

from ill health, had to return home to Europe; and for seven years the Stone Indians were without a missionary. They, however, remained true to their faith and the teachings of Mr. Rundle; the Sabbath was religiously observed and family prayer was never neglected.

In 1856 the Rev. Thomas Woolsey replaced Mr. Rundle as missionary for the Edmonton House Crees and Mountain Stonies. He was accompanied by the Rev. Henry Steinhaur, who commenced the Whitefish Lake Mission and is still in the District. Mr. Woolsey, after nine years' faithful service in the field, returned to Canada, much esteemed and respected by all. It was during Mr. Woolsey's term that the chief "Supotuck," through his teachings and prayers, embraced Christianity and became a staunch supporter of the missionaries; his very sudden death in the plains in 1861 was a sad loss to the whites in general.

In 1862 the Rev. George McDougall visited the Saskatchewan, returning again with his family in 1863, and at once commenced the Missions of Victoria and Woodville (Pigeon Lake). Buildings were erected for dwellings and school-houses, teachers secured, and from that time to the present date he has been eminently successful in all his missionary enterprises. When Mr. McDougall came to the Saskatchewan in 1863, there were no Protestant schools in the District; and to-day there are five mission stations, with five schools, churches, and comfortable parsonages attached. These are facts which speak for themselves.

All this has been accomplished in the face of many difficulties. Much time is lost by the missionaries being obliged to go out to the plains to collect provisions for the winter. And in time of scarcity of buffalo, the starving Indians come flocking in from the plains to the mission stations, and the hard-earned stock of missionary provisions has to be given away to the Indians. Labour in the Saskatchewan is both expensive and scarce.

All sorts of imported merchandise are very dear, owing to the long land carriage. For instance, a sack of flour, 100 lbs., costs twenty dollars; sugar, fifty dollars per 100 lbs.; and salt the same. People in Canada can hardly realize such fabulous prices; but these are things of the past, and we look forward to a brighter future.

To the north of the Saskatchewan are the Districts of English River, Athabasca, and McKenzie's River. The mission field in the two former Districts is entirely occupied by the Roman Catholic clergy, and the Church Missionary Society share the McKenzie River District with them. The number of Protestant missionaries has, however, been greatly increased the past year, and the District of Athabasca has been formed into a bishopric. Bishop Bompas has travelled much among the Indians of the McKenzie's River and Athabasca Districts, and from the facility and quickness with which he picks up languages is well fitted for the work in those remote regions.

The Roman Catholic clergy are most self-denying and indefatigable in their missionary work, and much good is done for the poor orphans and children of the Company's French servants by "The Sisters of Charity," who keep school at every mission station they reside at. They are most hospitable and kind to travellers and strangers who may visit their stations.

In conclusion I would remark that the Rev. Mr. McDougall has not only laboured himself in the missionary field, but has given his son to the work also, who is at present establishing the Blackfoot Mission at Bow River; a work for which he is well fitted in every respect. I am well acquainted with the young man, and was present at his ordination in Grace Church, Winnipeg, by the Rev. Dr. Punshon, in August, 1872.

Whilst bearing testimony to the zeal and self-denial of the missionaries, I must say that every praise is due to the noble women, who casting their lot with their partners in life, have gone out into those distant and remote