

# THE CANADIAN CHURCH MAGAZINE

AND MISSION NEWS

Published for the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada.

VOL. VII.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1893.

No. 82.

## HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

No. 82.—IN MEMORIAM JOHN HORDEN.

**T**HE name of John Horden will always be an honoured one in the annals of missionary work. He died at his post, amidst the ice and snow of Moosonee, and leaves behind him a name long to be remembered. We present our readers with

a portrait of him as he appeared in the earlier years of his episcopate. Born at Exeter, England, John Horden was educated at St. John's School on "the foundation," and remained in the neighbourhood for some years. At his own desire his name was placed on the list of the Church Missionary Society, and he waited for an opening. One June morning, in 1851, he was informed by the Society that they wished him to go to Hudson Bay, but that he should be in priest's orders and married. Fortunately the future Mrs. Horden had been selected so that her consent to an immediate union was all that was necessary, and was obtained. Thus the ardent young missionary found himself suddenly a married man, a deacon and priest and a passenger on the deck of the large Hudson Bay ship, hastening with his bride to the lone land of wilderness,

lakes and snow. The energy and promptitude which thus started him upon his work remained characteristic of it during the whole of his ministry.

After labouring vigorously for twenty-one years Mr. Horden returned to England, and in December, 1872, was consecrated the first Bishop of Moosonee. The following June he returned to his sphere of duty. He has thus been very nearly twenty years a bishop, and

during that time he has shewn remarkable energy and continued zeal in his work. The following extract from a private letter, published some years ago, will give some idea of the bishop's views regarding relaxation:—

"Albany lies 100 miles north of Moose, and is under the charge of the Rev. (now Archdeacon) Thos. Vincent. There also resides my second daughter, Mrs. Broughton. I went there for Christmas, and enjoyed myself as I only could do among my own kindred; but I paid dearly for my pleasure, having been no less than six days in returning, in consequence of the

depth of snow and the severity of the weather, the whole way I neither saw a house nor met a human being."

The seat of the see is on the Moose River, which a few miles below runs into James' Bay. Here are the cathedral (a view of which,



RT. REV. JOHN HORDEN, D.D.

First Bishop of Moosonee, A.D. 1872-1873.