

# ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

## GENERAL SYNOD, ARCHIVES

### Algoma Quarterly,

DECEMBER 1st, 1874.

**T**HE object of this Paper, 1500 copies of which are issued quarterly, is to afford information about our Missionary work in Algoma to all our friends who are helping us. For the support of our Missions we depend on the alms of the Church.

#### General Remarks.

Our sun peeps in and out of the clouds. We hardly know yet whether we have gained a sure footing or not. But God, who feeds the ravens and clothes the flowers of the field, has cared for us thus far, and has not suffered us to want. To-day we have bread.—To-morrow—Well, we trust in God to supply our needs.

A very satisfactory Missionary Meeting was held in Montreal at the time of the Provincial Synod, and our Bishop met with a more hearty response to his appeal for help than he has perhaps had at all before. The amount subscribed was as follows:—

Christ Church Cathedral.....	\$105 77
St. James the Apostle .....	152 20
At Missionary Meeting.....	300 78
By private individuals.....	655 50
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1213 75</b>

Not less satisfactory was the kind offer of Mrs. Simpson to act as Secretary-Treasurer in Montreal for the Algoma Diocese, in the place of the late Rev. George Slack, whose death was noticed in the last Quarterly.

It was also cheering to the Bishop while in Montreal to find that friends in the Maritime Provinces were prepared to lend a helping hand and assist him in his work.

While exhibiting on the one hand the bright side of our prospects, we can but add that we *do feel* a little disappointed that more interest is not felt for our work in the dioceses nearer home. The returns at present have been very small, and our Secretary-Treasurers complain that although they have sent out the Quarterlies and distributed the collecting books, as well as having incurred considerable expenses in postage and printing, their efforts hitherto have been but poorly rewarded. Of the five dioceses, we must say that at present, the two that are the furthest distance from us have given us the most sympathy and help.

Whatever, however, may be our drawbacks, we feel that we have much reason for thankfulness to God who has helped us hitherto. The last Quarterly shewed a deficiency of \$229; this quarter we are happy to be able to note a balance in our Bishop's hands, after paying all expenses to date, of \$1085.82.

But our work is increasing. Two fresh appointments have been made this autumn,—one of a catechist to fill the new Indian Mission at Batcheewauning, the other that of a clergyman (Mr. Barrett) to Garden River.

While asking for outside help, we strive to do what little we can for ourselves. We have regular quarterly collections, and Indians and backwoodsmen all make their humble offerings to the General Fund of the Diocese. The aggregate amount at present is about \$70 per quarter.

### Our Bishop's Doings.

On his return from England last June, our Bishop, after a stay of two weeks at the Sault Ste Marie, (during which he administered the holy rite of confirmation in St. Luke's Church, and visited the Garden River Mission) started for the Muskoka District (400 miles distant from the Sault) where he remained between two

and three weeks, and made as thorough a visitation as the state of the roads, or rather absence of roads and bridges would allow. During his stay in those parts, he visited and held service in the church at Rosseau Village, and in Richardson's School House, at Ulswater, twelve miles distant from the Village. A missionary is much needed here. At Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, and Draper stations, under the charge of the Rev. J. Cole, services were held; as also at Port Sydney, on Mary Lake, Allansville, and Huntsville in the charge of Rev. Edwin Cooper.

The Bishop, finding that many parts of this district, where members of the church, whom he desired to visit, are settled, could only be reached on foot, determined to put off any further visitation until the winter, when nature, under a wise Providence, provides a ready means of ingress and egress to those back settlements, and went on to Parry Sound, where he remained three days, (of which Sunday, 12th July, was one); here he preached twice to large and attentive congregations, and administered the holy Eucharist to seventeen persons; also held a service in a School House, six miles distant. On the following Sunday, the Bishop, having returned to the Sault, visited Garden River, and preached twice to the Indians, the Rev. E. Wilson, Superintendent of Indian Missions, acting as Interpreter. The following Friday (July 24th) found the Bishop at Prince Arthur's Landing, between 300 and 400 miles distant from the Sault in a westerly direction. Here he remained nearly two weeks, preached four times and admitted twelve persons into full communion with the church by the apostolic rite of confirmation. Sunday (August 16th) was spent in company with the Rev. E. Wilson, at the Indian Mission at Batchewanaung in Lake Superior; when an opening service was held in

the new Mission School-chapel, and the Holy Eucharist administered to eight persons, of whom the majority were Indians. The greater part of the next week was spent with the Rev. R. Hill, Missionary to the Indians, at Shequaindah, Little Current, and Manitouawning, on the great Manitoulin Island. A travelling missionary is much needed for this Island, which is some ninety (90) miles in length, by from twenty (20) to forty (40) in breadth, and has many members of our communion settled on it. So, also, is a travelling Missionary wanted for the Muskoka District, where our members are longing for the ministrations of the church, and the Bishop has deep cause to regret that the funds placed at his disposal for carrying on the missionary operations of the Diocese are so scant, as to forbid any hope for the present, of supplying the great and crying want.

It is to be hoped that Canadian churchman, looking upon Algoma as their *mission field*, will be up and doing, and not allow the hands of the Bishop whom *they have sent* into that spiritually destitute region, to "hang down," for lack of funds to carry on the work committed unto him.

### A Pat on the Head.

Seven years ago the Bishop of Toronto in visiting Manitoulin Island, which was then under his charge, patted a little Indian fellow on the head, and told him to be a good boy, and mind his book, and that he would send him to school to be a minister. His Lordship may very likely have forgotten this little incident, but the Indian boy has not: he did as he was told, and has acquired a fair amount of instruction, and now applies for a fulfilment of the promise for a college education to fit him for the ministry. Our Bishop intends to see the young man (now 19 years of age), and if he appears suitable, will endeavour to take steps to meet his wishes.

## Bracebridge Mission.

Bracebridge is a rising town in Muskoka, with a scattered population of nearly 1,000 souls, boasting of six dry goods and grocery stores, and a brick block of dwelling houses. It is in the pastoral charge of the Rev. W. Cole, who travels 22 and 24 miles on alternate Sundays, with his horse and gig, over roads which in wet weather are well nigh impassable. He has two out-stations, Gravenhurst and Draper, at each of which places is a log church and a fair congregation of bush farmers and backwoods' settlers. At Bracebridge the church is a frame building with eight small windows and one large one; it is seated with stained wooden benches to accommodate about 125 persons, has a plain pine desk and pulpit and an organ, but no font or communion service. The average congregation is 80 in summer, 30 in winter. The Sunday School is held in the church, and has an attendance of from 50 to 100 scholars; it is greatly in want of a Sunday School library.

In these backwoods' settlements the coming of the winter snow is hailed with pleasure; then there is an end to ploughing one's buggy wheels through the deep mud, or sticking in holes, or bumping over a corduroy road; all is smooth and white, and the sleigh bells jingle, and the rough-coated pony bounds along, and thick furs and buffalo robes keep out the cold; the farmer takes his grain to the grist mill, the lumber merchant hauls his heavy sticks of timber to the saw mill, friends visit friends, and not least among the benefited is the clergyman who, with a stout little pony and a cutter, can now accomplish double the work that he could do in the summer. Mr. Cole speaks of this, and talks of holding more services in "the sleighing time" than he does at present. He thinks also that there are several good openings for extending our work around,—

places where little settlements are forming, and where a congregation of 40 or 50 persons might readily be gathered. The only other two missions at present in the Muskoka Territory, are at Mary Lake, 30 miles, and Parry Sound, 60 miles distant from Bracebridge.

### The Shingwauk Home.

The main stone building is now nearly completed, with the exception of plastering and painting, which operations owing to the lateness of the season, will probably have to be deferred until spring.

The Home, however, is already in operation, the Infirmary (which is a frame cottage 55 by 20 feet in size), being used temporarily for the winter. This building consists of a large general room in the centre, and two dormitories opening into it on either side, besides a small pantry and closets. The large room has to answer for school-room, dining-room, and kitchen which though rather inconvenient is perhaps an advantage in one way in the winter time for the reason that there are not likely to be any complaints of cold. The Home was opened on the 1st of October, and there are now 16 Indian children, boys and girls, some of whom have come from a distance, and others from Garden River. The Matron (Mrs. Wilson, from Barrie,) lives with them, and for this winter is school-mistress as well. The beautifully clean and tidy state of the apartments, and the neat, clean look of the children, speak well for her capabilities. She teaches the girls to cook and bake bread, as well as to read and write, and sew. All look very happy and comfortable, and we can only hope that the large building, when in full operation, may bear as happy and pleasant an aspect as does this embryo one. On Sundays the Rev. Mr. Wilson holds Sunday School in the afternoon and service in the evening,

at which other persons living in the neighbourhood attend. On Sunday mornings the children walk into the Sault to church, a distance of about two miles and a half.

We can but pray God for a blessing upon the undertaking, and we trust that our young friends, the scholars of the various Sunday Schools that have been helping us, will, now that the "Home" is actually in operation, redouble their efforts for us, and that many other Sunday Schools in various parts of the Dominion will next spring undertake the support of an Indian child. This winter we have sixteen children to be provided for, but next summer, we hope to re-open after the holidays with *sixty children*. we thankfully acknowledge boxes of clothing from Holy Trinity, Toronto, for Nancy Nander; from St. Paul's, Woodstock, for Lizzie Greenbird, and from Mrs. Draper, Toronto, for the general stock. We are expecting several other boxes, and trust they may arrive before the close of navigation.

### Winter Arrangements.

The Bishop proposes during the winter to visit the Muskoka District in order to make himself more thoroughly acquainted with that part of his Diocese, and during his visit he will probably hold an ordination.

The remainder of the winter will be spent by the Bishop in visiting the various Canadian dioceses, with the view of bringing before the clergy and people the claims of his diocese, and urging the placing of the Algoma Missionary Association upon a more satisfactory and permanent basis. His Lordship feels strongly that in order to promote the welfare of the church in these regions over which, in the providence of God, he has been appointed, his hands must be supported, not by occasional collections and haphazard contributions only, but by a united and organized effort on the part of the whole church in Canada.

