

*forty church buildings* either completed or nearly so, and all of them erected on sites which have been deeded to the Bishop in trust.

Now compare this with the condition of the same district as it was when the Diocese was first set apart in the autumn of 1873. There were at that time seven missionaries and nine church buildings. Of lay readers there were none, and scarcely any out stations had been opened. Thus in the space of eight years the number of our clergy has increased from seven to fifteen, our church buildings from nine to forty, and the number of congregations from fifteen to upwards of ninety.

Yes, ninety congregations, members of the Church of England, meet together for service, not indeed every Sunday, but at stated times when the clergyman or lay reader can contrive to visit them, not always in a consecrated building, sometimes in a hall, a school-house, or a private-house, but none the less do they value and prize the blessed ministrations, they meet together to praise and worship God, they thank God that they are not deserted by the Mother Church to which from their childhood they have belonged, they join heartily in those services to which from their youth they have been accustomed. They feel that with a Missionary Bishop over them their spiritual wants will not be neglected, and they look forward with the keenest pleasure to his annual or biennial visits.

Such is the work that, within the last eight years, has, under God's blessing, been accomplished. Who will dare to assert, in the face of these facts, that the Diocese of Algoma has not been a success? We challenge any diocese, whether in Canada or the United States, to show a more rapid or more satisfactory progress than has been made by the Missionary Diocese of Algoma.

Now, as to the character of the work:

The Missionary work undertaken is mainly among *English speaking settlers* on the one hand, and *Indians of the Ojibway tribe* on the other. These two branches are distinct one from the other. The Indians live on their own reserved lands, or wander in wild regions where white men find no attraction; we find them principally on the north shore of Lake Huron, Manitoulin Island, and north of Lake Superior. The white settlers, on the other hand, occupy the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts, and have settlements on Manitoulin and St. Joseph's Island, besides peopling the towns of Sault Ste. Marie and Prince Arthur's Landing.

The white population is far in excess of the Indian, and is yearly, we might almost say daily, on the increase. The population of the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts, consisting of about sixty-six townships, is about 27,000, of Manitoulin Island, about 10,000. The entire population of the diocese is thought to be in the neighbourhood of 75,000. Of these about 10,000 would be Indians, the remainder white people.

I will ask you to take with me a short survey of our Church's work in the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts, then Manitoulin Island and the north shore of Lake Huron, and lastly Sault Ste. Marie and Lake Superior.