

some of our own people who have long been without those ordinances peculiar to our Church, and to offer the blessings of salvation to all who are out of Christ. The Committee look forward hopefully for the ingathering of those who are now "in wandering mazes lost."

Mr. Stringfellow's report of

NORWAY HOUSE MISSION

is worthy of a careful perusal—

In no by-gone year have the people of God, in this place, had such trial and temptation as the past year. They have been assailed by temptation to and facilities for drunkenness, not previously seen by them. And it seems we are to have no alteration in the immediate future in this respect, for already fur traders from Red River are bringing stores for next winter. The most influential Indians have signed a memorial to be addressed to the parties who employ their men here requesting them not to bring spirits to the village. They have forbidden its being brought as strongly as they could word their memorial. I have little confidence in the result of this effort, because the gain is so excessive in connection with traffic in liquors that nothing but the strong hand of the law could put a permanent stop to it.

I have great faith in many of the Indians resisting temptation to indulgence in ardent spirits, for some have endured persecution and blows rather than drink and forget God. Some fight against the temptation and at length yield; while others are at all times an easy and willing prey to these seducers of souls, and friends of the devil.

I think a crisis has come, a turning point in the history of this Mission. Hitherto we have been isolated from the rest of the world, except those few Europeans residing at the Fort at Norway House. But, now, it is to be different, the flood-gates of iniquity are open and we have Roman Catholics coming among us, and men without any profession of religion; these are doing harm by precept and example, and are bringing from time to time large quantities of rum, &c., with which to carry out their unholy purposes. I have not much dread as to the ultimate results of these things. I think some will fall thereby, but that the many will steadfastly hold on their way and wax stronger and stronger in that which is good. If there was only a gracious work of conversion in the hearts of the young it would be a most hopeful thing. One thing against us and such a converting work is the laxity of the proper home influence and restraint.

Our school has been kept up well since last summer and by the same Master as formerly. The scholars, about 60, have made some