

remains to be occupied, and suggests some reflections not altogether creditable to her, as a Missionary Church, responsible to Christ for obedience to the command to "preach the Gospel to every creature." According to it *two important Missions are vacant*, in the very heart of Muskoka, while *four other fields*, "white unto the harvest" anxiously await the advent of the labourer? But whence are the six clergy, thus sorely needed, to come? For weeks a standing notice of our needs has appeared in the Church papers, but not a solitary response has been given. Meanwhile these poor sheep in the wilderness are left untended. My hands are tied. I cannot create the supply, and no church in Canada seems unable to furnish it. I am forced, therefore, to the conclusion that the only solution of the problem lies in an appeal to the Church in the mother country, and hence I have determined (D. V.) to visit England for this and other Diocesan purposes early in the coming winter, encouraged to this venture of faith by the kind letters received from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Manchester, Dover, &c., and the late Metropolitan of Canada.

The gravity, however, of this question forbids its dismissal thus summarily. The startling fact confronts us, that where at least six clergymen were needed for Algoma, during the past year, the Canadian Church has given her—one! "Is there not a cause," somewhere? The solution of the mystery lies mainly here, that clergymen in Algoma, or contemplating removal to it, are required to submit to disabilities and deprivations, which involve a grievous injustice, calling for speedy redress.

(1) Algoma is the only Diocese in the Ecclesiastical Province in which no provision is made for the Widows and Orphans of deceased clergymen.

(2) A clergyman removing to Algoma from any other Canadian Diocese, thereby forfeits the claim previously acquired in that Diocese, upon this Fund.

(3) The very same injustice exists with regard to the superannuation and Commutation Funds, in so far as they may be available elsewhere.

(4) The clergy of Algoma are excluded from the privilege of representation in the Lower House of the provincial Synod. Over and above these disabilities, easily removable, in part at least, by special legislation, there are yet others, inherent in the essential being of a Missionary Diocese, which operate in the same direction, such as (5) the scantiness of the stipends paid, (6) the almost total isolation of the clergy, each from the other, and (7) the absence of all room for promotion, and the consequent loss of the stimulus to be derived, in all other Dioceses, from the expectation of the larger field, and more liberal income, that will one day be the reward of faithfulness. "All these things are against us." But "these things ought not so to be," and therefore, for no personal ends, but solely because they militate very seriously against the growth of the Church's Missionary Diocese, we ask for them the Church's grave and favourable consideration. Meanwhile Algoma herself is doing what in her lies for the removal of the first-named difficulty. The germ of a "Widows' and Orphans' Fund" has grown out of offertories, and voluntary subscriptions received both in Canada, and from England. The Synods of Quebec and Huron, in response to the Bishop's appeal, have adopted Resolutions ordering offertories annually in each congregation in their respective Dioceses,

for three years, in aid of this fund. In Montreal the Committee charged with the care of this Fund have passed a resolution "that the name of the Bishop of Algoma be retained on the list of subscribers, and that should any other clergyman entitled to a claim on this Fund leave this Diocese for Algoma, his case shall be laid before the Committee, and decided on its merits." For all these evidences of sympathy we are deeply grateful.

OUR INDIAN WORK.

Our work of evangelization among the aboriginal race proceeds steadily, and exhibits all the evidences of permanent success which can reasonably be expected. If no new ground has been broken, the civilization of the area already occupied has been brought, we think, to a greater degree of efficiency. The difficulties attendant on this branch of our work can only be appreciated by those familiar with its practical details, such as (1) the well-known instability of the Indian character; (2) their migratory which interfere very seriously with the continuity of the influences brought to bear upon them; (3) the mischievous effects of the white man's bad example, which these children of Nature are only too quick to observe and imitate; (4) the demoralization caused by "Firewater," which, for the havoc it makes of the poor Indian, may well be called "the accursed thing;" (5) the difficulty of finding teachers, not of their own race, qualified to tell them the wonderful works of God in their own tongue. Despite these drawbacks, our Indian Missions exhibit evidence of growth sufficient to rebuke our faithfulness, and to silence the cavils of those who deny the possibility of the red man's permanent social and religious elevation.

(1) *Sheguiandah*. This Mission is progressing under the care of its faithful friend and superintendent, Mr. F. Frost, who has recently been ordained to the "permanent diaconate." During the past year Mr. Frost, with the willing co-operation of a few families of whites, has built, and paid for, a very commodious church, in which he holds service for the whites. He also ministers to a second congregation of Indians at Sucker Creek, and another of whites, at Little Current. No less than twenty (20) candidates for confirmation were presented by Mr. Frost during the Bishop's recent visit to this Mission.

(2) *Negweneang, Lake Neepigon*.—Owing to the removal of Rev. Mr. Renison to Garden River last autumn, this Mission was left without clerical supervision during the winter. A native Catechist was placed there temporarily, but results were not satisfactory. The Mission has also been affected by the proximity of the C. P. R. works, which draw the older Indians away from their homes and gardens, and more or less unsettle them. Mr. Renison will resume his charge of this remote Indian outpost during the coming winter.

(To be Continued)

The Church's Mission.

In an able article, the "Canadian Missionary" for November, alludes to the new aspect which the mission work of the church is now beginning rightly to assume.

It is a deplorable fact that the clergy have been too prone, "to identify duty with self interest, and ever ready to discover the highest motives for accepting the most lucrative, and from a worldly view honorable position." When such a conception is taken of the sacred office, it is not difficult to understand the correct reason, why the out-posts are left so spiritually destitute, till civil enterprise has made them galling to the so-called refined tastes.