

Future communications will, we expect, report religious and educational progress. We devoutly commend them and their work to God, who has said, "My presence shall go with thee." We commend them, their families, their labours, and their projects to all the friends of Wesleyan Missions, thankful that the period has come when we can send forth the first "Wesleyan Missionary Notices for Canada,"—and in confidence, that subsequent issues will tell—with valuable Canadian Missionary statements—of Bay labours nobly borne, and of spiritual benedictions obtained, now asked by many a pious suppliant, for the untutored population of the Northern wilderness.

*Extract of a Letter from the Reverend J. Ryerson, Co-Delegate, dated Fort Alexander, July 20th, 1854.*

Monday and Tuesday the 3rd and 4th inst., were busy days with us. The voyageurs were engaged in washing, drying, and in making various preparations for a long voyage; the people belonging to the station were busy in preparing three new canoes and in arranging our provisions, equipage, &c., &c. The canoes provided for us were entirely new; we saw them launched, or put into the water for the first time. They are indeed very fine water crafts. The *Birch Bark* canoe in which I go is thirty-three feet long, five feet two inches wide in the middle, from whence it tapers to both ends; it is two feet three inches deep and will carry twenty hundred weight, with six or eight voyageurs. Our luggage &c., will weigh fourteen or fifteen hundred; then there are Mr. and Mrs. Brooking, child, and myself, passengers, and six voyageurs. The other canoes are nearly as heavily laden as ours.

We commenced getting our things to the landing and loading the canoes immediately after breakfast on the morning of the 5th inst., but were not ready to start before 12½ o'clock. Our "shoving off" and getting under way was an exciting time. Three such large canoes carrying so large a company all abreast, and propelled, with eighteen paddles, striking the water with as much uniform exactness as the step of the best drilled soldiers, the voyageurs striking up the Canadian boat song, were scenes more exciting to me by a great deal, than any thing I ever experienced in embarking on a sea voyage. We paddled on until 3 o'clock and then stopped for dinner, which detained us an hour: after taking our repast, "all seated on the ground," we resumed our voyage which we con-

tinued to prosecute with great energy until 7 o'clock, when we stopped for the night on a pleasant spot of ground, twenty-six miles distant from the place of embarking at 12½ o'clock. This was our first night of "camping out," and to me it seemed novel enough. We had three tents, one occupied by Mr. Hurlburt and family, one by Mr. Salt and family, and one by Mr. Brooking, family and myself. Our tent was very large and therefore accommodated Mr. B., family and myself without inconvenience. The servant man Francis, whom Sir George had kindly provided for me, and who was of great service to us the whole voyage to Norway House, had the tea made and all matters connected properly arranged in the space of a half hour, and we sat down to our table on the ground with appetites well prepared to do justice to the good things that a watchful Providence had provided for us in the wilderness. The mosquitoes were exceedingly troublesome; and although during the first night of our encamping we were not troubled with the *black fly*, yet for several days subsequently this little winged insect was to us a source of no little annoyance.

On Thursday morning at 3½ we were called by the guide, Jock, and were in our canoes, under weigh, by fifteen minutes past 4. We had now to encounter numerous and very strong rapids, so that we did not reach the mountain portage, only distant twelve miles from where we slept the night before, until 2½ o'clock. The Kaministiquia river I found to be a much larger stream than I had supposed from its appearance at the mouth. In depth and width it is equal to the Grand River between Brantford and Dunnville. The banks