

make this growing institution yet more glorious. I will try to thank you all by doing my duty simply, humbly, and faithfully, where God has been pleased to place me.

Fort William.

REV. E. J. HARPER, INCUMBENT.

Early in September last many of the clerical and lay delegates, on their way to attend the General Synod in Winnipeg, reaching this port on Saturday by C.P.R. steamer, were obliged to spend eight or ten hours in this growing town till the arrival of the train from the east. Several of the clergy, not wishing to travel on Sunday, remained over and assisted the incumbent of St. Luke's, Rev. E. J. Harper.

The church building, at that time, presented rather a forlorn appearance outside; the interior has always been neat and well ordered. On this occasion, as the Bishop passed through, permission was obtained from his lordship to enlarge the church to just double its capacity, and so quickly did the work proceed that on his return his lordship held a confirmation and preached to 250 people. Of course special effort was made to have the building ready for this event, though much remained to be done. Since then the contract has been completed and many improvements effected. The addition to the church erected in 1891 gives us now a good frame building 24 ft. by 70 ft., together with vestry, Sunday School library (in what was the old south porch) and west porch, with seating capacity for about 250, including the choir. The whole of the exterior has been painted, including the wood foundation course which, on the older portion of the building, replaces the unsightly attempt to keep out the cold by means of sawdust, kept in position by rough boards. Over the western gable a well-proportioned turret, surmounted by a cross, has been erected at the sole cost of two members of the congregation, Messrs. Reaveley and Tully. The interior is plastered and kalsomined, and the wood work stained and varnished. All the new seats required were obtained from the factory at Walkerton, Ont., whence orders for seating the church a few years previously had been filled. These extra seats are the gift of Mr. M. Sellers, a hearty and generous member of St. Luke's.

In the rearrangement of the interior a space twenty feet in depth and twenty-three feet wide was reserved for choir and sanctuary purposes—twelve feet for the former and eight feet for the latter. The altar is approached by five steps (symbolizing the five wounds of our Lord's body), viz., two to the choir level, one at communion rail, and two to foot-pace of altar.

Through the exertions of Mr. Tully, the Woman's Auxiliary was enabled to purchase, from the local firm of the Hudson Bay Co., at a special rate, a handsome Brussels carpet, of ecclesiastical design, for the sanctuary and choir. Willing hands put

this down and willing hands scrubbed the floors. Indeed, though many are deserving of special mention, all seemed to vie with each other in doing something towards helping the work in the little parish church.

While the contract was being carried out not a single Sunday service was omitted. The attendance at both morning and evening has been good hitherto, markedly at the latter, as people are now sure of securing a seat. This is a good deal to say, as during Advent, the close of navigation here, is a most busy season, and men have to work on Sundays as well as other days.

To the above description of our church we desire to add a brief report of the Christmas service, to the musical portions of which great pains were given by Mr. H. Sellers, conductor, and Miss K. Livingstone, organist. Carols were sung five minutes before the opening of the eleven o'clock service, and at the offertory. The anthem, one of Dr. Stamer's, the words taken from an ancient service, and entitled, "The Hallowed Day Hath Shined Upon Us," was most creditably rendered by the choir, assisted by several volunteer voices from other congregations. The church was full of worshippers—forty-six persons made their communion. The offerings were just \$45. The church was prettily decorated with evergreens.

As Fort William became self-supporting in 1895, great credit is due to the members of the congregation for what has been accomplished, not without some self-denial, as all the money for the above purposes, about \$800, with the exception of a generous donation from Dr. Sullivan of \$25, has been collected through members of the parish. Your numerous readers are asked to bear in mind that we are in Algoma, and that we still have needs to be supplied. About \$1,100 is due on the parsonage, while money is needed to enclose the lots on which the church stands with a neat fence. We dare not hope for a bell yet. May kind friends remember us in their prayers, and in the distribution of their gifts.

Parry Sound Deanery Meeting.

Only two of us got there—the Rural Dean, and the editor of THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS. The meeting was summoned for October 27th and 28th at the town of Parry Sound. The incumbent of the mission, Rev. Wm. Evans, had made arrangements for the entertainment of half a dozen brother clergy, and almost until the last moment thought they would turn up from some quarter. Those who were there were particularly disappointed at the absence of Rev. G. Gillmor, whom lumbago had seized and locked up at Rosseau. On the second day a letter from Mrs. Cobb told us that her husband was indisposed, while Rev. G. Gander (South River) had written lamenting his inability to attend, and Rev. J. C. Buckland (Powassan) the secretary's notice

did not reach. The roads were so bad that Rev. Mr. Johnson's absence was probably accounted for thereby. Absence from such meetings is a decided loss to all the scattered clergy, who seldom see or have opportunities of conferring with each other—a greater loss to our juniors.

As a preface to the services and business at Parry Sound, the writer thinks it well to describe his journey there. Having been forced to give up a preconceived plan to drive from Burk's Falls to Parry Sound about sixty miles he made a first trip on the railroad being constructed between Ottawa and a point three miles from our destination. In ordinary circumstances he would have stayed with the Rural Dean over night, and started with him in the morning from Emsdale, near which village the new road passes; but sickness in Mr. Chowne's family put such a proceeding out of the question. So getting up bright and early, the horse and buggy of the writer were made ready, breakfast partaken of, and a start made over the muddy road at 6 a.m. on the 27th. The morning was one of those dark, chilly, misty mornings which often precede a beautifully bright day. At half past seven o'clock we trotted into Emsdale village—we, because one of my sons had to go to take the horse home again. After the ten mile drive another breakfast would have been very comforting. Our good friend the Rural Dean is always in good time for a train, and a quarter of an hour before the train was said to start he greeted us near the station. Instead of starting for Parry Sound at 7.50 a.m., for the train started to move just about that time, we were shunted up and down the track for an hour while the trainmen were busy making up our train. At last we were off, and for a mile and a quarter kept the G.T.R. rails, when we were switched off to the metal of the new road. After a wait of fifteen minutes at the Y our steam horse moved on and made pretty good time—fifty miles in a trifle over three hours. Allowance must be made because the railway was not quite completed, and the train is not much more than a construction train, carrying freight and passengers for the public convenience—and a consideration. Following the engine were eight or ten freight cars and then a coach of a composite character being divided into three sections, the end ones having seats for passengers and the centre section affording room for baggage, mail bags, and trainmen. On board were about half as many travellers as the seats would accommodate, among them being a few who were bent on erecting rough camps in the bush preparatory to the deer hunting season, which commenced on the first day of November. It was not a little amusing to hear the comments on the new legal restrictions and regulations which the amendments to the game laws for the first time gave force to. After a little while one of a trio of sportsmen produced a bottle of whiskey, which, being uncorked, soon passed from mouth to mouth