

across Lake of the Woods, and ascends Rainy River for 80 miles. It lies in North-western Ontario, and has long been crying for railway communication. The Rainy River is one of the most beautiful rivers in America. Settlers who years ago took up claims upon its banks are little better off than when they entered the region ten or twenty years ago. There is little money in the settlement, and mission work is expensive. The Presbyterian Church building erected several years ago is the only one in the village of Fort Frances. The missionary at this point is Mr. Roderick Gillies, a young Highlander, who in the depth of last winter, made the journey of 160 miles from Rat Portage to Fort Frances over the ice and snow, as best he could. He reports the work as progressing fairly well. He is short of money, for the people can contribute so little. Will not one of our well to do congregations that wishes to adopt a mission take hold of Fort Frances? It is real mission work. Mr. Gillies writes a good letter, and will be glad to keep such congregation well supplied with intelligence. Any congregation wishing to adopt Fort Frances—this lone child in the wilderness—may communicate with the Presbytery Convener, Dr. Bryce of Winnipeg. We quote a part of Mr. Gillies' last letter:

"I am getting along fairly well, though of course there are difficulties. Drunkenness, on the whole, is bad. The attendance at services, is not so regular as desirable. As regards church repairs, the Presbytery should give some help if at all possible; otherwise I am afraid the repairs cannot be executed. The Presbyterian congregation is small, and the English Church people, from whom assistance might be expected, have lately been supplied with a minister, to be permanently situated here, in which case they may wish to erect a church of their own. But even allowing assistance in this way, some help from the Presbytery would still be necessary.

We may add that the Presbytery cannot help in church repairs. If any of our generous people can send \$50 or \$100 for Fort Frances Church, which is much out of repair, it will be gratefully received.

**New Mission in Winnipeg.** A few weeks ago our eighth preaching place was established in the city. This was the Higgins' Street Mission, under the care of St Andrew's Church. It is in the part of Winnipeg known as Point Douglas, near the C. P. R. and the mills. For some time past a vigorous Sunday school of 120 scholars has been maintained, and now a nucleus of 75 families bids fair soon to become another congregation. The attendance we learn is about 200 on the Sunday evening, and the average collection about \$7. The young congregation has been ministered to by Messrs. Richmond and Chisholm, Theological Students of Manitoba College, who are now attending the summer session. Five self-sustaining congregations and 3 missionaries, comprising 2100 communicants represent the Presbyterianism of the Prairie City.

## INDIAN MISSIONS.

**P**ARLIAMENTARY blue books are proverbially uninteresting reading and for that reason it is likely that our readers will miss some paragraphs in the last report of the Indian Department, to which it is very desirable that the friends of missions should have their attention called. Accordingly three paragraphs are re-produced here from the report of Mr. J. AnsdeU Macrae, Government Inspector of Indian Schools. In the first paragraph, the Little Sioux Boarding School, to which reference is made, is our school at Portage la Prairie, under the care of Misses. Fraser and Laidlaw. The Rupert's Land Industrial School is a church of England institution, at St. Paul's, near Winnipeg, the building for which was erected for or five years ago by the government at a cost of \$8,000.

"There are two institutions in the Manitoba Superintendency, to which it would be improper not to give special notice, viz: The Rupert's Land Industrial School, and The Little Sioux Boarding School, at Portage la Prairie. On a very different scale, under widely diverse circumstances, most excellent work of the same sort is being done in these two institutions.

"The first has many pupils, good buildings and conveniences, is well furnished, has a well appointed staff, and in both, proper habits of life and thought are being formed. The moral faculties are being developed, common sense is present, pedantic aims absent, and characters are being formed, which can hardly fail to reflect credit upon those to whom the important responsibility of forming them, is intrusted. The Rev. Mr. Burman of the one, and the lady principal of the other, may be congratulated upon their success. ...

"Here may be noticed the action of the Presbyterian church authorities in engaging trained teachers for their schools. The results have been most excellent, and demonstrate forcibly and quite conclusively the wisdom of the action. One of these teachers carries off the first of seven bonuses by one year's work in a school which had been unsuccessfully conducted for many years, and in which many bad habits existed. I refer to Miss. Cameron, of Okanase Reserve, Riding Mountain. Several other teachers engaged in the boarding schools of this church, take front rank amongst the Indian educationists of this country, standing firmly in earnestness and ability on that level which it is so desirable that all teachers should obtain. ...

"During the year, I have with some closeness, gone into an analysis of the sentiment against education which has been found in the Indian Tribes; antagonism, not apathy, is referred to here. It appears to be quite true that Indians who are converted to christianity are wanting in this spirit of antagonism, whilst those who are