

men are found, they should not be neglected. Select men are being looked out for this special service. It is cheering to note that Rossland and Nelson each agree to provide \$250 a year to defraying the expenses of these missions.

Space fails me to tell you of "Brooklyn," at the east end of the new railway under construction, between Rossland and Pentiction, where the people offered to contribute \$10 a Sabbath if a missionary would labor among them; of Swan River," where hundreds of settlers are going in, in advance of the railway, and building houses and breaking up land; of "Fernie," where coal mining is already in operation, and abundance of fuel promised for smelting, steam and domestic purposes; of "Fort Steele," an important trade and mining centre, and ideal town-site.—Suffice to say that the West is growing fast, and that it requires the Church to bestir itself if the spiritual wants are to be met. The sins and sorrows of the West are open and heart-moving, but cannot be treated in the end of a sketch. The Church is playing a part on a roomy theatre in the West. May God grant that she appreciates her responsibility and is determined to do her part.

SKETCHES FROM BARRIE AND ALGOMA.

By Rev. Allan Findlay, D.D.

There were fifty-eight mission fields occupied during the past summer in the field under my care; twenty-seven of them in Barrie Presbytery and thirty-one in Algoma. Working in these fields were thirteen ordained missionaries, thirty-seven students, and nine catechists. The condition of the work has been on the whole most encouraging.

Steps Forward.

Sprucedale, which has been, for many years, under the care of students and catechists, has advanced a stage, having now an ordained missionary. Powassan and Burk's Falls, at their own request, have been transferred from the list of mission stations to that of congregations with a view to a settled pastor and aid from the Augmentation Fund.

Tarbutt, an old mission field, and Sudbury, once a settled congregation, but a mission for the last few years, have been placed under the care of the Committee on Augmentation, and will both become settled charges in a few weeks.

A Magician's Wand.

I visited Byng-Inlet in July last. For many years it was under the care of the

Presbytery as a Mission Field, but our service was withdrawn when the mills ceased operations.

Since my last visit, some years ago, new life has been infused, indeed it seems as though some magician's wand had been wafted over the place. Everything is new, proprietors, people, mills, enterprise, everything, even their methods of doing church work. They wish supply, which is natural, but the unusual part of it is, they wish to pay for it themselves. "No church funds for us," said one of the officials, when talking over church matters with him, "when you put a crutch under a man he generally goes lame." Would that others could see duty in this practical light. They wish to be ranked not only as a settled—but as a self-supporting charge. They offer the sum of \$750.00 as salary, with the use of a house if necessary, and prefer a man with a family to a young man.

This offer is due, mainly to the liberal offer of the proprietors—Messrs. Holland and Emory, who not only wish their men and the families living at the mill to enjoy the services of an ordained minister, but who also set them an example in supporting the cause.

"Doubling Up."

The doubling up process is being adopted this winter to a greater extent than usual. By so doing, we save the funds to a certain extent and are able to supply ordinances to a greater number of people than would otherwise be possible. That the desire for services during the winter season is increasing among our people, we take as a sign of growth in the right direction, and we ought to encourage it.

Tokens of Remembrance

During the past season we have received many evidences that our work is being remembered by friends in different parts of the church. From many congregations who have adopted the new Book of Praise we have received parcels of the Psalter and Hymnal, formerly used by them, for use among our stations. These have been gladly received and highly appreciated by our people.

Among the many places from which parcels came, we may mention St. Catharines, Dundas, Galt, Brockville, Toronto and elsewhere. Mr. Fisher, stationer, Paris, sends the stock on his shelves at the time the new book was introduced, a choice lot.

Mr. Hardie, of Ayr, on behalf of his session, has presented a communion set, no longer needed by them, to one of our fields. The gift is highly appreciated by our people, who are thereby reminded of former days by the appearance of the "Set" on the communion table.