

containing speeches on educational subjects by his venerable grandfather the Bishop of Toronto. Five days of drifting and rowing down the rapid current of the Porcupine River brought us to its confluence with the Youcan, on the banks of which, about three miles above the junction, the Fort is placed. I met with a cordial reception from Mr. Lockhart, who was in charge, as well as from the energetic naturalist, Mr. R. Kennicott, who came into the district with me, and passed the greater part of his first winter at Fort Simpson. He delighted me with the assurance that he had met with a rich field for his labours as a naturalist, and that his efforts had been crowned with much success, especially in the collection of eggs; many rare and some hitherto unknown specimens, both of birds and their eggs, having been obtained by him, so that the cause of science in that department will be greatly benefitted by his labours. Among many others secured by him, I noticed the eggs and parent birds of the American Widgeon, the Black duck, Canvass-back duck, Spirit duck (*Bucephala albeola*); small black-head duck (*Fulix affinis*); the Wax-wing, (*Ampelis garrulus*); Kentucky warbler, the Trumpeter swan, the Duck hawk (*Falco anatum*) and two species of juncos. The majority of those, however, have already been obtained in other parts of the district by the persevering zeal of Mr. Ross, the gentleman in charge at Lapienes; and the wax-wing, which I noted as an exception, I have since learned builds its nests numerous in the vicinity of Bear Lake.

"On my arrival at the Youcan there were about five hundred Indians present, all of whom were astonished, but agreeably surprised, to see a missionary among them. They are naturally a fierce, turbulent, and cruel race; approximating more nearly to the Plain tribes than to the quiet Chippewyans of the McKenzie valley. They commence somewhere about the sixty-fifth degree of north latitude, and stretch westward from the McKenzie to Behring Straits. They were formerly very numerous, but wars both among themselves and with the Esquimaux have sadly diminished them. They are however still a strong and powerful people. They are divided into many petty tribes, each having its own chief, as the Tä-tlit-Kutchin (Peel's River Indians); Tä-küth-Kutchin (Lapiene's House Indians); Kutch-a-Kutchin (Youcan Indians); Touchon-tay-Kutchin (Wooded country Indians), and many others. But the general appearance, dress, customs, and habits of all are pretty much the same, and all go under the general names of Kutchin (the people) and Loucheux (squinters). The former is