

was a great event on board and was celebrated by the best dinner that the old historic ship could provide. Besides performing the wedding service Lieutenant Gordon and perhaps more especially Dr. Bell, had brought other assistance. They had not forgotten the Mission house, and in fact had brought as a gift from well-wishers in Canada, the lumber and materials for a small house. This was the first definite step gained in the establishment of the Mission and it was a decided triumph over the opposition of the H. B. Co. A difficulty now arose to find some means of landing and storing the lumber until it could be constructed into a dwelling, for Mr. Gordon was obliged to put it ashore where most convenient and the officers of the Co. refused all assistance whatever. Consequently Mr. Lofthouse and his bride having to go on to York by the ship, the lumber was left on the shore all winter. The following summer (1886) Mr. and Mrs. Lofthouse returned by boat to Churchill where he single-handed commenced the erection of his Mission house. Soon afterwards the Alert arrived and some assistance was given in the raising of the frame of the house by the ship's hands. Until late in the fall the Missionary and his wife were obliged to live in a little iron church 16 x 20 which had been sent up from York some years before, for they were refused admission by the Chief Officer of the District for even an hour into the Co's. houses. They were therefore obliged to seek shelter for several months in this little shell of a church, which was little better than a barn, and quite incapable of keeping out rain, frost or snow. During these months both Mr. and Mrs. Lofthouse were working as best they could at the building of their new house, a task by no means easy for hands that had not before known the use of tools. But through sheer necessity (for they would have perished soon in the little church) they managed to get their house closed in, and in that condition occupied it till the next summer when the work was completed, or at least sufficiently so to make a habitable dwelling. Thus the Mission was established and regular services held in the little iron church. In 1890 through the severe illness of Mrs. Lofthouse they with their little daughter were obliged to go to England. Their journey was made via Winnipeg, then by rail to New York and home to England. While Mrs. Lofthouse was undergoing treatment, her husband was not idle. He availed himself of this opportunity to raise funds for a new church at Churchill and was quite successful, many friends giving him liberal assistance. The result was that in the summer of 1891, they returned bringing with them a handsome new church.

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### JUNIOR SECRETARY'S REPORT.

ANCASTER JUNIOR BRANCH (St. John's)—Sent parcel of 86 new articles for sale. Burk's Falls, Algoma. Materials \$5.00 freight 40c.