

## Jottings from Algoma.

## A VISIT TO MAMAINSE MINES.

A sharp knock at his bedroom door, and a very decisive intimation "that the captain of the 'Remora' could only wait 15 or 20 minutes," sufficed to rouse the Bishop from his slumbers about 6 a. m. on the morning of June, the 27th, and hurry him down, within the allotted time, to the wharf, from which he was to start on his first visit to the Mamainse Mines, about 60 miles from Sault Ste. Marie, on the north shore of Lake Superior. These mines, though opened only about two years, are already attracting great attention in both Canada and England, thanks, first of all, to the *bona fide* character of the mineral resources discovered there, and next to the annual visits of Mr. Fraser Rae, the indefatigable English representative of the Company (known as the "Lake Superior Native Copper Co."), whose widely-extended connection and influence with legal, literary, political and commercial circles in the Mother Country suffice to give the mining industries of this part of the country a guaranteed reputation, as well as wide-spread publicity, which they could not otherwise easily attain. Indeed little more than a year ago the mining operations at Mamainse were in their infancy. One shaft had been sunk to a depth of 60 ft., only a handful of men being employed, who occupied two or three very primitive log houses close by. To-day, under the wise and energetic superintendence of Capt. Williams, the little community, men, women and children, number close on 300. The original shaft has been carried to a depth of 230 ft. through the solid rock, while "levels" are being vigorously pushed out in every direction in which the "indications" seem likely to be remunerative. Well-built frame houses, on stone foundations, are springing up on all sides. The "bush" is already cleared sufficiently to provide small gardens; roads are being constructed; a well ordered boarding house, capable of accommodating 100 men, without families, has been established; a surgery and drug store opened under the care of Dr. Peters, a skilful physician, who keeps a sharp eye to the sanitary conditions, while the social and moral welfare of the little but rapidly increasing colony promoted by a wise and judicious oversight of the habits of the men in regard to the use of stimulants. No Prohibitory Liquor Law has been enacted, the Managers not feeling warranted in imposing such a restraint on the liberty of the subject, but all new arrivals are closely watched by a Vigilance Committee of one, who, when he has reason to believe that a resident or stranger is surreptitiously bringing in a quantity of intoxicating drink, immediately, by virtue of his authority as Stipendiary Magistrate, orders the trunk or other package supposed to contain it to the general office to be opened in his presence, when the contents, if alcoholic, are transferred to his keeping, the owner being informed that a small quantity will be doled out weekly, or at such other intervals as may seem necessary, in order to diminish the temptation to excess. So far the plan has worked admirably, and in this way solid foundations are being laid, and good guarantees secured for the preservation of order and sobriety.

I wish I were able to say that the moral and religious necessities of the residents were equally well cared for. Here, however, there are difficulties to be overcome which are not so easy of solution as those just alluded to, arising partly from the comparative remoteness and isolation of the mines, and partly also from the divided state of the community as regards religious creeds and associations. No Church has yet been built, or indeed can be, unless it assume the nondescript "Union" form, which, as all past experience proves, deserves this happy title on the "lucus a non lucendo" principle. Meanwhile something is done, or attempted rather, for the religious instruction of the miners and their families, in the form of a Sunday School and religious service, conducted by Capt. Carlyon, an earnest Cornish Methodist, who ever since his arrival, more than a year ago,

has shewn a most praiseworthy perseverance in his efforts on the people's behalf, just as he modestly said, "to keep them from forgetting the Sabbath altogether, and so lapsing into Paganism," through lack of the regularly organized ministrations of religion. On the evening of the Bishop's arrival, word was promptly sent round that a service would be held, and, despite the shortness of the notice, the dining-room of the boarding house, kindly placed at our disposal by Mr. and Mrs. H., the managers, both of them Roman Catholics, was well filled with a congregation of these hardy sons of toil, who listened most attentively, as the Bishop, after a Hymn, the Apostles' Creed, and a few Collects, set before them the "death" that sin earns for itself as its "wages," if unrepented of, and the "life eternal" which is God's free "gift," "through Jesus Christ our Lord," to all who will accept it. The soil seemed rough as the seed of the word was being scattered on it, but it has taken root in much more unlikely fields before now, and here, if we may judge by the evident interest with which it was received, we cannot but believe that it will "accomplish that which God pleases, and prosper in the thing whereto He has sent it."

The next day was devoted to arrears of correspondence, and a pastoral visitation of the miners' families. The Bishop was everywhere received most kindly, and wishes strongly expressed on all hands that arrangement could be made for regular or at least more frequent services. At present, so far as the Church of England is concerned, the only possible solution of the question will have to be found in an occasional visit by the Rev. Mr. Cook, of Sault Ste. Marie, who always holds himself in readiness for any special mission of the kind that may be required of him, and undertakes the work in a genuine missionary spirit, be the toil or hardship they involve what it may.

(To be Continued).

## BOOK NOTICES, REVIEWS, &amp;c.

SCOTTISH CHARACTERISTICS, by Paxton Hood.

This is number 94 of Funk & Wagnall's Standard Library, which includes many of the English Classics and best known writers. Scotchmen will hail with delight a book which is evidently written by one warmly enthusiastic upon the subject, and which contains so much that does honor to Scottish heads and hearts. S. F. Huestis, Halifax.

Messrs. James R. Osgood & Co., have just published a very pretty little pamphlet, containing Col. George E. Waring's famous horse story, "VIX," which the London *Spectator* characterized as "genuinely pathetic," and of which Col. Higginson said, that "all Col. Waring's horses are like Dr. John Brown's dogs—genuine and half humorous creatures." Every admirer of the "noblest friend of man" should own a copy of "VIX," and enjoy its reading month after month.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for September, has been laid on our table, by Buckley & Allen, Granville St., Halifax. It is an exceedingly attractive Number, varied in its contents, and richly illustrated. One of the most timely of its articles is that on "Recent Building in New York"—an intelligent critical estimate of the "New Departure" in architecture—illustrated by eighteen characteristic pictures. The Editorial departments are full of timely and interesting matter. The *Editor's Drawer*, conducted by Mr. Charles Dudley Warner, is especially entertaining.

"THE TEACHERS' BIBLE DICTIONARY." David C. Cook, publisher, 46 Adam-st., Chicago. This is a marvel of cheapness; it is one of ten books which can be had for \$1.50, post paid. The list includes a Commentary, edited by the Dean of Peterborough, with notes by Dr. Maclear, of King's College School, London; also other works on the art of teaching in Sunday-schools, a Teachers' Library, in fact, for the ordinary price of one book. The Bible Dictionary gives the antiquities,

geography, biography, natural history, and all names of Scripture, with correct pronunciation.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL REWARD CARDS. By D. C. Cook, 46 Adam-street, Chicago. Three 25 cent packages of 25 cents, ten packages \$1.80. These are really pretty cards, and their price renders them a great boon to teachers. Mr. Cook deserves to be sustained in his efforts to provide these attractive cards at so small a price.

WE should like to draw the attention of our readers to a curious and pleasing invention, which ought to be very popular, especially in families where there are young people. It is called the "Electrical Instructor," and consists of a small box containing a magnetic finger which points to a succession of Biblical names in answer to the questions printed upon a circular lid to be placed over the Magnet. The question selected is placed immediately over a particular spot, when the hand at once points to the answer. This Instructor will prove equally interesting and instructive to old and young, and may encourage a desire to know more of God's Word. Price 75 cts., MacGregor and Knight, Halifax.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. The numbers of the *The Living Age* for August 18th and 25th contain, *The Real Lord Byron, Quarterly*; *Half a Century of Literary Life, London Quarterly*; John Richard Green, by Edward A. Freeman, *British Quarterly*; *Classic Conceptions of Heaven and Hell, Westminster*; *Cave Tombs in Galilee, Fortnightly*; Terry Wigan, *Blackwood*; *The North Farm: Now, by J. E. Panton, Tinsley*; *Voltaire in England, Cornhill*; *The Empress Eugenie's Flight to England, Temple Bar*; *Grace Darling, Leisure Hour*; *Sea Island Cotton, Chamber's Journal*; *Benvenuto Cellini, All the year Around*; with instalments of "Uncle George's Will," and "Along the Silver Streak," and Poetry.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3,300 pages a year) the subscription price (\$8) is low; while for \$10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$4.00 monthlies with *The Living Age* for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

We again draw the attention of our readers to the very useful and attractive weekly for young people, "Mastery." It supplies capital reading, instruction and amusement, and is excellently illustrated. 7 cts. a copy; \$3 a year. "Mastery," 842 Broadway, New York.

We have received the September number of the "Wheelman," which is in no respect inferior to its predecessors. A truly admirable periodical in matter, style and illustrations, it must become more and more popular, being among the cheapest as well as the best of the American magazines. It is not, as might be supposed, a mere specialist in the interest of bicycles and bicycling, but contains a great deal of high-toned literary matter, which makes it a charming monthly visitor in every household. \$2 a year. Address, The Wheelman Co., 608 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

"Commemoration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the organization of the Diocese of Maryland, held in Baltimore May 29th and 30th, 1883." This was an occasion deeply interesting to members of the Church in Maryland, and can be scarcely less so to Church people generally on this continent. The different addresses will be found full of historical interest and information respecting the growth of our beloved Church from early Colonial times up to the present in the Diocese of Maryland. Besides the Bishop of the Diocese, the Bishops of Easton and Delaware were present, and took a prominent part in the proceedings. A sad blow has since fallen upon the Diocese by the death of its Bishop, who presided so admirably at this Centenary Commemoration, and to whom so much loving respect was shown.