

others may be encouraged to try. We hear of several others who are preparing papers.

#### COMPETITION FOR PRIZE

1 I was born and brought up in Norfolkshire, England. Norfolk is an agricultural country, and famous for its good farming. The reason I left was, simply, there seemed no opening for me to get along. All occupations seemed overcrowded, and I thought it was no use elbowing a road from starvation, in England, when there seemed to be lots of ways in Canada to get a living. Having been blessed with health, and a measure of success, I am glad I emigrated, although the rosy visions of youth have not been realised.

2 I have now seven in my family my good wife, three girls and two boys & yours truly. My children go nearly every day to school, (those who are able), which is about one mile and a half off. They like going to school, as we have an excellent teacher, and sometimes when their boots are worn out, and the means to renew them not at hand, they feel a little like grumbling.

3 I have two hundred and fifty acres of land about thirty cleared, a small barn and house. My house is partly built of logs, laid one on the top of another and notched in at the corners. The cracks are filled up with chunks of wood and moss, and then plastered. The other part is built of boards. It is very rough of course but quite cosy in winter. We have a bedroom in one end by itself, where our clergyman sleeps when he remains over night with us, and where the late Bishop used to honor us by resting.

4 This part is fairly well settled. We have neighbors within half a mile, and they are from that distance to some miles apart. There is no village here, but we have a post office and mail twice a week.

5 Our nearest clergyman is about fifteen miles off when at home. We have service now once a month on Sundays, and once a month on Tuesdays, with a Sunday School every Sabbath, in our little church about a mile off.

6 Our church which is dedicated to St. John, is a plain frame structure, but quite church-like and after a while we hope to make it very nice and comfortable. We have to live a good deal in the future here in church matters. The building was commenced in 1877, I think, and it is not yet finished, although we have used it regularly since that time. Do not think because of the length of time in completing, that our church is one of those grand structures that takes years in building; but we prepare to keep out of debt and do a little as we are able, or as some kind friend enables us. It is owing a great deal to the nature of the locality, and the means of the people, as to the best way of raising money for church purposes. In this place where we are all poor, and not able to do much, without missing some needed thing in our households, it is very difficult to raise money at all. We have an offertory every Sunday and also contribute a small fixed sum quarterly. Of course this does not amount to much, but still we are thus able each year to make some permanent improvement in our church property.

7 The inside of our church is plain, but we have a nice prayer desk, lectern, altar, and communion rails, the work of one of our settlers. We have also nice prayer book, bible, and office book for the clergyman, and a few prayer books for the congregation the gift of the S. P. C. K. Recently we received a present of eighteen hymn books from the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson of Gloucester, Eng. We still need badly a font, altar cloth, bell and organ; but hope in time to be able to say, we are fully equipped.

8 There is a good Sunday School in connection with the church, with thirty nine scholars on the roll, and four teachers. The little children read every Scripture lessons, and the elder ones in the Bible. We are now reading St. Mathew's Gospel. We always have the Psalms for the day, the collect The Creed, and some of the prayers. We have a few library books and get a supply of papers from kind friends in Toronto, Guelph and elsewhere. There is an offertory every time we have service, it averages about thirty cents. We raise perhaps five dollars in a year.

9 We have had one confirmation, when most of the young people of proper age were confirmed. The Holy Communion is not as well attended as it ought to be, but in many cases this arises from lack of opportunity.

10 A funeral in the backwoods is happily a rare occurrence. When it does happen the neighbors all meet at the late residence of the dead and follow in procession, with wagons in summer, and sleighs in winter, to the burying ground. On arrival the ceremony is generally conducted the same as in civilized places, and the utmost decorum and respect is always manifested.

12 The soil here is generally clay, wooded with Maple, Birch, Ash, Beech, Balsam, and Hemlock and a little Cedar and Pine. The crops raised are wheat, oats, barley, rye, peas, buckwheat, hay, a little corn, potatoes and turnips. In our garden we raise carrots, beets, onions, parsnips, tomatoes, cucumbers, and nearly all the common vegetables.

We also have a few apples, currants, gooseberries and some rhubarb, Strawberries, raspberries and black berries grow wild in abundance. Very little labor is hired, most of the work is done by ourselves.

13 During the long winter, wood getting, chopping, thrashing and marketing fill up the time, and on stormy days there is always some fixing to be done indoors. In the evening, we read (if we have any book or paper), and chat till early bed time comes. As soon as the snow comes and gets packed down, traveling is far better than in summer. Two or three feet of snow cover up logs of staves, logs, and rough planks. It is about 15 miles to market and six to mill.

14 There is not much machinery used here yet. One settler has a saw, another has a mower, and a small thrashing machine (Horse power).

15 I once had a logging "Bee," and will try and give you a short description of the event. Early in the morning the men and oxteams began to arrive, and soon a stranger would have thought Pandemonium was let loose. The shouts of the team-