

INTRODUCTORY PREFACE.

THIS little book has been written with a running pen. It does not profess to be an elaborate treatise. Its sketches are not mere theories. They are rather the overflowings of a full and ripe experience—pages from actual history, pictures out of the book of real life in Indian missions on the northern shores of Lake Huron and Lake Superior.

Mr. Frost knows whereof he writes. He has been for thirty-one years a missionary to the Ojibway Indians of Garden River and the Manitoulin Island and the north shore of Lake Huron and Lake Superior. During all that period he has had almost unique opportunities of intercourse with those to whom he has ministered, and has seen them in almost every relationship of life.

So completely has he mastered their tongue that he assures me his thoughts take readiest shape in Ojibway forms, and it is not unusual for him to attempt Ojibway idioms in his use of the English language.

In his dealings with these people he has naturally formed a thorough acquaintance with their habits of life and thought, their character and their folk-lore. And from the stores of his well-stocked mind he now draws these