

ative form, in order that a little wholesome emulation way lead to better results in the future. The full returns by parishes will be found in the March, April, June and July issues of this magazine.

MOOSONEE.

BISHOP HORDEN, some account of whose work was given in the June issue of this magazine, has written to the Christian public as follows:—

MY DEAR CHRISTIAN FRIEND:

For several years past I have been obliged to write in a somewhat minor key, inasmuch as the hand of God had lain heavily on us in various forms, and we had almost come to fear that He had forgotten to be gracious; each summer we were visited by some devastating epidemic, which carried off both old and young, making both our hearths and hearts desolate. In 1885 the number of deaths doubled that of the births, many of those dying being our young married men, the strength of the settlement. Our mourning has at length been turned into joy; God's countenance is again shining upon us, and we can sing the anthem of gladness instead of the dirge of sorrow. In speaking of the last, I can speak of one of the happiest of our years, of life more than death; for the losses of former years have been quite made up; deaths of course we have had, but they were very few, only nine, instead of 24 in 1885, and 26 in 1884, while of births we had no less than 29. We had scarcely any sickness beyond a slight cold or two, while some of those who died, had the happiest of deaths, one of them, an experienced Indian woman, longing to depart that she might be with her Saviour. The healthiness of the place is to be attributed, under God, to our long and beautiful summer; the river broke up in April, and did not close again until the middle of November, and we had but few cold, northerly storms, so that there was not only good health, but our garden produce was much more abundant than usual. Add to this that our annual ship arrived and departed in safety; altogether you must see that we have cause to take up the psalmist's words, and say, "Bless the Lord, O my Soul."

In the beginning of the year I had both Mr. Peck and Mr. Nevitt with me; the former left in February for Fort George and Whale River, where he labours as one of the most faithful of spiritual stewards among his much loved Eskimo and Indian children; this is given in a few words, but no one unacquainted with Moosonee can at all comprehend the hardship and privation sustained by our brother in this journey. Towards the end of June he returned to Moose, where he remained nearly a month, while his boat was being finished, when, taking his good wife with him, he set out for his home in the northern wilderness, where, I trust, they will both be long spared to labour for the Master in their high and holy calling.

Mr. Nevitt left me in the beginning of March

for Rupert's House, to commence a permanent mission there; this is a most important station, which I have wished to occupy for upwards of a quarter of a century. I have done so now at considerable inconvenience, as I have no assistant in all the duties, ministerial, episcopal, and scholastic, which fall upon me. I had hoped to receive a clergyman from England during the year, but was disappointed. The establishment of the mission has entailed a very heavy expense on one; among other things I have imported the materials for building a good and substantial Mission House from home. Besides attending to Rupert's House, Mr. Nevitt, during the summer, visited the outposts connected therewith.

Martin's Falls, a station in the Albany district, I likewise occupied last year with a man in every way qualified for it, possessing a good knowledge of both the English and Indian languages, with great personal influence among many of the Indian tribes; at no place in the Diocese was a missionary more needed, it is dark and heathenish; but how could it be otherwise, when so few who resorted to it for the purposes of trade ever heard of Him, who is the light of the world. Let us hope that this may soon become one of the brightest spots in Moosonee. For the support of this mission I am myself accountable.

I have not yet heard from Mr. Payne, who last year wrote me from Prince of Wales Sound, in the Hudson's Straits, where he had been stationed by the Canadian government for meteorological and other observations, and where he was much moved by the spiritual and temporal misery in which the Eskimo with whom he came in contact lay; his remaining in the Straits depends upon the station's being kept up by the Canadian government; should it be abandoned, I hope I may be able to place Mr. Payne, as an ordained missionary, at Ungava Bay, where he would have access to the Eskimo, not only of Hudson's Straits, but likewise of the Labrador coast. This mission, for the support of which I am responsible, was thrust upon me in the course of God's providence, and I could not refuse to accept its charge.

The Rev. G. S. and Mrs. Winter have, I am most happy to say, returned to York Factory, and that district is being efficiently worked by two able missionaries, Messrs. Winter and Lofthouse; the district is large, and has on it people speaking the English, Cree, Eskimo, and Chipewyan languages; Mr. Lofthouse's destination is Fort Churchill, but I don't know whether he has yet been able to occupy it or not.

Archdeacon Vincent has returned to Albany, after having seen his translation of the Pilgrim's Progress through the press in England; the work reflects great credit on him, and will prove of very much benefit to the whole of the Crees of the diocese; on his way home he passed through his district, remaining for some days at Osnaburgh and Martin's Falls.

The Rev. John Saunders is working hard in his