

A BISHOP IN THE WILDS.

His Lordship of Peterborough Returns After a Month's Absence to the North.

PETERBOROUGH, Aug. 21.—His Lordship Bishop O'Connor has returned from an episcopal trip to some of the parishes in the northern part of the diocese of Peterborough. The tour was of an official character. He returns with a fine color of health and agility of movement that indicates he has been benefited by his trip. He travelled all day and even at night sometimes. His journey covered a vast territory in the roughest part of the province. He preached here, lectured or addressed a congregation there, blessed churches and inspected schools at other places, and is back to the head of the diocese buoyant in spirit, and prepared with fresh vigor for his work.

The tour began on July 28th, when, accompanied by Mr. John O'Brien, a student for the priesthood, he left Peterborough for Owen Sound. There he took one of the O.P.R. steamers and sailed through beautiful Georgian Bay to Sault Ste. Marie, and thence to Port Arthur. Bishop O'Connor's labors commenced at Port Arthur. In Fort William the Catholic Church has a convent and church, both of which are now structures, the original buildings having been destroyed by fire two years ago. Across the river from the town is an Indian reservation where there is a school and an Indian orphanage, in which the Bishop takes pardonable pride. The orphanage is the home of forty Indian children, who are trained in religion, education and mechanics. To the Bishop the visit to the Indian missions, which number eight, was very interesting. He found the work flourishing, though the labors of the priests were of the most arduous nature. The Indians are Ojibways and are nearly all Catholics. That is the case nearly all along Lake Superior and in Algoma, but in southern Ontario, as his Lordship remarked, the Indians are mostly Protestants. The livelihood of the Indians is obtained principally by fishing in the summer and hunting in the winter. The reserves are many, but the population in each small. The Catholic Indian population is over two thousand. The priests in charge have no easy task. They travel by canoe in summer and in different ways in the winter.

On coming down the O. P. R. from Port Arthur the Bishop had to leave the train and take a 68 mile trip by canoe to Michipicoten. He was accompanied by some Indian canoeists, Mr. O'Brien and a priest, and the trip was one of the experiences that the Bishop will always remember. They had to make several portages, ranging as long as three or four miles. A portage in that part of the country is not to be compared with one in Eastern or Michigan. In Algoma the path is wide enough to walk and no more. The bottom is rock, which one would think had been trodden around carefully to prevent a passage. A thick forest fenced the path off, and several times the bishop got into camp wet to the skin, after a rain the trees and underbrush soon soaked the traveller through. At other times the heat was intense, as it was during the first three weeks of trip. The flies and mosquitoes were abundant. At night the party camped in the best spot available and were away early in the morning again. Nearing the end of the trip the exciting incident occurred and a bear was the cause. The canoe was gliding along a long narrow lake when a bear, black and thin, was espied swimming towards shore. The Indians' hunting spirit was aroused and they started in pursuit. Being without guns the chances of procuring the animal were small, but two of the red men were armed with bows, arrows and made wooden arrows while the others the bishop amongst them, prevented the bear from landing, which was a difficult thing as brain shooting and they could not risk coming close to his person. The rude weapons did not prove fatal and finally the animal got to shore and ran over the rocks to a berry patch and the party proceeded on their journey, the longest and most tedious of the tour. At an Indian service the Bishop preached in English, his sermon being translated into Ojibway by the priest. The priest always preaches in the Indian tongue, though some of the Indians understand French and English, but they prefer their own tongue. One of the Indian missions, that of Rev. Father Specht, is 460 miles in extent, an indication that the missionary's life is one of toil and hardship. Speaking of the honorable trait of an Indian, his lordship alluded to the fact that Indians trapped in distinct sections of country and never trespass on each other's grounds. The Indians were not increasing in numbers, but were only holding their own. The priest usually said mass about every two months at each reserve and the Indians always turned out well. The schools were fairly well attended, and on the whole the Indian missions were found in an encouraging condition. As an instance of a missionary's life the bishop said that during the winter while the priest was travelling to one of the reserves he frequently slept in a bed in the snow, a blanket being his only covering. The English list parishes which his lordship visited are situated on the line of the O. P. R. between Sudbury and Port William, and along the Soo branch

80 miles south west of Sudbury. None of these places are large, being only railroad points, and the priest usually is pastor over half a dozen places. From Sudbury west, Chapleau, Cartor and Schreiber, railway divisional points where the railroad employees reside, are the leading stations. In Balfour and Rayside the principal Catholic settlement is found, there being 250 Catholic families. The land in these townships is good and in Balfour coal was being found. Lunenburg and Biezard, two unorganized townships, further north, were unsettled, but the land promised to be fertile. During the Bishop's absence he confirmed 517 candidates; blessed three new churches—Custer, Blind River and Wahpatao—erected during the past twelve months, as well as two cemeteries. At every point he visited he was cordially received by the people.

The Bishop thinks the section of country along the O. P. R. will never amount to anything unless there comes a mining boom. The rock is plentiful, but the fertile land is scarce. The occupation of the land is principally railroading and the little villages are inhabited by them, along with a few business men. Along the Soo line, in or around Wahpatao and Massey, his Lordship says things are at present dull, the inactivity in lumbering being the cause. The reason is attached to the uncertainty regarding the Government's intention towards the lumber duties to be imposed to meet the action of the American Government through the Dingley Bill. In other years, the Bishop states, traffic was large at this time of year, as men were beginning to move into the lumber camps, but this is not the case this year and the people in the north are certainly depressed, feeling the winter will be hard for the men who usually go into the woods to earn a livelihood.

Bishop O'Connor leaves next month on another trip, which will take him in the parishes between North Bay and Sudbury and those in the upper part of Parry Sound. He will be away for six weeks. The diocese of Peterborough is one of the most extensive in the province, extending from Lake Ontario, through to Lake Superior, and the Bishop's task in supervising these is onerous.

Mayor Bingham Honoured.

OTTAWA, Aug. 24.—Mayor Bingham was invited to preside with the insignia of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, to which he has been admitted by the Pope. The honour is bestowed by his Holiness upon those who have proven themselves zealous sons of the Church and excellent citizens. The title of his Excellency wherever the Pope has temporal power. Charvalier Bingham, as he is now designated, gave his half year's salary as Mayor to the charitable institutions, both Catholic and Protestant, and the last half year's salary is to be divided among the hospitals. He has founded a public square in a hitherto neglected part of the city.

LATEST MARKETS.

FLUCTUATIONS IN WHEAT. New York, Aug. 25.—The wheat market here is somewhat lax. Foreign buyers bought and sold wheat on opening, but sold most. The main cause of the break was the liquidation of long wheat in both markets, higher prices are expected to rule again. The following are the quotations on the New York Produce Exchange to-day, together with the closing prices of the previous day:—

Table with columns: Previous day, Open, High, Low, Close. Rows include Wheat, Sept, Oct, and Chicago, Aug 25.

TOBACCO MARKETS. Wheat is dull, two loads of hay selling at 88c. New York is steady at 25c. Hay steady, 16c loading at \$3 to \$9 a ton. One load of straw sold at \$7 75 a ton. Dressed hog nominal at \$7 25 to \$7 50.

Table with columns: Wheat white, do red, do extra, etc. Prices listed in cents and dollars.

All round the market is steady and unchanged. Pumps, per basket, 30c to 50c. Blackberries, per basket, 25c to 30c. Peaches, 30c to 35c per basket. New potatoes, 25c per basket. Apples, 25c per bushel. Watermelons, 20c to 25c each. Tomatoes, 20c to 30c per basket. Cucumbers, 10c to 15c per basket. Lima beans, per pound, 4c. Capasins, white per bushel, 10c. Oatmeal, yellow Danvers and silver skins, 20c to 30c per basket. Peas, 25c to 35c per basket. Apples, per basket, 15c to 35c. Sweet potatoes, per basket, 50c to 75c. Potatoes, 25c to 35c. Huckleberries, per basket, 8c to 10c; per case, \$1 25 to \$1 50.

Friend (making a call): "You are not looking very robust. Do you enjoy your health?" Mrs. Stay-at-Home (with a sigh): "Indeed I do! But I hardly ever have a chance to."

Advertisement for John Labatt's Ale and Porter, featuring the slogan 'If Your Digestive Powers are Deficient you need something new to Crantz and Maintain Strength for the Daily Round of Duties.'

Advertisement for The Dominion Brewery Co. Limited, Brewers and Maltsters, Queen St. East, Toronto. Features 'White Label Ale, India Pale & Amber Ales, XXX Porter.'

Advertisement for Jos. E. Seagram, Distiller and Miller, Waterloo, Ont. Celebrated Brands of Whiskies: "83," "Old Times," "White Wheat," "Malt."

Advertisement for Heintzman & Co., Piano. Features 'The Heintzman Tone' and 'Contour' pianos.

Advertisement for The O'Keefe Brewery Co. of Toronto, Ltd. and The Cosgrave Brewery Co. of Toronto, Ltd. Specializing in Ales and Brown Stouts.

Advertisement for Rice Lewis & Son, Cor. King & Victoria Streets, Toronto. Specializing in Brass and Iron Bedsteads.

Advertisement for Pure Drugs and Genuine Medicines, Lemaitre's Pharmacies, 256 and 68 Queen St. West.

Advertisement for The Home Savings and Loan Company Limited, established under legislative authority. Capital \$2,000,000. Office, No. 78 Church Street, Toronto.

Advertisement for Gold and Silver Mining Shares. Offered by E. Strachan Cox, 7 Toronto Street, Toronto.

Advertisement for Charles J. Murphy, Ontario Land Surveyor & C. Office: Cor. Richmond & Bay Sts., Toronto.

Advertisement for John Hanrahan, Carpenter Work. Office: No. 25 Maitland Street, Toronto.

Advertisement for Robert Powell, Monumental and Architectural Sculpture and Designers of Monuments.

Advertisement for F. B. Gullett & Sons, Monumental and Architectural Sculpture and Designers.

Advertisement for The Keely Treatment, for Ligors and Drug Addictions. 582 Sherbourne St., Toronto.

Advertisement for F. Rosar, Sr., Undertaker, 350 Yonge Street, Toronto.

Advertisement for J. Young, Undertaker & Embalmer, 350 Yonge Street, Toronto.

Advertisement for Western Assurance Company, Fire and Marine. Capital \$2,000,000. Head Office, Toronto, Ont.

Advertisement for Wm. A. Lee & Son, General Agents, 10 Adelaide St. East, Toronto.

Advertisement for The Temperance and General Life Assurance Co., offering the best plans and rates.

Advertisement for The York County Loan and Savings Co., established in 1870.

Advertisement for The Ontario Mutual Life Water-Proof Co., with over \$20,000,000 in force.

Advertisement for The Excelsior Life Insurance Co., with subscribed capital of \$354,900.