

tance, over 300 miles, in four days, excluding Sunday, which was spent at Wrigley. On the way I passed several encampments of Indians with whom I held a short service on the beach, and gladdened their hearts by giving them a little tea, and a few doses of medicine.

At Norman my arrival had been eagerly looked for, but, owing to our great and almost constant "adversary" shortness of provisions it could not be awaited, and I was sorry to find that nearly all our people had been obliged to go off to their summer hunting grounds: the communicants without the refreshment of the Lord's supper, two or three couples without the blessing of the Church on their marriage, and some infants unbaptised. Daily service had been held for them by Mr. C. Camsell and the native catechist, which they attended very diligently, but my arrival was the one opportunity they had in the year for communicating, etc., and they were sorry to miss it.

Two of our staunchest adherents had passed away trusting in Jesus, and several other deaths had occurred, one being the wife of the Christian leader, a very sad loss for him, poor man. I was glad to hear of his earnest efforts for the spiritual welfare of his people, and afterwards sent him a letter of encouragement, written in the syllabic characters, which he reads fluently. (Pray for him daily.)

From Norman I proceeded by steamer to Fort McPherson, where I had the pleasure of meeting nearly all the Indians, many of the Eskimo, and of ordaining Mr. Whittaker deacon. But to give an account of this interesting mission would extend this letter to an undue length, so I must leave it until another time.

Returning southward I intended making a tour of Great Slave Lake in order to visit Forts Rae and Resolution, but, owing to various circumstances, it had to be given up, much to my regret, and I had to wait for a later trip of the steamer to take me to Hay River.

There I had the pleasure of meeting Rev. T. J. Marsh, who had just returned from a brief visit home, and of welcoming his bride, who I trust, will be a real helpmeet both for himself and his work. During his absence the care of the mission devolved upon Miss Marsh and Miss Tims, who proved themselves most efficient. School was kept regularly, the scholars giving evidence of careful instruction. A simple service held for the Indians had been well attended. A new piece of ground had been planted, and a splendid crop of potatoes and other vegetables rewarded the diligence and oversight of Miss Tims, upon whom the chief burden fell owing to the long and serious illness of Miss Marsh. In August they had a beautiful display of flowers grown from Sutton's seeds. (That well-known firm makes to the diocese an annual

gift of vegetable and other seeds which is greatly valued.)

During my stay there I paid a visit to the Alexandra Falls, some 50 or 60 miles up the Hay river, the sight of which well repaid the discomfort of rainy weather, and the trouble of surmounting the numerous rapids which intervene and render the journey difficult and somewhat dangerous. Miss Tims had just preceded me, and enjoyed the distinction of being the first white woman to see them.

In addition to Mrs. Marsh our staff has been augmented by a Lay Helper for the Hay River Mission, and by the return of the Rev. and Mrs. W. Spendlove, who are located at Fort Norman, and of Mrs. McDonald and her children. The Archdeacon could not accompany the latter owing to the printing of his translations, but we hope to see him back next year.

On the other hand one of my most promising Lay Helpers has succumbed to the prevailing "yellow fever" and gone off to the Yukon gold fields.

To those who contributed to the re-building of our house it will be a satisfaction to know that it is now going up apace, and that if the present rate of progress continues, we shall probably be able to occupy it next winter.

It is sad to have to say that there seems great danger of hard times for the Indians this winter. Their great stand-by, rabbits, has failed, and some of them scarcely know where to look for food. May I ask your prayers on their behalf, and that they may be led to desire more and more that Bread which came down from heaven? also for me and my fellow-laborers that we may abound in the work of the Lord and be wise to win souls? I am,

Faithfully and sincerely yours,

W. D. REEVE, D.D.,
Bishop of Mackenzie River.

MISSION WORK IN LABRADOR.



At a *Conversazione* held lately in the Cathedral Church Hall, Quebec, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese in a short speech gave the following particulars in regard to the work in this isolated portion of his Diocese. He said:

"We often hear of the difficulties and needs of the Diocese of Algoma, and of the extreme North and North-West, and certainly I would be the last man in the world to attempt to minimise their difficulties or needs; only I want you all to understand that we have, in the Diocese of Quebec, Missions in which Missionaries have to be just as brave, hardy and enterprising as anywhere else in the great Mission Field. And, more than this, I glory in the fact that our recent and present Missionaries have done and are doing just as noble a work