

Diocese of Calgary and Saskatchewan

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BISHOP YOUNG'S

Missionary Tour Through the Diocese of Saskatchewan.

(CONTINUED.)

Pelican narrows was our next point. Here, as elsewhere on our journey, there was a lavish expenditure of gun powder—a salute of welcome being fired. The Rev. R. McLennan accompanied us to this Mission, as it is under his charge. The little School-house was filled with a quiet and attentive congregation. Twenty were presented for Confirmation and about twenty gathered around the Lord's table. One realizes how important to the Indians those services must be, which alas! are so few and far between. How one longs on such occasions, to declare to them "all the counsel of God" Acts 20, 27, and to unfold to them the Gospel of Jesus Christ! How sacred these gatherings, at the Holy Communion where months must elapse before another opportunity occurs! There evident pleasure in seeing us was very touching and encouraging.

I now passed into the second great District into which for Missionary purposes, the Saskatchewan diocese is divided. This extends eastward as far as Cumberland House, but lies mainly on the lower reaches and delta of the Saskatchewan. It is under the care of the Rev. J. Hines. He was awaiting my arrival at Cumberland House. The Rev. J. R. Settee, son of the veteran Missionary Rev. J. Settee has the charge of this Mission. Seventeen were confirmed, and after Morning Service, assisted by the Rev. J. Hines, I administered Holy Communion to forty five. We enjoyed a few pleasant hours with Mr. McDougall the resident officer. I was absorbed in the fine collection of photographs he has taken of various points of interest and beauty throughout the north, when I was disturbed by my new travelling companion wishing to know whether I was possessed of a compass. The shades of night were gathering fast, the wind was freshening and we had some distance to go before we could reach our camping ground alongside the Mission Steamer. I appreciated the hint, as only two nights previously, we had been out on the lake, two or three hours in the dark, hunting for the channel on our way into Cumberland House. Next morning about 6 a.m. steam was up, tents were struck and we embarked. The steamer is a staunch like craft, nothing ornamental, everything for use.

Our pilot was an Indian, so also was our stoker. Our clerical guide, in his blue overalls, combined in his person captain and engineer. The only fault I had to find with the general arrangements for our comfort was an aptitude on the part of the large oil tins to get between our legs and losing their equilibrium to pour a dark stream of lubricating oil over the otherwise scrupulously clean floor of the boat. Barring such minor accidents, my son and I enjoyed much

the yatching part of our trip. On Thursday afternoon, Sept. 2nd we arrived at Pas, with its almost historic and early Missionary associations.

Here, Sir, John Richardson's party wintered on their on their way North by the over-land route in search of Sir John Franklin. In the large district of which this Mission has been, for many years, the centre of the Rev. Henry Budd, his son-in-law the Rev. Henry Cochrane, the Rev. J. Settee, and other devoted Missionaries, both Indian and European labored. From this central point, the Saskatchewan country as far as Prince Albert, and northward to Stanley, was largely won for Christ and attached to the Protestant faith. The sites of the first Church and Mission house have been abandoned, the latter on account of the encroachments of the river. The energy and constructive powers of Mr. Hines are manifest here, as elsewhere, throughout the district. The new church, which I had the pleasure of setting apart for Divine worship, is large and well built, thoroughly finished inside and out. Sixty by twenty-five feet, it consists of chancel and nave. The external walls are weather-boarded and painted; the internal walls kalsomined. The seats are open with carved finials. On Sunday Sept. 5th, we had shortened Morning Service, preparatory address, Confirmation service and Holy Communion. The church was crowded to the doors with a congregation entirely Indian with the exception of the H. B. Co.'s people. The whole service was in Cree. Seventy-one candidates were presented for Confirmation and one hundred and twenty-eight gathered around the Lord's Table. It was touching to see several aged women assisted to the rails. The afternoon service was equally well attended. Mr. Hines may be said to occupy Moses' seat. Every great matter and every small matter is brought to him for judgment or advice, and with Mosaic patience he gives each matter the full consideration the *consulting parties* consider it requires.

We started in a pouring rain on Monday, which when once on board and under the shelter of the launch's awning, we bore with equanimity.

Hundreds of miles of deep channels in this part of the district make the steam boat a very useful and suitable conveyance.

Moose Lake was our next point. Here I opened a new School-church, thirty three candidates were presented for Confirmation and there were thirty communicants. A native teacher, a Mr. Cochrane, is in charge. An English lady in moderate circumstances gave £40 towards this church on condition that the St. Alban's (England) working party should raise another £40 which was duly subscribed.

The Rev. R. C. Johnstone, Editor of the WESTERN CHURCHMAN, is prepared to take lecture engagements. Special terms when proceeds are for Church purposes. No spare dates in May.

Apply to EDITOR,

Box 310, Winnipeg.