

letter in the present number of the "Notices." The sanctuary for worship at Oxford House should be completed,—the Mission premises repaired,—a Teacher appointed for the school,—and Mr. Sinclair, a native assistant, more fully authorised to extend his services to what he calls "Oxford District." His letter is interesting and suggestive. Who will give? and who will go?

*From Mr. J. SINCLAIR, Assistant Missionary, dated Oxford House, Dec. 15, 1870.*

No doubt Bro. Young at Norway House, informed you that the frame of our church was blown down by a terrible hurricane that happened here about the beginning of June last, just as I was preparing to log it; and as all the men were away boating, and none to help me to put up again such a heavy building, I could not do anything to it; and since that time I have not done anything but only making preparations and getting out the timber for boards, so as to be ready to put up next spring. Several pieces and posts were broken, but I got out the whole this summer: better pieces than the former ones. Some pieces never pleased me at the first, and I was not very sorry when the frame was blown down and the very pieces were broken.

I am very anxious to have the church finished, for it is a very great inconvenience for our family, having our dining-room for a church, and holding all our meetings in that small room; and often do we find it far too small when all the people are at home.

As regards our temporal welfare, our fishing season was blessed with abundance, and most of the people were successful, and we also had a good crop of potatoes, which is a very great help to a family in a country like this. I had no less than 150 bushels of potatoes this fall, and many of the Indians had 50, 40, and 20 bushels, &c.

Upon the whole, I think this Mission is improving both temporally and spiritually. The people are coming forward and build themselves comfortable houses, and make gardens where they raise potatoes and other vegetables; and every year you see a house or two erected. And here, in this isolated wilderness, far from the busy haunts of man and the world, they are regular and attentive to the means of

grace, both public and private; and very soon they will collect from all quarters to celebrate their Christmas and New Year's festivities, and the Quarterly Meeting. There are many who are in earnest for their soul's salvation, fearing God and working righteousness; and many a song of praise and triumph has ascended to God in the prospect of death.

Trusting in God and in the strength he gives, I am endeavoring to push forward the work of God; and I verily believe there is a good work going on amongst this people. I have been trying, during the past year, to be very regular and attentive to both places, and to the work whereto I was appointed, and I am happy to find that God is crowning my feeble efforts with success.

I fully expected to have the pleasure of seeing you in the summer, when I expected to talk over the state of the work and its requirements, but I was disappointed, and will be, I presume, for a while.

I am very anxious for the School, but my health and constitution will not allow me to attend to it. Let the Missionary Society lay upon me any amount of labor and appointments they please, I will attend to it willingly and cheerfully; but as far as the school is concerned I cannot, although I would be very happy to do it, but it does not agree with my health and constitution. I have often written to the brethren about it, and I think I wrote to Dr. Wood once about it, and instead of some arrangement being made I have been pressed into it, besides attending to my pastoral duties as a Missionary, and other affairs connected with this Mission, and doing everything for myself.

I have formed three classes, and we have at the Mission at present one