



MATTAWA MISSION.

### UPPER OTTAWA ASSOCIATE MISSION.

FOR OUR MISSION NEWS.

**O**UR illustration is designed to show at a glance the material progress that has been made in this now widely known mission on the Upper Ottawa, Diocese of Ontario. It is probably the largest mission in the ecclesiastical Province, extending over thirteen townships, and embracing nearly three thousand square miles, — almost the size of the five counties of Carleton, Russell, Dundas, Leeds, Grenville and Lanark, or considerably larger than the German Grand Duchy of Hesse. Much of the country is in dense bush, a great deal of the land being poor and the settlements scattered. But five years

have elapsed since the appointment of a travelling missionary, whose almost first step was to establish a headquarters at the most thriving settlement, the lumbering village of Mattawa, where he soon succeeded in building the church and house shown in our illustration. Four other churches have since been erected, (two lately becoming the property of Algoma) all after the model of that shown at the foot of the engraving. Several more are required at points where congregations are already formed and worshipping in log cabins or school houses, and sometimes in the open air. It is contemplated to build one church every year till each congregation is provided. The mission priest, Rev. Forster Bliss, has, from the first, associated helpers with him in his pioneer work—young men preparing for holy orders, who reside at the mission house, all living together and working from a common centre. Mr. Bliss's testimony and work is most valuable evidence of the great benefit to be derived from the adoption of the associate mission plan. A much greater amount of work is thus accomplished at a minimum cost, and the services of newly ordained deacons or untried men utilized to the best advantage both for present and future. The most distant out-station in the mission is eighty miles from headquarters; the nearest, twelve miles. There are five regular stations. The church people number upwards of five hundred; communicants, two hundred. The foundations are being laid strong and deep in virgin soil, and the Church leads the van in all but two stations. Taking the mission

throughout, the Church is second only to the Roman Catholics, who largely preponderate. Each church, in its sanctuary appointments, is furnished by kind friends in England, who also contribute to an annual fancy fair in aid of the building funds.

The principal mode of travelling to the out-stations is by rail, but the scattered settlements and some of the outposts have to be visited on foot, involving constant pedestrian exercise at the rate of twenty-two miles a day. The Church's rule of daily service is maintained at Mattawa, one of the associates being always there. Celebrations are fortnightly, and on all festivals. The staff now consists of the mission priest, Rev. Forster Bliss, and two associates, Rev. W. M. Quartermaine, deacon, and F. Cecil Powell, lay reader. The Bishop of Ontario speaks in the highest terms of this mission.