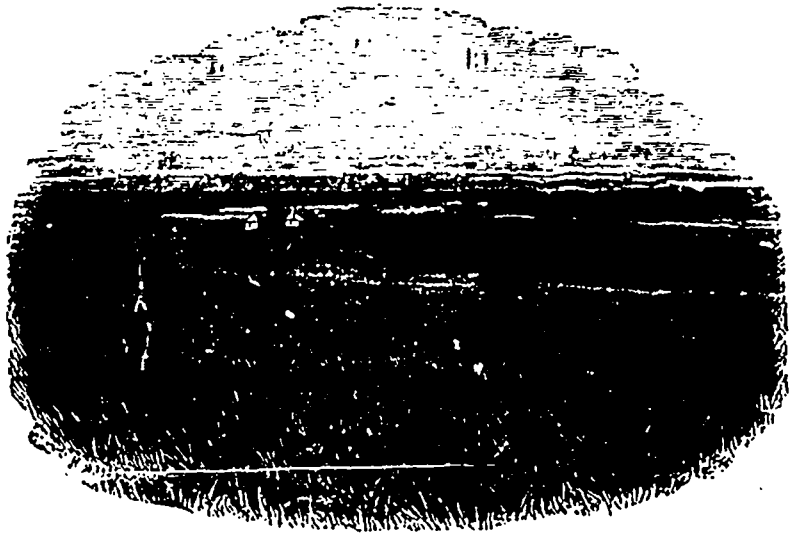


In the autumn of the same year Mr. Anson paid a visit to North-West Canada, in order to make the acquaintance of the Bishop of Rupert's Land, and to gain some personal knowledge of the district in which his new work was to lie, and of its inhabitants. The Bishop of Rupert's Land appointed him his Commissary "in organizing Missions, and in the general superintendence of the Diocese of Assiniboia," and not long after his return to England Mr. Anson issued a paper the following extracts from which will show the nature of the work which he had taken in hand, and the lines upon which he proposed to carry out that work.



A PRAIRIE SCENE IN NORTH-WEST CANADA.

1683
"The Province of Assiniboia extends west of Manitoba for 450 miles, and northward from the frontier of the United States for about 200 miles. It is now under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Rupert's Land, but was made a separate diocese by an Act of the Provincial Synod this spring.* The appointment of a Bishop is left with the Archbishop of Canterbury when an adequate endowment, in his opinion shall have been raised.

In this province are situated the favorite settlements of the Qu'Appelle Valley and the Moose Mountains.

The Canadian Pacific Railway passes through the whole length of this Province, east to west, about midway between the north and south.

Along the line of this railway there are stations every eight or ten miles, and around these stations there generally cluster a number of huts, but at the following there is already a considerable population, rapidly increasing,—Moosomin, Whitewood, Broadview, Indian Head, Qu'Appelle, Regina, Moosejaw, Swift Current and Medicine Hat.

Regina is the capital of the Province, and the headquarters of the Provincial Government and of the Mounted Police. *It is the only place where there is now a resident clergyman.* The following are among the general principles on which it is hoped to carry on the Church work in this province:—

"To bring the privileges of the Church, and the

means of Grace, within the reach of *all* persons resident within the area, as far as possible, at regular intervals, by means of an itinerating ministry.

Largely to supplement the regular ministrations of the clergy by lay helpers.

Wherever services are held, those who attend them will be expected to contribute towards the general work of the Church in the province.

No regular stipends will be paid out of the general fund, but only the necessary expenses of the workers, who will, as far as possible, live together.

An association will be formed in England for prayer and work on behalf of this province."

Mr. Anson then set to work to establish an organization in England in support of the new diocese, and before he left England again Canon Curteis, who had been Principal of the Lichfield Theological College when Mr. Anson was a student there, had consented to act as his Commissary. A Council had been formed consisting of Canons Gregory, Scott, Holland and Legge, Rev. H. M. Villiers, A. H. Lower and Clinton, General Macdougall, and Messrs. T. Shaw, Stewart, J. G. Talbot, H. Barnard, and T. W. A. Stowell, with Mr. V. A. Williamson, C. B., as Honorary Treasurer, and Rev. J. S. Holden, as Honorary Secretary. Diocesan or County Secretaries had been appointed, and the services of between twenty and thirty lady correspondents secured, while a large number of associates had been enlisted, who by prayer and work might help forward the Mission.

Mr. Anson also labored vigorously to obtain men and to raise funds to carry on the work needed. He met with no little success in his efforts, raising a little over £2,500, and promises of subscriptions to the amount of £400 a year for five years in addition. Then there arose a curious difficulty. Mr. Anson had offered his services to the Mission gratuitously. He had consented to

*"Whereas, the Bishops of Rupert's Land and Saskatchewan have consented to a separation from the dioceses of such portion of their respective dioceses as lie within the district of Assiniboia in the North-West Territories, as defined by the Dominion Parliament and set forth in a map under date 15th of March, 1883: Therefore, the Provincial Synod hereby forms the Province of Assiniboia into a diocese to be known at present as the Diocese of Assiniboia; secondly, the Provincial Synod hereby authorizes the Metropolitan to inform the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of this Province, of the formation of such district of Assiniboia, and to request His Grace to appoint a bishop to said diocese as soon as His Grace is satisfied with respect to the provision for the support of the said Bishop." (From the Acts of the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land, held at Winnipeg, August, 1883.)