



CHAPTER XIX.

Freighting on Lake Winnipeg—York Boats—Brigades—Portages—
Means of Transport—Awaiting Shipment—Difficulties—The
Visit to the Governor—John Sifton, Esq.—Embark in Skiffs—
Force *versus* Pluck—Storms and Escapes—Home at Last.

GENERALLY our Missionaries are fortunate enough to have their yearly supplies brought to their doors by the Hudson Bay Company's York boats, passing from Fort Garry to the Posts on the Saskatchewan, or to York Factory, at the mouth of the Nelson. The charges are very high, judged from an Ontario standpoint. The freight, especially that portion which is likely to suffer from dampness, is not always delivered in good condition. Provoking delays will occur when one's needs are the most pressing. Notwithstanding all this, it is the best and only practicable way of obtaining the yearly outfits. The Company has learned by experience the unwisdom of sending a single boat across unfrequented lakes; and, having due regard to the safety of both property