

on the day we started was all that could be desired. It had been very cold, but was considerably milder. Hearing that the Mail carriers were going to cross, we made an effort to join them, and daylight found us some miles on our journey (our party consisted of the missionary and his pony dinah). There was a considerable quantity of snow on the ice that retarded our movements, as it was drawing towards noon when we reached the Hudson Bay Company Post at Lacloche, the first stage of our journey.

Here we parted company with the Mail carriers wishing to stay and hold service at the fort. The next day we were again on our way battling now with a snowstorm. We crossed some lakes and portages, and at noon came to an Indian village on the banks of the river. Here we held service again. A goodly congregation of Indians assembling to hear the word of God in one of the Indian houses, which by the way was very clean and respectable. We stayed that night at a friend's house on the river, where we again held service; some neighbors and others coming in to join in the worship and hear God's word.

The next day we continued our way and arrived at Suhgeeduhwang in the afternoon. Suhgeeduhwang means the place where it flows out, i. e., the North of the River. Here dwell a family of Indians consisting of father, mother, and I think five children. The mother of these children is a wonderful woman, a clever woman, a hard working industrious woman, and best of all she is a Christian woman. In addition to her household duties, she goes out to trap and to hunt, and it is in this department that she excels, often bringing home valuable furs, which she sells to help provide for her family. She showed me a fine eight day clock which she had just bought with the proceeds of her hunt. Last winter when we called, she told us that her husband had left her to seek work, and she had very little for her children to eat. She went out to her traps and brought home two fine goshers, the skins of which fetched sixteen dollars. It was Providence she said. On the day of our visit, they were all at home with the exception of the eldest son, and all assembled in the best room for worship. The second chapter of St. Matthew was read, and a few words of exhortation followed on the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. They were reminded that now as far as to Ojibway Indian, the light of Christ had shown, and they were to walk by that light till they reached the rest above.

While we were holding service, a young Indian came in who we found on enquiry had never been baptized. He expressed a desire to become a Christian, so after carefully instructing him on the fundamental truths of christianity, and he professing his faith in the articles of the creed, we baptized him by the name of John. The father and mother of the young man were present at the service, and finding afterwards that these were pagans too, we endeavored to impress upon them the necessity of giving themselves to God in Baptism. We found them next morning in the bush where they had just erected a wigwam for themselves. The old man listened to the words of God's minister, but said that his father had enjoined him never to become a Christian. We reminded him that his father not being a Christian himself, could not know the blessedness of God's service. We left him not without hope that God would open his heart to receive the truth.

Shynandah, Jan. 1887.

ROSSEAU.—The Sunday-school children were entertained at the parsonage, where 46 sat down to tea. They were then introduced to the Christmas tree to the delight of all present. Thanks are due to the St. George's Society, Toronto, and Miss Fannie Dixon, Guelph, for the tree upon the tree. As also to Mr. Arthur

Ditchburn for the trouble he took in dressing the tree. Miss Dixon has proved herself a faithful friend to this Mission.

The Bishop visited this Mission on January 11th inst. He was met at Utterson by the incumbent and drove thence to Ullswater, where a good congregation awaited him, considering the stormy evening. The train was three hours late on which his Lordship arrived at Utterson, causing him a weary delay. The people waited patiently for him without a murmur. Five candidates for Confirmation were presented for the Apostolic rite. The Bishop gave a splendid address. Having staid all night under the hospitable roof of Mr. Henry Creaser; next day, the 12th, he proceeded to Rosseau, where he held service in the evening and confirmed two candidates. The congregation was very good considering the state of the weather. The sermon was highly spiritual. The Rev. H. Gaviller came up to Rosseau that evening to meet the Bishop, and took part at Evensong. Proceeding next day with the Bishop and incumbent to Sequin Falls next morning to enter upon the Rev. A. J. Young's Mission.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The name of Correspondent must in all cases be enclosed with letter, but will not be published unless desired. The Editor will not hold himself responsible, however, for any opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

To the Editor of THE CHURCH GUARDIAN:

NEW YORK, Jan. 20th, 1887.

SIR,—I know that Canadian readers are kept well supplied with news concerning the dramatic and operatic world in this city; but not a great deal is said in regard to the glorious Church music which may be had on all sides for the seeking, "without money and without price." In Trinity parish alone are five surplised choirs, viz.: in Trinity Church itself, and in the chapels of St. John, Trinity, St. Augustine and St. Chrysostom, and one is sure of always hearing good music at any of these. To give at one time a general account of the music presented by all of these choirs would occupy too much of your valuable space, and, therefore, it may be as well to speak only of one or two now, and reserve the rest for a future time.

With so wide a field to choose from it is difficult for a stranger to know where to go to find a Church home, and so he makes a grand tour among them. I first went to a beautiful Church on Fifth avenue, where the windows were magnificent, and the chancel decorations wonderful, and possessing a fine organ and choir. But it has an *ultra* fashionable congregation, and strangers must stand at the threshold until the pewholders are seated and the prayers are nearly over. Tired of standing, at last I ventured to seat myself in a back pew, but the usher who was unmindful of me previously, speedily pounced upon me, and I had to stand up again. I had a similar experience at other churches, but finally entered a quiet looking building of rough gray stone on the corner of Seventh avenue and 39th street, with a most home like and comfortable interior, and found myself invited to sit anywhere I chose, as the seats were free. Those at home in Canada who oppose free seats will never fully understand what a blessing they are until they enjoy a similar experience to this. It was thus that I could not but think of Tennyson's "Lotos Eaters," who coming to the land "where it was always afternoon," said:

"Oh rest ye, brother mariners, we will not Wander more."

Here the choir, which is surplised, numbers about fifty voices, and the parts are finely balanced. That the training is most excellent is shown by the sweet, unclouded tone, acknowledged to be unsurpassed by any of Trinity's choirs. Great attention is given to careful shading with consequent delightful effect, and

one is deeply impressed with the feeling that all love, and understand the music they sing. There is also a junior choir of twenty voices whose members sing at the minor services.

One wonders at the ease with which these New York choirs sing the great oratorios, &c. At home, except in the greater cities such as Montreal or Toronto, it is a laborious task to produce such works as the "Elijah," or "Messiah." Singers are alarmed at the difficulties presented in them, and even when creditably performed audiences are not very appreciative.

One resident here is insensibly educated to love classical music, through hearing it constantly, and I have found that in St. Chrysostom's choir even the smallest chorister has a fine discerning taste as to the *status* of a composer, and the excellence of his compositions. A special musical service is given on the evening of the third Sunday in each month, and there is scarcely standing room on these occasions. In November the special music given was the Advent Hymn by Schumann: "In Lowly guise Thy King appeareth," and that for December was Mozart's famous Requiem Mass. This choir was the first to produce this work in New York some three or four years ago, and it is always revived in Advent season.

Last Sunday evening, January 16th, the special work was Schubert's "Song of Miriam": "Strike your timbrels, Hebrew maidens." This is well worthy of the attention of Canadian choral societies and choirs. The music is descriptive of the passage of the Host of Israel from Egypt, and the drowning of Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea:

"Voices shout. Still pressing onward,
"We will pursue and overtake."
But hark! what sighings, Wailings, Mournings
Hark! the Storm!!

and then,.....

Egypt's King
As lead sinks he down beneath the mighty flood
Earth has swallowed all!

A work of Spohr is next in order, and following that Mendelssohn's, "Hear my prayer," and "Oh for the Wings of a Dove."

It will be noted that the standard of St. Chrysostom's music is high—nothing florid or unworthy is presented, and at each offertory, in morning and evening, a selection is given from some good oratorio or other work, or else a good anthem.

The music in the Communion office is always fine and sung with true devotional feeling, and the services lately given are the St. Cecilia Mass by Gounod, Mozart's Requiem, Schubert's Mass in C, Beethoven's Mass in C, and among those less difficult those of J. T. Field in D, and A. J. Pyre in E Flat.

The music on Christmas day was Beethoven's Mass in C, and the offertory from the "Creation," the numbers being the choruses, "For unto us a child is Born," and "Glory be to God," the connecting recitatives, "There were Shepherd's abiding," &c., being sung almost faultlessly by a solo boy who is not yet eleven years old.

On the evening of the Epiphany a special service was held. The offertory anthem was, "Infant of Days," by Dykes, with its lovely refrain, "In terra pax hominibus," and immediately following came five anthems by Gosses, Armes, Mozart (2), &c., Handel. That by Armes, "Thy Doctrine shall fall like the rain," is slow in its movement, with exquisite harmony and contains a beautiful movement for a Quartette.

St. John's Church, Varick street, has also a fine choir, which lately presented the "Elijah" at an evening service. The part of Obadiah was sung by a Canadian tenor, Mr. Mockridge, and whose singing was decidedly the finest on this occasion. In the Aria, "If with all your Hearts," his delicate phrasing proved him to be a fine artist. This choir will soon give "The Creation."