

St. John's College, Winnipeg, will spend his vacation in helping on this good work. He was formerly Catechist at this point, and is much beloved by the people. The Rupert's Land Indian School, will, it is hoped, be able to render some assistance by sending out a carpenter, and some boys to do part of the work. We should be very pleased if some of our readers would help in this matter, and will gladly forward contributions that may be sent to us. We print Mr. Prewer's appeal below.

"Wabuskang is a new mission, with only two Christians. It is a very wild out-of-the-way spot, two or three days journey north of Eagle River Station, on the Canadian Pacific Railway. There is no other white man within many miles, and Mr. Woods' life is most lonely and trying. He would be most grateful for Canadian church papers, some nice pictures or texts, and of course can make good use of warm clothing, etc. Mail matter and freight, should be addressed, 'Mr. Woods, Wabuskang, Eagle River Station, C. P. R.' As Mr. Woods' salary is very small, it would be a great boon if friends could as far as possible pay all freight charges.

"Mr. Pritchard, of Lac Seul, would be grateful for a Communion table cloth, size 5 x 3 feet."

We have been informed that most gratifying news has been received of Mr. Canham's work in the Youcon Valley. Many Indians have lately attached themselves to the Mission, and the prospects are very encouraging.

The Rupert's Land Indian school, and the schools at Elkhorn, continue to make satisfactory progress. At the former, farm buildings and a printing shop are being erected, and a smithy is now in operation.

In May of last year a new Mission was opened at Shoal River, Diocese of Rupert's Land. The lay missionary in charge, Mr. E. H. Bassing, sends the following account of the beginning of his work.

"SHOAL RIVER MISSION,

"FORT PELLY P.O., ASSA.

"It is with very great pleasure that I make this, my first report to the Society. I propose commencing from the time I arrived here, which was on May 3rd, 1890.

"Arriving at Shoal River House, H. B. Co'y., I was accorded a most hearty welcome by Mr. MacKay and family, who proposed my staying with them until the Monday following. I very gladly acceded, as I had been on the road for nine days, camping out each night without a tent. On the Sunday, we had service with a fair congregation. Monday morning found us on the way to the Reserve, a distance of eleven miles, where we arrived in due course. Here, too, I had a very encouraging welcome from the Indians, who had for a long time been wishing for a teacher. By previous arrangement through

the Indian agent, the largest Indian house on the Reserve had been hired for a temporary school-house and my own use. The house had been cleaned by the Indians, and made as comfortable as possible for me under the circumstances. On Wednesday, May 7th, I opened school for the first time, commencing with fourteen pupils. Within a month the number grew to thirty-eight. At the present time the total number of children on the register is forty-four; rather more than half that number are regular attendants; the others being frequently absent with their parents on hunting expeditions.

"By the commencement of October, we were able to take possession of our permanent school-house, and I at Bachelor's Hall. The cost of both buildings (not very elegant), was defrayed by the Government; they were built by the Indians. The children who had not been initiated into the mysteries of A B C, have made most remarkable progress, which has given me much cause for encouragement.

"Each Sunday I have two services, consisting in the morning of Morning Prayer with the Litany, and in the afternoon, Evening Prayer. The attendance at all the services has been remarkably good, even when they were taken in English, which, with two exceptions, the people do not understand.

"I have been endeavouring to learn the Cree language, and have so far succeeded that I am able to read the services from the Cree Prayer-book fairly well.

"On the first Sunday in each month, I hold services at Shoal River House, the attendance at which is also very good; the services on these occasions are taken in English.

"In the early part of December, we received a visit from the Rev. John Sinclair, and although his visit was a very short one, yet the outcome of it gave us much cause for thankfulness. On the Sunday he baptised three infants and five adults, and joined two couples in holy matrimony; throughout the day the building was crowded by the Indians, many of whom were heathen.

"I do not think the day is far distant when almost all the Indians here will have become Christians. If only we could receive the visit of a clergyman more frequently, much good might be effected thereby.

"On Christmas eve, through the kindness of some friends, I was enabled to give all the children a treat, consisting of bread, cake and tea (which I had to make myself), followed by a liberal distribution of candies and Christmas cards. The whole thing was quite a novelty to them, but none the less enjoyed, judging by their happy faces and enormous stowage capacities.

"On Christmas day, we had [a good service with large attendance.

"EDWARD H. BASSING."