, and is making good progress in it. St. Luke's mission, Vermilion, is being diligently worked by the Rev. Mr. Scott. Though afflicted with considerable bodily infirmity, rheumatism, sciatica, and at times with great nervous prostration, he continues to prosecute on foot, and by canoeing in summer, journeys of two to three hundred miles, visiting the Indians in their camps. He gives the following interesting account of one of these visits: "After having travelled over one hundred miles to the Cariboo hills and reached a Cree tent, feeling tired out and painfully lame and dreading the prospect of all the miles of snow which intervened between me and home, after a while I had reading of the Word, singing and prayer. When I finished, an old blind grandmother who was present immediately began to thank me, and to praise God that she had once more heard His Word, and the voice of the 'man of prayer.'" * * She could thank God that although her body was now blind, He had given her light in her soul. And she went on to state her faith in Christ in a marvellous way for one with such few opportunities for instruction. All my pain and fatigue seemed to go, and I felt that I could start on another hundred miles for such a reward. From this tent I went about thirty miles in another direction to another Indian tent. The wife was much annoyed about some false reports which had been circulated about her. She felt angry and bitter about the matter. I was sorry for her, and felt she had cause for resentment. I said very little, but opened the New Testament and read what the Lord had done when unjustly accused, and how He had left us an example. The poor woman was melted in tears; she wept much at the thought of her own anger and unforgiving spirit, especially when I reminded her of how much He had forgiven. When I left she followed me outside, and with tears asked me to forget her words, and that I must not be disturbed on account of them, for she had cast them entirely out of her heart, that she would return good for evil to the person who had so injured her. Of this, I have since had ample proof." The Rev. A. J. Warwick combines the work of assistant missionary to Rev. M. Scott, with that of principal of the Irene Training School. During Mr. Scott's frequent absences he carries on the services and the general work of the mission. In his letter he gives a very pleasing account of Matthew Keroutis, who is getting an old man. "He (Matthew) spoke of the joy it gives him to think of heaven. He is looking to God and waiting for Him to call him up to Him." The Rev. Henry Robinson last year passed through a heavy trial in the loss of his wife, leaving three little ones and an adopted Indian girl without a mother's care. He writes very thankfully of the care they received from Miss McKnight, who volunteered for the work, and was sent out by the Holy Trinity branch of the W.A., Winnipeg. Miss McKnight has felt deeply the isolation which this charge entails, but remains bravely at her post. Mr. Robinson is still beset with difficulties, arising a good deal from the failure of crops last year through drought. He writes cheerfully about his work, but I have not

much progress to report. The work may become more colonial in his mission. The discovery of rich gold mines on the Yukon; also reported discoveries of paying deposits on the Upper Peace River, will hasten the opening out of the north, more especially of the Peace River country. Its fertility and proximity to the further north seem to point it out as a natural source of supplies for these far northern gold fields. Again the increasing desire in Canada for an all-Canadian overland route to the Klondyke, which must cross the Peace River country—these and other causes will tend this way. Mr. Robinson is a fluent Cree speaker, and this, combined with an earnest Christian spirit, makes him a useful missionary. Besides working among the Indians in his immediate neighbourhood, he visits them at other points—Dunvegan, Spirit River, etc. I still long to be able to place a mission among the Beaver Indians, more to the west; but so far any attempts in this direction have been frustrated. Straitened means and disappointments in those whom, judging well cut out for pioneer work, I had hoped to send out, are the chief causes. I trust, however, that the way may yet be opened out for beginning a good work among them. The Rev. G. Holmes has had to defer his return to Lesser Slave Lake for another winter on account of Mrs. Holmes' state of health. I hope, however, to see him back at his mission in the early summer of next year. In the meanwhile the Rev. W. G. White continues in charge, while superintending the work of his own mission at White Fish Lake. Mr. A. S. White, who was stationed at this post last winter, has been accepted by the committee of the Canadian Church Missionary Association to receive at their expense a theological course at Wycliffe College. Mr. W. has served a good probation, having wrought for two years; the only remuneration being his board and clothing. He is possessed of good missionary qualifications, earnestness, a readiness in picking up the language, a strong constitution, and a capacity for bearing burdens and fatigue. I need not recapitulate my visit during last January and February to Wapuskaw, Trout Lake, White Fish Lake, and Lesser Slave Lake, an account of which I published last spring. Re Lesser Slave Lake: letters lately received from Rev. W. G. White, report the prospect of a good attendance at the Boarding School this winter. Miss Durnall discharges her duties as matron with thoroughness and efficiency. This is of great importance, as it is desirable to win the Indian children to habits very different to the slovenliness and dirt that too often prevail in their homes. Mr. D. Currie returned from here in October, after a visit to Edmonton. Mr. Chas. White is waiting here for an opportunity to join his brother at Lesser Slave Lake, as he sorely needs assistance. Rev. M. Scott, at my request, paid a visit to Wapuskaw last summer. He travelled by canoe along a route very little known. On account of many rapids, made worse by low water, he had a very trying journey. Mr. Weaver, referring to his visit, writes he came at a good time, as the Indians were all gathered round the two (i.e. Wapuskaw) Lakes for the fishery. He accompanied Mr. Scott to three encampments, in all about 45 tents. Mr. Scott gave addresses, besides visiting and talking with them in their tents. There is, however, a lamentable slowness in coming forward for baptism. I trust, however, the earnest efforts made for their instruction will with God's blessing effect a change. I have not yet decided on my movements this winter. I am hoping, however, to visit Wapuskaw, and even further. At the Landing we have no resident Indians in the winter. In summer they camp here from different points, sometimes coming from long distances. Many opportunities are thus afforded for visiting them in their tents, and thus imparting Christian instruction. One school has a steady attendance almost entirely of half-breed children, some of whom are little removed from the Indians. Mr. Gordon Weston is busy at present in putting St. John's Gospel in large Cree syllables through our little printing press. St. Mark's Gospel is already bound and in circulation. Though well bound in cloth it only weighs 4½ ounces. It is therefore in a very portable form. Our Indians can now sit by their camp fire and read a portion of God's Word in their own tongue. I remain ever yours most sincerely,

RICHARD ATHABASCA.

Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

FREDERICTON.

HOLLINGWORTH T. KINGDON, BISHOP, FREDERICTON.

The Rev. Mr. Montgomery, who is visiting the Rural Deanery of Chatham in the interest of Diocesan Missions, addressed an interested and appreciative audience in St. Mary's Sunday school room on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst. The chair was occupied by the rector of St. Paul's, the Rev. Canon Forsyth, who, after the singing of the hymn "Jesus Shall Reign," etc., and appropriate prayers, introduced the speaker of the evening. Mr. Montgomery then related the circumstances which had led to the appointment of the three diocesan delegates who are now visiting the parishes of the diocese in behalf of its mission work. The union of the Diocesan Church Society and Diocesan Synod would be consummated at the end of the present year, and in future the management of the mission work of the Diocese would be in the hands of the Board of Diocesan Missions, appointed annually by the Diocesan Synod. This board will consist of the Bishop, sixteen clergymen, and eighteen laymen, representing the whole diocese. Each rural deanery will elect a clergyman and a layman to represent it on the board. Mr. Montgomery then proceeded to give details showing that in order to carry on the mission work of the diocese a considerable increase in the mission fund will be necessary. He gave the following statement of the present annual income and expenditure in connection with diocesan missions:

1. Income from S.P.G.	\$2,860
2. " Investments	4,528
3. " Contributions from	
Aided missions	14,129
4. " Contributions from	
self-supporting mis-	
sions	3,700
5. " Children's Mission	
Fund	300

Total income.....\$25,517

The expenditure on behalf of Diocesan Mission work is as follows:

1. Grants to aid mission work	\$26,144
2. Pensions to widows of clergy	488
3. Salaries of secretary and treasurer	600
4. Expenses in carrying on the work	
—printing, etc.	600

Total expenditure.....\$27,832

The foregoing statement, he said, showed that \$2,315 more are needed at the present time to keep all our diocesan missions open. But inasmuch as the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel is withdrawing its grant at the rate of \$500 annually, and as the rate of interest on investments is decreasing, \$5,000 a year more must be contributed by Church people throughout the diocese if services are to be maintained in all the missions. Mr. Montgomery forcibly dwelt upon the duty and the need of Churchmen coming to the aid of the Mission Board in their endeavours to supply the ministrations of religion to the weaker and neglected parts of the mission field, and it was evident that the audience felt a desire to respond to the speaker's call for sympathy and substantial aid. He outlined a plan proposed to secure more systematic contributions by means of pledge cards and envelopes, and the help of active and earnest agents in the various parishes. The interest and attention of the meeting was sustained from beginning to end, and a hearty vote of thanks, moved by his Honour Judge Wilkinson, and seconded by the Hon. Speaker Burchill and passed unanimously, was presented to Mr. Montgomery by the rector. Contributions amounting to \$14.12 were collected during the singing of the hymn "O Lord of Earth," after which Judge Wilkinson spoke of the work Mr. Montgomery had in hand, which would, he had no doubt, commend itself to the hearty support and sympathy of all present. He referred to the increasing practice of