

ing these difficulties, good work has been done during the year, partly among the white population and partly among the aborigines.

Mr. Nisbet writes, "The church is well filled every Sabbath. We have fortnightly Sabbath service in the house of one of the settlers six miles west of this, and an occasional service in another's seven miles east, and in each of these sections a fortnightly prayer meeting is held. In the church a Sabbath school, Bible class, and weekly lecture are maintained. The communion was held November 30th, when *eleven* names were added to the roll. Five of those received were members of our Church in Ontario and Manitoba, five were connected with the Episcopal Church in this country, and one was received on examination. There are 44 names on the Communion Roll. There have been 21 baptisms since September, 1872. Of those baptized, three were adult Indians and *six* were Indian children. There have been two marriages during the same period, one of which was that of an Indian couple.

The Indians do not come about the mission to the same extent now as in past years, and when any large number is in the neighbourhood, they usually make their camp about two miles from the mission premises. The Christian Indians are regular in their attendance at Church, but very few of the heathen come to the public services; nevertheless many of them hear a great deal of Christian truth from their private talks with Mr. McKay." Mr. Nisbet also mentions that there are at present four Indian children, two boys and two girls, under the charge of the mission.

During Mr. Nisbet's absence in Canada the charge of the mission devolved entirely on Rev. Edward Vincent, who reached Prince Albert immediately before the senior missionary left for what proved a somewhat lengthened visit to Ontario. The change decided upon last year by the committee, involving the abandonment of the farming operations which were necessary in the earlier stages of the work, have been carried out and nearly completed by Messrs. Nisbet and Vincent, and it is hoped that in future they will be found beneficial. Rev. Edward Vincent has tendered to the committee his resignation of his position as a missionary to the Indians. His reasons are given at length in a document, in which he presents with clearness and force his views in reference to the present unsettled condition of the country, and the best mode of accomplishing the work which requires to be done among the Indians of the North-west. From the decided conviction which Mr. Vincent expressed in reference to his duty to retire from the work, the committee felt themselves under the necessity of accepting his resignation. This was accordingly done, and the acceptance will take effect on the 1st July. From the time of his arrival in Manitoba until that date, Mr. Vincent has been instructed to place himself under the direction of the Home Mission Committee.

During the year, new ground has been occupied by the appointment of Mr. George Flett to labor among the Indians in the neighbourhood of Fort Pelly. Mr. Flett, on account of his thorough familiarity with the Cree language and acquaintance with Indian habits and modes of thought, has very special adaptation for usefulness in this field of labour. He has been very highly recommended to the committee as an earnest and devoted Christian worker. Mr. Flett has received a cordial welcome from the officers of the Hudson Bay Company, and has commenced his labours under favourable auspices. He finds a large number of Indians in the region, but they are much scattered and consequently difficult of access. We hope to hear from time to time good accounts of the labours of this earnest Christian layman.

In accordance with the instructions of last Assembly, your committee took steps to select for the young women then reported as preparing for foreign service, a suitable field, and to send them to it. After careful inquiry, India was chosen as on the whole the most promising. And as the Canada Presbyterian Church has no missionaries under whose protection and guidance they could labour, it was decided to place them under the control and care of the Board of Foreign Missions, of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. The brethren of that Board in the very kindest manner undertook this duty, and aided in every way in their power your committee in carrying out the instructions of