

tally. An Indian, however, put the muzzle of his gun to his head, and blew out the governors' brains. After staying in Red River a few weeks, they, with others, who had come from Europe were driven out by hunger to winter on the plains. They were a mixed company, as may be inferred from the fact, that in their camp, that winter, they were able to speak several different languages. In the spring they returned, and did what they could towards making comfortable habitations, and to get in what seed they had; but from this time, for three years, their crops were partly or entirely cut off by grasshoppers. Voyagers, in passing the shores of Lake Winnipeg to Hudson's Bay, are said to have found dead grasshoppers, heaped up like snow-drifts. The settlers were again driven to the plains, until the fourth and last time, when, in 1821, the Colony began to prosper. Many a curious little story is told of those days. I may mention one out of the many. A Scotchwoman had, in despite of the grasshoppers, preserved for some time about a dozen of carrots in her garden, by covering them over with her apron; but, unfortunately, one windy day the apron was blown away while the good old woman was attending a prayer-meeting; so the grasshoppers got to the carrots. One of the children discovering the accident, ran off to the meeting-house, calling out, "Mamma! mamma! the grasshoppers have carried off the apron, and are eating the carrots!" The good woman got up, in the midst of her devotions, and ran home; but, lo! the carrots were gone. Some of them had been eaten to the depth of four inches in the ground. The disconsolate mother, on beholding the extent of her misfortune, exclaimed, "O! ye wretched vermin! could ye not have taken some other time? I have not only lost my carrots, but my prayers into the bargain."

The French emigrated here, from Canada, in 1818, and the Swiss in 1823.—Floods have occasionally destroyed their crops, swept away their houses, and destroyed much other property. One occurred in 1826. Another in 1852, compelling the inhabitants to flee to some high ground far away from their dwellings. The grave-yard, the "seed-plot for eternity," was completely inundated at that time.

The number of its inhabitants, &c., were fully detailed by the Co-Delegate. Upon these items, therefore, I will not dwell.

The settlement lies on both sides of the River, and extends more than forty miles. On the west side, between the two forts, the houses, parks, and cultivated fields lie between the river and an extensive prairie,—where, in summer, all their cattle feed in common. By a law of the place, hay-making commences on the 20th of July, in each year; and as this hay-field is common, and far out on the plains, this is done that each one may have an equal share.

OLD FORT, July 30th, 1855.—Our voyage from the Upper to the Lower Fort may be considered as but the start for our ultimate destination, for on reaching there we anchored for the night. We were most courteously received by Dr. Cowan, the gentleman in charge, and a very excellent repast at once furnished for our entertainment. While here we paid a visit to J. E. Harriott, Esq. a retired chief-factor of the H. B. Co. This gentleman, I am informed, may be regarded as one of our most valued friends, having rendered much assistance in translating our hymns &c. He was greatly interested in us, and made many enquiries relative to our future movements, wishing us every possible success in our great and glorious work at Edmonton. I cannot speak too complimentarily of the kindness shown us by himself and his good lady.

July 20.—Left Lower Fort Garry at 6 A.M. Breakfasted at the Indian Settlement, with the Rev. A. Cowley and lady, and Mr. George, of the Church Missionary Society. Afterwards were shown over the Mission premises. Here is a new stone church, commenced by the Rev. Mr. Cockran, whose indefatigable energies have directed him to another field of labour. Mr. George proceeds shortly to Fort Alexander. The Rev. A. G. acted towards us in a most gentlemanly manner, wishing us every success. Dined at the mouth of Red River. The grass at this point is from 5 to 7 feet in height. After several hours hard rowing, effected a landing at the Willow Islands at 9 P.M. The approach was