

METHODIST MISSIONARY NOTICES,

APRIL, 1875.

RED RIVER DISTRICT.

MANITOBA.

THE Chairman's narrative of his journey to Beren's River, Rossville, and Oxford House, depicting, as it does in detail, the state of our Missions in that sterile country, is full of interest. Can any benevolence be more pure than that which has prompted the establishment and maintenance of Christian ordinances among a people so placed by Divine Providence, far away from the advantages and pleasures of civilized life? Whatever may be thought of brother G. Young's prudence in undertaking such a journey at that season of the year, all must admire his courage and self-denial, and rejoice in his safe return to his family and charge in Winnipeg.

On the 7th December last it was my privilege to assist in the opening services of a new church on the High Bluff Mission, about forty-eight miles west of Winnipeg. My good Brother Fawcett has cause for rejoicing in the completion of so comfortable a church at a point where it was much needed. Mr. W. Gowler, whom I found, on my first visit in 1868, more than willing to give me a hearing, and to show kind hospitality, has by the power of grace become a happy, consistent and zealous Christian, and as the Lord has prospered him in worldly pursuits, he has evinced a commendable liberality in giving several acres of land near his residence for church premises, besides a considerable sum in contributions, and a good deal of labour on the building. The opening services were attended by large and seemingly devout congregations, upon whom gracious influences rested during the day, as a result of which special services were commenced. On my return home, Monday evening, I

found the Rev. E. R. Young waiting, with Indians, dogs and sleds, to take me to Beren's River, on my long trip to visit the Indian Missions of the North. I was led to decide on making this trip by a conviction, long felt, that I could not discharge aright my duties either to the missionary committee, or the missionaries, without such a knowledge of the field and the work as can be secured only by actual observation. My purpose had been to make the journey during the summer, but I chose the winter instead from a wish to get in my report before next Conference, because of a saving of time in making the trip—larger numbers of Indians to be met at certain points—and greater press of duties in Manitoba in the summer; besides which, I desired, as a means to an end, a just appreciation of the toils, privations, exposures, and expenses inseparably connected with the long winter trips in this "Wild North Land," which are being made by my brethren in the prosecution of