

The Algoma Missionary News.

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The Algoma Missionary News

EDITOR:
REV. CHARLES PIERCY, BURK'S FALLS, ONT.
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All items of news and communications of an editorial nature should be sent direct to the Editor, The Rev. C. Piercy, Burk's Falls, Ontario, Canada

Notes by the Way.

A LITTLE more ease, a little more comfort, and this world would be our school no longer, but our home; the very thing which God never designed it for.

FROM the columns of *The Guardian* we learn that at the March monthly meeting of the S.P.C.K. a grant of £15 was made towards the church building at Webbswood.

THE clergy of the diocese are kindly requested to fill in (every column) and forward the usual Easter return to the Rural Deans at the earliest possible moment after Easter.

SUNDAY, March 14th, was a terrible day—the most stormy of the winter. Wind and snow most effectively blocked the roads and cancelled services at points far from clergymen's residences.

Rev. C. H. Buckland writes to acknowledge a handsome Bible for use in St. Mary's Church, Powassan, the gift of Mrs. Summerhayes' Bible Class in connection with St. Matthew's Church, Toronto.

ON the Island of St. Joseph, near Sault Ste. Marie, there were large classes of confirmees presented to the Bishop upon his recent visit. The writer, who was a missionary there in 1880-90, retains a lively interest in the Church family there. May the zeal for the Church, now more than ever aroused, never decrease.

A DIOCESAN paper is becoming a need now-a-days. The last one to come to our notice is the *Church Record*, the monthly organ of the Anglican Church in British Columbia. We welcome it among the journals which are established both to record the work of the Church within a diocese and to instruct and broaden the sympathies of Church people by fact and figure.

It is not our intention to reply at length to the anonymous letter criticizing and censuring the clergy of Algoma, which appeared in the *Canadian Churchman* of March 18th, but we deem it wise to say that the epistle is full of errors. At least the lady who censures us so freely should come from behind the hedge. There is nothing lost by doing things in the open. Better still would it have been if the statements had been made in a kindly and sympathetic spirit and not in a manner calculated to injure the Church in Algoma. It is not more than just to say that some statements are "wild," based on lack of information. Nor is it unnecessary to say that the "opinions" of the anonymous writer, are only "opinions." Our friend was ill-advised in her zeal, to pen such an epistle.

It has generally been supposed that the S.P.G. is the oldest English missionary society. This is not the case. A writer in *The Churchman*, which is edited by Archdeacon Sinclair, of London, says that the oldest missionary organization known to Englishmen is the society now commonly called the New England Corporation, which owed its inception to the

work of John Eliot, the apostle of the Red Indians. The story of his labours reached the ears of the Long Parliament, which in 1640 established by ordinance "the Corporation for the Promoting and Propagating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in New England." By Cromwell's directions a general collection produced the very large sum of £14,000. The Restoration put an end to the charter given by Cromwell, but in 1662 Charles II revived the company and gave it a royal charter, which admitted both Churchmen and dissenters to the governing body. A governing body of forty-five members still administers the funds, but it makes no appeal to the public, and publishes no reports. — *N. Y. Churchman*.

Among the Indians.

BISHOP THORNELOE'S VISIT TO GARDEN RIVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS

SIR,—On March 8th, the Indian Mission at Garden River was visited by his lordship the Bishop of Algoma, accompanied by Mrs. Thorneloe, Miss Catherine Thorneloe, Rural Dean and Mrs. Renison, and Judge and Mrs. Johnson. Leaving Sault Ste. Marie at 9 a.m., the party hoped to reach the mission at 11 o'clock, but owing to the many previous snow storms the roads were very heavy and they were a little late. Nevertheless the Indians did not lose heart but met them with a pleasant smile and the word, "We expected you would be late; the roads are so bad." Everything had been arranged with an eye to comfort. The pretty little church was spotlessly clean and well heated. After a few minutes every one and all things were ready for service, the Bishop rendering part in English, and Mr. Renison the remainder in the Indian language, in which he is quite as much at home as in his own. Though many of the younger Indians understand English there are some who do not