

MISSION WORK IN ALGOMA.

The little village of Maganettawan is very picturesquely situated away up among the hills of Parry Sound. It is about 170 miles north of Toronto and is reached by taking train north to Burk's Falls, thence boat down the river Maganettawan to the village. Tourists in great numbers assemble at Burk's Falls, eager to catch the daily boat down the river. This is stated to show the importance of the river in the estimation of the pleasure-seeker. And, when I say the river, I must not fail to state that lake expansions, studded with islands change the scene, so that it is impossible to lose interest as one winds in and out among the hills passing *en route* to the terminus of boat connection.

By land it is sixteen miles from Burk's Falls to Maganettawan. By boat it is twenty-eight. From this can be inferred the presence of many crooks and turns. So much is this the case, that the river has been likened to the Firth of Forth in Scotland. In fact, the many tourists with whom I came in contact pronounced it the prettiest and most interesting river they had ever seen. Maganettawan is an Indian word, meaning "fast running water." It is a true nomenclature, as falls and rapids here and there are experienced.

It was some time in May that I took my stand on the deck of the Glen Rosa and steamed off down the river, wondering at the beauty of nature, pleased with the appearance of the new coat just beginning to deck the hillsides.

Reaching my destination I was placed in most comfortable quarters and prepared for the summer's work.

The Mission of Maganettawan had been worked most successfully for eight years by the Rev. A. G. Young, now Incumbent of North Bay. He left the Mission about fifteen months prior to my arrival. That fifteen months was a period of desolation. The "branch" had begun to wither, the "leaves" to drop off and be swallowed by Nonconformists.

Three stations fell to my charge, viz:—Maganettawan, Midlothian and Dunchurch. It was ten miles from Maganettawan to Midlothian and thirteen miles to Dunchurch. This made a stretch of twenty-three miles from extremity to extremity. Then of course the people were scattered. Some eight miles and some more or less, ranging themselves around the three stations.

You can imagine, therefore, it required a vast amount of parochial work to re-organize the services of the Church. However, the result was satisfactory. The people proved themselves most willing to help, spiritual life was visibly increased, and the torch of the grand old Church of England was again set burning.