

delay. These Indians will be greatly disappointed if I fail to take them a few hymns, at least, on my next visit.

The chief, Jacob Bearns, was my interpreter and guide. He was very active, and much in earnest in speaking to the people.

Mr. Wm. Arthur, the H. B. Co. agent, and Mr. Geo. Brewer, the teacher, are doing good work in the Sabbath-school. May the Lord sustain them.

On my first visit I found one of our most faithful and exemplary Christians at the point of death. While acknowledging his unfaithfulness in serving God while in health, he was looked upon by all as an earnest and devoted Christian. He had always appeared to me as a man of a strong constitution, nor was he advanced in years. But now suffering from lung disease he was reduced to the weakness of a child. As I entered his tent I took him by the hand saying, "Well, brother, I am sorry to find you so very weak in body; what a change since I last saw you!" His eyes filled with tears, but he could not speak. Before I left, however, he was able to tell me that his faith was strong, his hope of heaven brightening every day, and that he was fully resigned to the will of God. About a week before my last visit, Sept. 15th, he passed away in peace. The school teacher read the burial service in Cree—which, I am told, was the first Christian burial service ever conducted at this place. The Indians were greatly solemnized, and deeply impressed by it.

Beren's River.—Here we have done a little toward improving the appearance of the interior of our church. The ceiling was finished with the old lumber out of the mission house; although "matched," it was not so in every particular—some painted, some papered; a few coats of whitewash covered up the many colors. At the same time I put a stained glass window in the north end—one having been placed in the south end when the building was erected. I also painted the platform, communion rail, reading desk, door, and windows. With these improvements, and a few repairs, our little church is quite changed in appearance inside. It should have a coat of paint outside to preserve the boards, which would also make it look finished. Our splendid new organ, of which I spoke in a former letter, is highly prized by young and old, and is a great attraction. Our congregational singing has greatly improved, although, strange to say, there are very few here who have any great talent for singing.

The Sabbath-school is becoming one of the most important factors in our work. Almost the whole congregation attends. Miss Parkinson and my brother, who is on a visit from Ontario, take charge of the junior classes. Mrs. L. and myself teach the adult classes. One of our young Indians (a half-breed), makes an excellent secretary and librarian.

I shall begin my next account with Grand Rapids.

WITHIN four weeks after news was received in England of the murder of Bishop Hannington, in the heart of Africa, the Church of England Missionary Society had fifty-three offers for the missionary service in that field. The apostolic spirit still dwells in the Church.

THE LAKE NIPISSING REGION.

Letter from the REV. S. HUNTINGTON, dated NORTH BAY, Nov. 27th, 1886.

THERE are nine churches and two parsonages in this field, which have been built within the past four years. These represent a corresponding system of organized congregations and pastoral oversight. In many a dark hour when the best efforts of human wisdom afforded no relief, "God said, Let there be light; and there was light."

During the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, I followed the advancing column of the Company's officers and men until they reached Spanish River Forks, and preached the Gospel to them as opportunity was found in their encampment. On the completion of the road I fell back on North Bay, and proceeded to strengthen and organize more completely the congregations and societies which had been previously created. It took me fully a year to do that satisfactorily. In the meantime interesting and populous villages were springing up at various points on the railway, to a distance of 260 miles in the direction of Port Arthur.

In the month of June last I resigned my charge in North Bay to Bro. J. D. Ellis, B.A., who has since been ordained for special purposes, and purchasing a large cotton tent, capable of holding eighty people, proceeded to hold evangelistic services at the various centres of population and business as far as Chapleau.

Two young men, viz., Messrs. Reed and Sargeant, belonging to Bro. Savage's Band, who had previously assisted me North Bay and elsewhere, joined me in this undertaking. The first series of services was held at the village of Sturgeon Falls. Souls were converted to God at this place. Some of them joined the Presbyterian and English churches, where we trust they may be useful. Others of them united with that form of Christianity which God had made use of to save them from perdition. An interesting society is now working and growing at this appointment, and a new church is nearly ready for use.

We next proceeded to Sudbury, where we worked hard for a week, without seeing very encouraging results. Since then, however, I have discovered several persons who were savingly converted through the instrumentality of these meetings.

A new church has been erected and occupied not far from the spot on which the tent formerly stood, and by the addition of new arrivals a strong society has been formed, which promises to be the most active and efficient church yet organized in the District of Nipissing.

From Sudbury we proceeded to Cartier, where we spent three days, preaching each evening among a people who appreciated the advantages of hearing the word of God. Among them were the son of the Rev. Arthur Browning, who is station agent at this place, and several persons who had been members of the Methodist Church in England.

Our next point of occupation was Chapleau, where we held services for a week. Chapleau is a village of 500 inhabitants; but our congregations were small, owing to the general demoralization of the people by Sunday labour on the C. P. R. There were a few