

Historical Sketch of the Origin and Work of the Hay River Mission, Great Slave Lake, N.W.T.

THE Indians of Tenni or Slavi tribe, who are the resident Indians at Hay River, asked Bishop Reeve for a missionary to be sent to work among them. In the year 1893 on the 29th of June, Mr. T. J. Marsh (later Rev. T. J. Marsh) was sent to begin the work. Mr. Marsh lived with the Chief, whose name was "Chantla," during the summer, and spent his spare moments in clearing the trees off a piece of land on which he purposed to put up a dwelling for himself.

During the following winter logs were hewn, a schoolroom erected and a house partially finished. The roof was put on on May 1st by Mr. Marsh and Sheridan Lawrence, who had been sent to assist him. He had arrived March 28th, 1894. Rev. William Spendlove came on March 18th, 1894, from Fort Resolution, on a visit to Mr. Marsh.

Previous to this Mr. Marsh had begun a little school on October 11th. The first class assembled in the rooms