

*Letter from REV. W. P. McHAFFIE, dated FISHER RIVER,
Nov. 1st, 1892.*

YOU may perhaps have heard of the sad drowning accident on Lake Winnipeg, which deprived us of three of our most promising young men. We were away from the Reserve when the news reached it, having been detained in Winnipeg by the illness and death of our own darling boy Willie, and also by the death of my sister, the wife of Rev. G. H. Long, of Boissevain, Man., which occurred just as we were about to start for home. It was a sad home-coming for us indeed. Two young widows, two aged mothers, a father, and a foster-father, uncle to two of the young men, were like Rachael weeping and refusing to be comforted. It was a sight we shall not soon forget, as we stepped from our boat and up the path to the mission house. A number had gathered to meet us, but their words were few; a silent shake of the hand, a tear, and that was all. We seemed to forget our own grief in efforts to comfort our sorrowing friends. Two days later was the Sabbath, and I think I have never enjoyed preaching more than I did when pointing these simple sorrowing Indians to Him who has said and is ever saying, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." As with David, so is it "good for me that I have been afflicted." It has given me a confidence in the sustaining power of God in affliction. One man who had been wandering around in a semi-demented state, through grief over the loss of his two nephews, who were to him as his own sons, came to me the following morning, and in his quaint Indian way of using the English said, "Well, Mr. McHaffie, I know it everything now. I think over all what you said yesterday. I prayed about everything last night, and I feel better in my heart this morning." He did not need to tell me any more, or to express himself better; I, too, was enjoying the same peace, so we understood each other.

I am thankful to say the Master's work is prospering here. There are a few items of secular news relating to our church and school which will perhaps be better to hold over for another letter.

*Letter from REV. E. PAUPANEKISS, to Rev. J. McDougall,
dated, OXFORD HOUSE, 13th September, 1892.*

THE packet will be off in a few days, and as it will likely be the last chance, I thought I would write you. We are in good health; thanks be to the Good Shepherd of the sheep. I am still enjoying my work at Oxford. The people are trying to walk in the way of our holy and blessed religion. "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad." "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." I arrived home only a few days ago from Spirit Lake. The people are trying to serve the Lord and to walk in His ways. They have regular Sunday service, also prayer-meeting every middle of the week. They sing your hymns, "Have you been to Jesus," "Pass me not," "I gave My life for Thee," and "Bringing in the Sheaves." So you see our work is not in vain. The Lord is with us, and He will be with us if we can but believe. At Island Lake they are doing good work. The church building is up, and will be finished the coming spring, and now the people are calling for help. I pray that the Society will do something for them. I help them with nails and provision all I can; I could not do more! The people are anxious to learn about Jesus and His love. Half of them are pure Pagans, and know nothing about Jesus who came to die for them; but many others are walking in God's ways!

Our services here are good. One excellent young man, Charles Sinclair, leads the singing and plays the organ for us. Mr. Simpson, the school teacher, is doing well at the school, and the children are making progress. We have a good supply of school books this summer, and if the Society could send some Cree bibles and hymn books and a few English hymn books and bibles, we would be well supplied.

I have been to Winnipeg this summer and have seen Mr. Semmens. I met my old pastor, Mr. Young, which I did not expect, and he came out with us as far as Norway House. He took my son Joseph with him to Winnipeg to get him educated.

Sarnia.—We have had a revival meeting, on the St. Clair Indian Mission, for fifteen days. It has affected the whole Reserve; both the Methodist and the English Church have shared the blessing. The most of the converts have passed the stage of weeping, and now laugh and sing. The meetings continue often till 1 o'clock a.m. It seems impossible to close them. About fifteen new converts and twenty-five S.S. children, and the whole Church is filled with joy.

A. S. EDWARDS.

The Home Work.

COLPOY'S BAY.—Just before last Conference we finished paying our church debt, which for fifteen years had been an intolerable burden. On Sept. 11th and 12th we held a harvest home festival, which was a grand success; so now we have some funds on hand for much-needed improvements. Near the end of September special meetings were begun, and some fifteen persons professed to find salvation. The prospects were bright for a large ingathering, but a number of people had to leave "to reap the harvest of the sea," and the meetings were closed. In more respects than one this is a rather barren field. Thousands of dollars have been spent here by the Missionary Society, and yet the prospects are but little better than they were twenty-four years ago, when the present writer first took it up as a part of the old Wiarton mission. The country is very rocky, settlements small and scattered, people discontented, and therefore migrating. Moreover, at three of the best settlements the people are mostly Presbyterians, who hope shortly to call a minister of their own. We hope something may be done next spring, by way of re-arrangement, to save our mission fund. Here at Colpoys, prayer-meetings are well sustained. Financial prospects are not bright, but "the Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want." Our friends who thought we were coming back here to die will be glad to know that my wife and I are both well—better, in fact, than for years past.

GEO SMITH.

China.

*Extract of a Letter from the REV. G. E. HARTWELL, B.D.,
dated CHENTU, Oct. 4th, 1892.*

WE have returned from the mountains and are nicely and comfortably settled. We hold morning prayers with the Chinese, as well as an evening meeting in which the catechism is taught. We are working and praying for the conversion of our servants and teachers. We have a woman servant who has learned, or is learning, to read Chinese, and is a very earnest student in divine things. As she is young and has a good memory, we hope she will make a Bible-woman in a few years. Pray for her as well as the others in whom we are so interested.

The weather is cool, and the cholera has subsided. The dispensaries are now being fitted up, and this work, we hope, will be started soon. Patients are already coming to receive medicine. Dr. Kilborn bravely endures his loss, and enters into the work with great energy. We are all looking forward to a glorious future. The Lord continues to open our way as soon as we are ready to enter. The love for this work increases. Satisfaction in the grand opportunities God is opening before us to do His will brings contentment and peace. Everything is quiet around us as far as we know. The people are quite friendly. The harvest truly is great, the laborers few. Our constant prayer is that God will open the hearts of His people to send us many helpers.

CITY MISSION WORK.—Although our work is yet in its infancy, we feel thankful that during the past month, through the kind liberality of friends, we have been enabled to take many loving tokens of sympathy to the suffering and needy. A few dainties for the sick, clothing for the children, and food for needy ones, we feel sure have brought cheer to many hearts and homes. Above all this, we rejoice that some sin sick souls have been to the Great Physician and obtained healing and forgiveness, and some who were fainting, famished, lone, have proved that the boundless love of Jesus satisfies.

CITY MISSIONARY,
Wesleyan College Missionary Society, Montreal.