



MOOSONEE CATHEDRAL (NEARER VIEW).

district, and will have travelled 1800 miles. The Rev. E. J. Peck is on his way to Ongava, at the entrance of Hudson's straits, having already made long journeys by dog sledge and canoe; he will have travelled 1600 miles. The Rev. J. J. Winter is travelling to Trout Lake and Severn, through a very difficult country; he will have travelled 1200 miles. The Rev. J. Lofthouse is on his way to York and Churchill, and will arrive at the former station by the end of September; he will have travelled 2000 miles. All these journeys are performed by canoe; neither railroad nor steamer exists in the diocese."

The homes of the clergy are at the principal Hudson Bay posts, and from these centres they make their periodic visitations to the various Indian tribes, etc. The population is estimated at about 10,000, consisting of a small number of whites in the service of the Hudson Bay Company (who have fur stations scattered over the entire countries), Half-castes, Eskimo, Ojibeways, Crees, and Chippeways. There is no immigration at all. The few Europeans are all connected with the fur trade; the Indians are all hunters, and carry on their occupation during the winter, and bring their furs to the various trading posts in the early summer, when they exchange them for European clothing, flour, guns, ammunition, etc. A few of them are employed during the summer to transport trading goods to the distant stations.

Like civilized nations, some of the tribes are provident and others very improvident; these latter are often in deep distress and danger of starvation.

In a letter, the Bishop speaks of visiting Rupert's House, on the Mission boat, and finding numbers of the Indians had died of starvation from failure of the deer, which were formerly so numerous in their hunting ground. He adds: "It greatly pained my heart when asking for one or another to receive the answer, 'He was starved to death two years ago,' or 'She died of starvation some time ago.' I trust the worst is over now (1885), and that such stories of misery and death as I was constrained to listen to will never fall on my ears again."

In the same letter he adds: "I commenced a house for a clergyman whilst there, but the greater part of the material will come from England. Indeed, speaking in a general way, everything that is eaten or worn or used comes from England. A Hudson Bay Company's vessel leaves London about June every year to bring the needed supplies, and should an accident happen to detain it, there is no possibility of getting anything in any other way. One year, some time ago, the ship was wrecked *en route*, and the whole of the staff at the different posts were in danger of starvation. Since then a year's supplies are always kept ahead to prevent such a dire calamity." The bishop tells of many an anxious season when the ship was delayed and they had almost given up hope of receiving their physical and mental food from the outside world. Only lately have they had mails sent to Moosonee more than once a year, and that by the Hudson Bay ships; now they are forwarded from Mattawa three or four times a year.