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Algoma In England.

No. I.

To the Editor of the Missionary News ;

SIR,—It will doubtless be expected of me, that having returned from my winter campaign in England on behalf of the diocese of Algoma, I should as soon as possible inform the church in Canada as to the results which have been accomplished. I propose to gratify this natural expectation in a brief series of letters to our several church papers, for the insertion of which I beg to bespeak the necessary space.

For the present, let it suffice to say that in my judgment the attained results have been more than sufficient to justify the time and energy expended in their accomplishment, and the verdict of the Canadian church, pronounced fairly and intelligently, upon a full knowledge of all the facts of the case, will, I think, entirely corroborate this opinion. The task imposed on me was one peculiarly laborious and eminently uncongenial, nay, indeed, repugnant to all my natural tastes—so much so that more than once the temptation was very strong to abandon the enterprise and hurry back for another visitation of the mission stations in Muskoka, but personal preference must once more be sacrificed on the altar of necessity, and so I entered on my pilgrimage as a "mitred mendicant," every fibre of my being rebelling against the part given me to play, and crying out for the coming of the time when the church would see her way to the adoption of such measures as would deliver her missionary bishops from this unapostolic serving of tables, and so set them free for

the purely spiritual functions properly belonging to their office.

Algoma, however, does not stand alone in this respect. But very few of our colonial dioceses are so entirely equal to the task of self-support as to be exempt from the dire necessity of making piteous periodic appeals, by their episcopal or other representatives to the sympathies of the venerable but still vigorous mother who first gave them birth. While I was in England another and very needy missionary diocese, to the far west of Algoma, was lifting up its voice, "lo ! and that a mighty voice," in earnest, eloquent entreaty for the means of completing an endowment fund such as poor Algoma was only timidly essaying to begin. But one such appeal does not interfere, at least to any appreciable degree, with another of a similar kind in England. The mother's heart is big enough, and her arms wide enough to hold all her children in their fond embrace. She has ears open to all their cries, even when they clamour for her aid with simultaneous importunity. Their "often coming" does not "weary" her, and so it came to pass that while replies to many of my written appeals informed me of the presence of my Right Reverend brother of Saskatchewan in England and in some cases complimented his "letters" as being "powerful," indeed so powerful as to warrant the conclusion that a negative reply must be forbidden by the canon law of his Diocese, they seldom failed of some substantial evidence of interest in the needier sister diocese of Algoma.