

Our Indian Department.

Edited by Rev. W. A. Burman, B.D., Principal of the Rupert's Land Indian Industrial School, St. Paul's, Manitoba. Missionaries having items of interest regarding the Indians will kindly forward them to Mr. Burman.



THE Bishop of Athabasca removed from Fort Vermilion, Peace River, to Fort Chipewyan, on Lake Athabasca, in July. He was accompanied by Mrs. Young and their children, and Mr. Melrose, a lay agent of the Mission. The journey down the Peace River took fourteen days, and was made in a birch bark canoe, propelled by the bishop and Mr. Melrose. The weather was tolerably fine, and the bishop adds in his letter "mosquitoes very reasonable." Those who understand the "manners and customs" of the mosquito will grasp the full importance of that "sweet reasonableness."

ARCHDEACON REEVE, Church Missionary Society, who has labored for many years at Fort Chipewyan, has gone to England on leave of absence. He made an effort to do so by way of Alaska, so that he might visit the C. M. S. stations on the Yukon, but found it was scarcely practicable this year. He, however, went down the Mackenzie River some distance, and saw Bishop Bompas at his distant post. That noble worker has once again deferred his long-promised visit to civilized parts, believing that his beloved Indians and his work require his presence another year. He has steadily kept to his post, amid great trials and many hardships, since 1874.

GARDEN River Mission, Diocese of Algoma, is now under the charge of Rev. J. Irvine, for six or seven years past in charge of the C. M. S. Lac Seul or Lonely Lake Mission. He is succeeded

there by Rev. J. G. Anderson, J.A., who was last summer in charge of the C. M. S. Mission at Long Sault, Rainy River District.

LAC SEUL is in the Diocese of Rupert's Land. It is a fine lake about 50 miles in length with bold, rocky shores, clothed with pine. The Indians are Ojibways, and Mr. Irvine's work among them has been greatly blessed. During the past summer the Bishop of Rupert's Land confirmed ten persons there, and eight others at Frenchman's Head, an outstation about fifteen miles away. All travelling in these regions is by canoe in summer and by dog train in winter.

THE Rupert's Land Indian School building is now all but completed. It is hoped the school will be ready for the children about the beginning of December.

THE many friends of Rev. J. G. Brick, of Smoky River, will be glad to hear that the operations of the year have been fairly successful, and that Mr. and Mrs. Brick and family are reported well.

THE PIEGAN MISSION.

A LETTER FROM REV. H. T. SOURNE.

I tendering my very grateful thanks to the many contributors to this fund, I must apologize for some little delay in publishing the long-promised statement, at the same time giving particulars of the commencement of our work. The cause of the delay was, First, some promised contributions had not come in, and, secondly, I wished to give some definite information. With regard to that commencement I have been requested to make some special acknowledgments, but really I am at a loss to particularize them. Everything seemed *special*, so *special* seemed the urgency of the demand for aid in erecting our "Mission Home."* And now the work is begun in earnest, although there are many unforeseen expenses which were not included in the original estimate, and it is a matter of certainty that the sum in hand will not be sufficient to carry out the original design, namely, of a combined church and school in addition to the "Home." The intention is to build a school or class room, with a small chancel at one end, to be cut off by folding-doors; this to be used during divine service.

We have sufficient faith in the liberality and large-heartedness of the people of Eastern Canada to believe that this will be carried out. A sum of one thousand dollars is still required to complete this undertaking, besides seven of our pupils to be provided for at twenty-five dollars a year. Upon my return to my mission after my long absence I received a very hearty welcome from the Indians, who complained of my having left them so long and said they had been eagerly looking for me.

*A statement of the amounts contributed will be found in another column of this magazine.—Ed.