

FÖRT PELLY, ASSINIBOIA, CANADA.



MR. F. HAROLD DUFF, Lay Reader in charge of this Mission writes to us as follows:

"This Indian Mission, as perhaps some of your readers are aware, is in the extreme north-east of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and fifty miles north of Yorktown, the nearest railway station. It was started in 1885 by the Rev. Shafto Agassiz, then a deacon. After four years of arduous work, he was succeeded by the Rev. D. W. Cunliffe, who felt obliged to resign last year owing to the loneliness of the position interfering with his health. There being no clergyman available I was asked by our late Bishop to undertake the work, and was appointed to take charge last October. Of course it must be a serious disadvantage to any parish to have no resident priest, still every endeavour is made to keep the Mission up to its former standard. The Rev. T. A. Teitlebaum, Incumbent of Saltcoats—a town sixty-eight miles to the south—has kindly undertaken to visit us from time to time for the purpose of administering the Holy Communion, baptisms, marriages, etc., but owing to the great depth of snow he has unfortunately only been able to come once since I have been here.

"The people are for the most part half-breeds; there are also a few families of Indians. They are very intelligent, have a great love for their Church, and are very regular in attendance at Divine worship. I am still obliged to preach through an interpreter, as they are not sufficiently intimate with the English language to understand a sermon, although most of them readily follow the service and join in with great heartiness. We have a small surpliced choir, and frequently have full choral services; we even chanted the Psalms on Christmas Day, but are unable to do so regularly, as we have no 'pointed' Psalters. There are about thirty communicants on the roll.

"There is a Government day-school on the Reserve, which is under my care, where the children are taught to speak English, reading, writing, etc., and also a few small industries, such as making rush-mats, willow-baskets, etc., etc., and in the summer they learn gardening. There are only thirteen on the roll at present, but I have been asked to take six more non-treaty children in the spring. As these latter are all English-speaking I hope to be able to make better progress in teaching that language than at present, as it is almost impossible to get the children to talk anything but Cree out of school hours. Another great drawback to the school work is the irregularity in attendance of some of the Indian children. Their parents are often away on hunting expeditions, and of course the whole family go, too. Still, in spite of these

disadvantages, the school is making good progress, as was testified by the Government Inspector who was here last week.

"There are many kind friends in Eastern Canada who help us a good deal with gifts of nice warm clothing, books, toys, etc., especially the W. A. of Domestic and Foreign Missions. A box has also been sent from Prince Edward Island, but, on account of the bad state of the trails, has not yet arrived. I would take this opportunity of thanking most heartily all who have been so kind in providing us with these good things.

"The Mission house, built eight years ago, is a log building, with a roof of poles covered with mud and thatch-grass. It is now in a ruinous condition, and will soon become dangerous to live in. The foundation logs are so rotten that the building has sunk considerably on one side, and the poles of the roof have given way in several places, leaving holes open to the sky, and is in imminent danger of collapsing altogether. I am anxious to obtain \$200 to repair it, and therefore appeal to your many readers for assistance in this matter. The above amount would put the house in thorough repair, with tamarac foundations and lumber roof, so that it would be good for years to come, but unless it can be done immediately I am afraid it will necessitate a new building. The people are supplying the new logs and lime required at half price, and, as they are extremely poor, this is all I felt justified in asking them to do. I have collected about \$40 in Pelly towards the amount, but am obliged to appeal to distant friends for the balance.

"I have also to beg for money to pay the salary of interpreter, \$50; of this amount a kind lady in England has sent \$30, leaving \$20 still to be raised. Will some of your kind readers be good enough to help in this work? Donations however small will be most thankfully received and acknowledged. P. O. orders should be made payable to me at Saltcoats."

BISHOP RIDLEY COLLEGE.

BISHOP Ridley College is a Church school for boys, situated in St. Catharines, across the lake from Toronto. The place was chosen on account of its central position, and because it is one of the healthiest places in Canada, the climate being milder than that of any other place of its size in the Province. Though it was only established in 1889, its success has been assured from the first, showing clearly the demand that existed for such a school. There are accommodations for about one hundred boys, and there are at present eighty-nine in attendance.