

an account of a Romish Mission Station. An unfavourable impression of Protestant Missions in Rupert's Land seems to have been created, some explanation of which may be found in the fact that the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel is only able to expend somewhat less than £400 a year in this diocese, and that though the Church Missionary Society is enabled to support as many as nineteen clergymen, its revenues are manifestly unequal to the task of evangelising so vast a territory. The blame, therefore, if any, rests with the general body of English Churchmen.

We quote the description of the presiding Romish priest :—

“Père Lacombe was an exceedingly intelligent man, and we found his society very agreeable. Although a French Canadian, he spoke English very fluently, and his knowledge of the Cree language was acknowledged by the half-breeds to be superior to their own. Gladly accepting his invitation to stay and dine, we followed him into his house, which contained only a single room, with a sleeping-loft above. The furniture consisted of a small table, and a couple of rough chairs, and the walls were adorned with several coloured prints, amongst which were a portrait of his holiness the Pope, another of the bishop of the Red River, and a picture representing some very substantial and stolid-looking angels, lifting very jolly saints out of the flames of purgatory. After a capital dinner on soup, fish, and dried meat, with delicious vegetables, we strolled round the settlement in company with our host. He showed us several very respectable farms, with rich corn-fields; large bands of horses, and herds of fat cattle. He had devoted himself to the work of improving the condition of his flock, had brought out at great expense ploughs and other farming implements for their use, and was at present completing a corn-mill to be worked by horse power. He had built a chapel, and established schools for the half-breed children. The substantial bridge we had crossed was the result of his exertions. Altogether, this little settlement was the most flourishing community we had seen since leaving Red River, and it must be confessed that the Romish priests far exceed their Protestant brethren in missionary enterprise and influence. They have established stations at Islo à la Crosse, St Alban's, St Ann's, and other places far out in the wilds, undeterred by danger or hardship, and, gathering half-breeds and Indians around them, have taught, with considerable success, the elements of civilisation as well as religion.”

After a short sojourn at Victoria, Vancouver's Island, undeterred by their former experiences, Lord Milton and Dr Cheadle undertook another journey, to visit the gold districts of Cariboo, of which a most graphic description is given.

The interest of the “North-West Passage” must be our apology for this long notice. We heartily commend the book to our readers, only adding that, besides its many other attractions, it is admirably illustrated, and printed in a type to which we only regret that publishers do not oftener treat the reading public.