

### Uffington Mission.

REV. A. H. ALLMAN, INCUMBENT.

For the last time in another year information is sent on to the diocesan journal concerning this mission. Looking back over the record it appears similar to that of a life, viz., full of change. What a mercy for believing mortals that it is written, "I the Lord change not!" The missionary has various impressions upon his mind and heart, of joy and sorrow, loss and affliction, disease and death, which have been made during his passage in and out amongst the flock committed to his care.

In and around the district grievous loss was sustained during the year by the failure of crops, consequent upon the severe frost and drought in July last, and now the general scarcity, especially of potatoes, is being felt by many families around in various ways. The Church herself has also sustained loss by the moving out of a number of families, discouragement having seized hold upon them after a succession of comparatively fruitless years. There is, too, a further loss, that of pecuniary ability; of which the wardens are sadly aware at each station, and deplore their inability to meet current expenses.

Among the losses by death a bereavement without parallel during the present incumbency occurred at Purbrook. Early in September last Mr. J. T. Colson and family were overwhelmed with the terrible tidings that a son, resident in the United States, had been shot. From reports that appeared in papers sent over there was suspicion of foul play, and the father promptly proceeded to join the widow, and was also present at an adjourned inquest. Nothing, however, could be proved, and the bereaved parent returned home, only having the melancholy satisfaction of looking upon the grave wherein his late son's remains were deposited. The entire community expressed condolences, since Mr. Colson is an old resident, as well as a warden of twenty years' standing. In October a second cloud arose. The youngest daughter, who was by no means strong, had persevered and qualified herself for the position of a teacher, and actually entered upon her chosen vocation on Monday, October 3rd. On Friday, the 7th, her father fetched her home, and on the next day she became so ill that Dr. Bridgeland was hastily summoned, who declared her condition critical, owing to heart disease. On Monday, Oct. 10th, the incumbent visited her, and her state of mind was truly peaceful. On the following Wednesday a sudden paroxysm released her resigned and gentle spirit. The remains were interred in Christ Church graveyard (by the side of those of an older brother laid there eight years before) on Saturday, Oct. 15th, when a never-to-be-forgotten scene was witnessed, the entire congregation being swayed with such strong emotion that literally they did "weep with those who wept."

St. Paul's, Uffington, has recently had a new chimney added. In the winter two stoves are needed to keep the church sufficiently warm, but, owing to the double draught, oftentimes the edifice was filled with smoke. In order to procure means for the same a concert was announced, and, although the night appointed turned out miserably wet, a nice sum was realized. Since then donations have come in from one and another, so that now there is but one dollar to raise to complete the cost.

Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 24) was observed in Uffington, and a special service was held in St. Paul's at 7 p.m. An encouraging congregation assembled and a reverent, bright and hearty service was conducted by the incumbent, who also preached from the words, "Give us day by day our daily bread." An offertory was taken up for the Diocesan Sustentation Fund.

A. H. A.

### Webbwood Mission.

On Monday, December 12th, accompanied by a son of our churchwarden at Nairn Centre, I visited a lumber camp some four or five miles from Nairn Centre. Taking with us some Prayer and Hymn-books and also a number of books and pamphlets for general reading for those in the camp, we left Nairn Centre about 3 p.m. We had a brisk walk in the clear, frosty air and arrived at the camp about 4.30 p.m. Our welcome was hearty, for all received us with evidences of pleasure. We had a look round the camp, then had supper with the men (which I must say a good word for. The food at the meals we had was good and well served, and we took just what was prepared for the men at our meals. I wish I could say a good word for the sleeping camp. This, I am sure, could be better and I think should be better, too.) Apart from the sleeping camp, as far as I am able to judge, all seemed well managed under the circumstances.

At 7.30 p.m. we had Evensong, at which several hymns were sung and an address given on St. Matt. xi. 28. About forty-four men were present, and, as far as they could, joined in the service and listened attentively to the address, and no doubt this service, like all done in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, will have done its good work. The men suggested an offertory, which they gave, amounting to \$2 65, which has gone to help in buying an organ for Nairn church. All the men were delighted to see us, and gave us a hearty welcome, and wished for further similar services. I must not close this little account without specially mentioning the kindness at all times of Mr. Duret, the manager for the company, and also the kindness of the foreman, the clerk, and cooks. We remained in the camp for the night, and were made very comfortable,

and at about 8 a.m. we walked back to Nairn Centre, after an interesting visit, and, no doubt, a useful one too. I hope before long to be able to give services at other camps in the neighbourhood of my mission

### Garden River Mission.

REV. F. FROST, INCUMBENT.

SYLVAN VALLEY.—There was a grand time here on Thanksgiving. There is a pretty church on the hill here partly surrounded with shrubbery and occupying a fine site. The church is not quite finished either inside or out, but the superb decorations made up for this, the people using their very best endeavors to make it nice for the occasion of Thanksgiving. The missionary from Garden River came over, and we had a good service and appropriate sermon. The harvest in this neighborhood was fairly good, so the folks had good cause to rejoice and praise God, from Whom all blessings flow, as the preacher told them. It is a cause for thanksgiving also that the people join more heartily in the services than they used to do, reading the responses and the alternate verses in the Psalms and joining in the chants and singing, worshipping God with louder voice than formerly. Some laudable efforts have been made this summer in improving the primeval shrubbery in the church grounds. We are getting along, too, in other ways.

### Aspden Mission.

REV. W. H. FRENCH, INCUMBENT.

We have been pursuing the even tenor of our way since you last heard from this mission. Deaths and removals have considerably lessened our numbers, especially is this so with communicants. Notwithstanding this, the attendances at divine worship all over the mission show over one thousand increase since Easter upon last year's figures, and the offertories are somewhat larger. It is not to be supposed that in this supposedly strong church centre we are without sectarian opposition. Far from it, and the injustice of the thing is, that during the best months of the year the "student," usually a fresh man every summer, draws away the uncertain element, whilst during the long winter months he is conspicuous by his absence, but we resident clergy have to minister to all indiscriminately, and when these people are appealed to for financial help, "we have all we can do to support our own," is the reply, a manifest excuse whereby these people get out of paying anything at all! Of course, I am not complaining, but giving well-known facts, showing how "the sects" get their religious ministrations free, while the Church does the real