

service. In 1903 an event took place which led to the development of the district. Some English people conceived an idea of forming a settlement confined to British-born immigrants, and the Government reserved land for them in the valley between the two branches of the river, and about the fourth meridian line. On March 31, 2,500 people sailed from Liverpool to St. John, and then travelled in five trains to Saskatoon. From Saskatoon they had to "trek" 200 miles along the old Indian trails, in the first hundred miles of the journey passing only four houses, and none at all between Battleford and their destination. So large a party attracted a great deal of attention, and others followed in their wake, so that now the district is fully taken up. At the beginning of 1907 the settled portion of the Diocese was equivalent to a little more than half the size of England, whilst there were only twelve clergy to minister to the people scattered over the 30,000 square miles. Well, these clergy did their best, but it was impossible for them to reach half the people. A new problem arose; two new transcontinental lines were proposed, and the routes surveyed. These were to pass through the Diocese, and open up another 25,000 miles. As soon as the line was surveyed people anxious to get near a railway settled along where the grading was to be done, and there was every likelihood of the whole district being taken up by the end of 1907. No part of this district had a church within twenty miles, and most of it was not within a hundred miles of the nearest church.

Thus the Bishop was face to face with the problem of providing ministrations over a country just opened up,