

quence, force and deep spirituality of his sermons place him at once in the front rank among preachers and teachers.

The services were attended by deeply interested and reverent congregations, and we feel sure that all who had the privilege of hearing him will return a grateful sense of his efforts on their behalf.

Diocese of Huron.

The Committee on Standing Orders of the Ontario Legislature held a very brief session on Tuesday morning and passed on the petition of the Western University and College of London, praying that an Act may pass authorizing the change of name to that of the Western University and London University College.

The annual missionary meeting of Christ Church, London, was held last evening, with a good attendance. Addresses were delivered by the Bishop of Huron and Mesrob Baghdasarian, the Turkish missionary. A fair collection was taken up.

The Bishop of Huron has sent a favorable reply to the request of Christ Church congregation for the appointment of Rev. Robert McCosh, of Petrolia, as successor to the Rev. N. H. Martin. The *Planet* heartily congratulates the church and the town of Chatham on securing Mr. McCosh, who is well-known as one of the most godly men and powerful preachers in Ontario.

ILDERTON.

This new congregation is shewing both life and energy. They have let the contract for building a new brick church. The material is on the ground, and the work will be commenced immediately. The church is securing a good strong foot hold in this village.

GLENCOE.

The congregation in this town has decided to build a new church and an architect in London is preparing plans. It is proposed to commence work as soon as the spring opens. When the new church is completed it is earnestly hoped that some arrangements may be made so as to give two Sunday services to this congregation. Rev. W. Lowe has done a good work since he entered this parish and is beloved by all who know him.

Diocese of Algoma.

The Bishop of Algoma begs to thank "A. F." of New Brunswick very gratefully for the sum of \$40 received by letter dated March 4th. The donation will be applied towards the erection of a parsonage which is very urgently needed at Rosseau.

ASPDIN.

In St. Mary's and St. George's Churches, instructions are being given during Lent upon the Sacramental life of the Church. The Incumbent earnestly presses upon all communicants, at least, the duty of attending as many of these services as possible. The self-denial shown thus will bring its reward in a more joyful Easter, and what is of far more importance, an increase of spiritual power in our midst and a corresponding advance in holiness. A devout appreciation and use of the sacraments of the Church is essential

to any real growth in grace, hence the necessity for plain and unmistakable teaching on this subject.

An agreement has been entered into with Mr. A. Leefe, churchwarden of St. Mary's, Aspdis, and his father, Octavius Leefe, Esq., of London, England, for the purchase of the house which has been occupied by the incumbent somewhat more than a year.

The whole purchase money is \$850, (cost price,) of which \$500 is to be paid down, \$400 being now in hand and the other \$100 to be paid by the Bishop from the diocesan resources. The remaining \$350 is to be paid within two years, with interest at 6 per cent. Towards this some \$75 is already promised, leaving a final balance of about \$275 and the interest to be found.

Subscriptions to help pay off the balance are earnestly asked for and may be made payable to the Rev. H. P. Lowe, Priest-in-charge.

DIOCESE OF ATHABASKA.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL LETTER, 1892.

(Continued.)

Every year is serving to bring this Great North West into closer union with the rest of Canada, and, while other interests are actually at work to bring this about, it is hardly a time for the friends of Missionary work to hang back and turn a deaf ear to our appeals, and show themselves indifferent to the exigencies of our work.

The Dominion Government placed \$2000 at Mr. Brick's disposal for furnishing and commencing a Mission farm. Mr. Brick has been faithful to the trust reposed in him, and has fenced in about half a mile square, with a frontage on the Peace River. Though short of labour and therefore necessarily with a great expenditure of time and personal work, he has a considerable portion under cultivation. When we arrived, Sept. 9th, he was busy gathering and threshing the grain. On my return from Dunvegan, he had it stored in large bins in a new store not yet roofed. I think I can say in all fairness and without partiality that I never saw a finer average bulk of wheat, barley and oats anywhere. I feel sure the samples sent outside this fall will serve to remove any lingering doubt as to the fact that the great grain area of Canada reaches far beyond the Saskatchewan and includes the Peace River country as well. This abundant harvest is likely to give a great impetus to farming among the Indians. While there, six Indians, heads of families came to have a talk about the Mission, its objects, the benefits they might hope to derive from it, and the assistance that would be rendered them in farming themselves. While careful to remove all undue expectations—an Indian is always very sanguine as to the personal benefit he ought to derive from Protestant Missionary effort—they were assured that help would be given them in ploughing, in supplying them with seed, in threshing and grinding. Four also gave promise that their children should attend school.

Mr. Brick undertakes to give every Indian child attending school a dinner every day, and Mrs. Brick's dinners are always well worth eating. This they did last winter during a time of want and scarcity, the unusual dry season of that summer having thinned the crops.

From here I proceeded, accompanied by Mr. Brick, to St. Peter's Mission, Lesser Slave Lake.

You would have been amused could you have witnessed our crossing of the Peace River. An ex. H. B. Company officer, a member of our Church accompanied us. We had two horses and two mules and a buckboard. Sitting in the middle of the dug-out I held the lines, the animals were driven after us into the water and all went well for a few yards. Suddenly mules and horses stampeded for the shore. I held on to the lines, as had they got away we might have lost a day hunting them. Our heavy dug-out literally boiled through the water in its rapid retrogression. A second attempt was more successful and with heads and nostrils just above water, our puffing, snorting train patiently swam the broad stream. Early next morning we crossed the buck-board athwart two canoes and started for our ninety miles. I do not think many Bishops travel to attend their Synod in quite the style of this occasion. Our saddle horse was a wretched stumbler and I discovered that one of my friend's mules was a very easy pacer so perched aloft on its tall gaunt back, I headed the procession. Our Synod was held in the new church just completed of St. Peter's. The last time we had met, was at Vermilion in 1888. Few in numbers, isolated from one another by long distances, these gatherings are to us of great interest and are mutually beneficial. They are occasions for taking counsel together and encouraging one another among the trials and discouragements of the work.

The first service on Sunday morning is in Cree. During it I admitted Mr. Henry Robinson to Deacon's Orders. He has now been in the country three years. He has acquired a very fair knowledge of Cree and has for the past year laboured with much acceptance among the Indians of White Fish Lake. This together with his Christian character and steadfastness of purpose, gives promise of a useful Missionary career. After the ordination we gathered around the Lord's Table, the converts mingling with us in the blessed ordinance.

Tuesday and Wednesday were taken up with the proceedings of Synod and work arising out of it. Our last act together was a meeting for prayer at which several of our Indians and others were present. We laid the needs of our work, its difficulties and perplexities before the Throne of Grace and at the same time joined in praise and thanksgiving for all God's undeserved mercies and blessings.

Before closing this letter I must refer to an opening which calls for immediate occupation. During last winter our Missionary at Lesser Slave Lake, Rev. G. Holmes went out to visit a band of heathen Indians hunting and fishing in the Wabiskaw country. Wabiskaw lake abounds in white fish. The Indians, about fifty families have built themselves small log houses near the Lake.

Mr. Holmes writes "I never received kinder treatment from any people, White or Indian." He speaks of them as a superior class of Indians. He adds "I never saw among Indians a more general and apparently genuine conviction and confession of sin. Eighteen children were brought for baptism and many of the adults were wishful, but I thought it wiser to leave them for further instruction." They wanted specially to know whether they would have a resident teacher or whether we intended to pay them occasional visits "like the birds flying over their heads."

To this cry from 'Macedonia' "Come over and help us" there is only one reply "We will come." But we have no grant for this mission, from the C.M.S. We have undertaken it in faith believing that our "friends and fellow workers" will gladly co-operate and supply us with the means to carry forward what I trust will prove an open-door. I commend this new opening to your interest and your prayers. Will you