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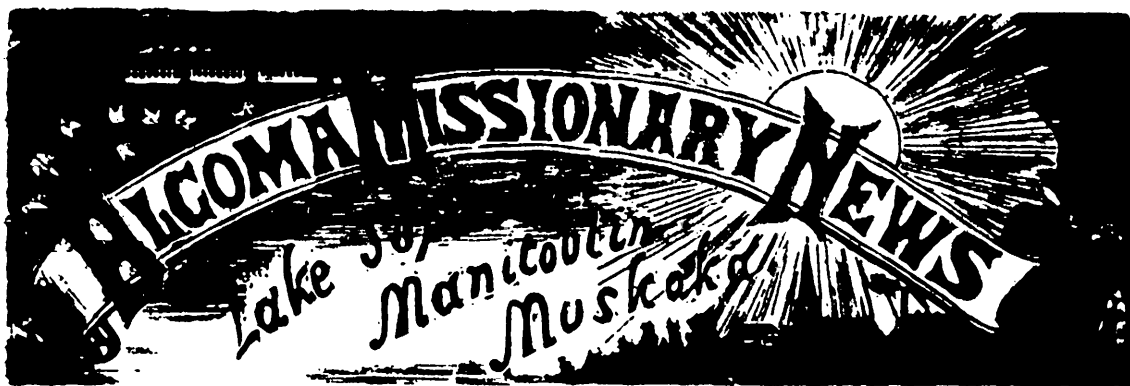
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Volume VIII

MARCH 1st 1885.

Number 2

MISSIONARY WORK IN ALGOMA

ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND.

THE Bishop's visit to this Mission occurred rather late in the summer, owing to press of business, and other causes, the visitation did not commence until Sunday October fifth.

On Saturday the missionary in charge, who had been waiting at the wharf for three or four hours, was rejoiced to hear, after dark, the whistle of the yacht *Evangeline*. He had given up hope of seeing the Bishop that night, and was pleasantly disappointed when he arrived.

Sunday morning there was to be service at the little church at Hilton. The building had been much improved since the Bishop's last visit. A small bell hangs in a tower over the church door. The inside also is scrupulously clean. The walls had been recently calcined and the whole floor had been well scrubbed and the windows cleaned by some young ladies of the congregation who kindly volunteered for this work, and they then placed in the aisle some cocoa nut matting which had been purchased out of the proceeds of a concert held last winter. In the chancel were two new chairs, obtained from the same source as the carpet. Altogether then the church looked very nice indeed, and as the hour for service arrived every seat was filled, by an attentive congregation. After morning prayers and the baptism of two infants, three of the young ladies who had helped to clean the church were presented for confirmation. The Bishop gave them a most suitable and impressive address before they again took their seats. Then followed a sermon on the text "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." The sermon was an emphasis on the word "must" in the text. The Holy Communion was then administered to nineteen persons.

After a hasty meal, we started for Richard's Landing school house. The rain poured down in torrents, still we pushed on, although we did not expect any congregation to meet us. However the rain held up a little just before service time and a few of these who lived nearest turned out and a little more than half filled the building. Seven candidates were presented for confirmation, one a married woman had walked several miles and got a thorough drenching going home again. The Holy

Communion was administered here also after the sermon. The rain was a great disappointment to the missionary and the people. This was to have been the principal service. It was expected that seventeen persons would have been confirmed and a very large number of persons intended to be present. Some had already started in waggons but had to turn back. It is hoped to build a church here, and the missionary was anxious that a large number should meet the Bishop. But God arranges things for the best, and the storm was meant for some good purpose. After church the Bishop retired to his yacht and slept on board that night.

On Monday morning the weather was so stormy that it was judged best to leave the yacht in safety at the wharf and ride overland to our next appointment. The Bishop had kindly invited Mrs. Beer and some others to accompany us in the yacht but all had to go by land. After jolting in a waggon over ten miles of stones and mud we found ourselves under the hospitable roof of Mr. and Mrs. Kent. Our inner man having been well cared for we all went in good time to the Jocelyn church, where a large congregation waited to hear the word of God from the lips of his servant the Bishop. Here again four persons were confirmed, twenty one partook of the Lord's Supper and one child was baptized. After church we were most kindly received by Mr. and Mrs. Young, who had prepared a bountiful tea, and here we spent a pleasant evening, the Bishop returning to Mr. Kent's to pass the night.

Early on Tuesday morning the Bishop and the Missionary accompanied by Mr. Young started for Tenby Bay, and arrived about noon, to find an abundance of good things prepared on the table of Mr. Watson. Mrs. Sprowle who did the honors was most kind and anxious that none should go away hungry. After dinner we passed on to Mr. Fuller's where service was held, but owing to various accidents the three confirmation candidates who were expected were unable to be present. After service we returned to Hilton, but the night was dark and the road not too good, so after creeping along with great care, fearful lest we should upset over a log or stone, or drive into a ditch or hole, we were so fortunate as to obtain the loan of a lantern, and arrived safe home but very tired, to find Mrs. Beer ready with supper and a good warm house.

This finished the Bishop's work on the island. He has held service in four of Mr. Beer's six sta-

tions, has confirmed fourteen persons and baptised three. Sixty persons partook of the Lord's Supper. He has also by his eloquent preaching of the word of God given the people of the island, encouragement to lead Godly, sober, and industrious lives, showing most clearly that the christian life yields most happiness here and everlasting happiness here after.

Early on Wednesday morning, the Bishop accompanied by Mr. Beer started in the yacht for Coburn Island, where they arrived between two and three o'clock. Notice had been sent a week previously, but as the mail boat had not called on the way down, the Bishop's arrival was unexpected. However the news soon spread and at seven in the evening the school house was full, nearly the whole settlement attending. No ordained man has ever been stationed here. The Presbyterians sent a student for the summer, but the people are at present entirely without religious services. Mr. Beer has promised to visit them once during the winter, and this is all the spiritual instruction they expect, until next summer and perhaps longer. The journey to Coburn Island in the winter is attended with considerable risk. To make ones way along so many miles over the ice is no slight task. Should a snow storm come on the traveller might easily get lost, and a man does not wander long until he is overcome by cold and perishes. Also when a man has more work in his own mission than he can possibly overtake he finds it difficult to attend to what may be termed outside calls, though his spirit may be ever so willing.

On Thursday the yacht returned to Hilton once more, and as it was very stormy both going and coming Mr. Beer who is no sailor was very sick. On Friday the Bishop went across to Bruce Mines to visit Rev'd Mr. Berry's Mission.

It had been arranged that Mr. Beer should rejoin the Bishop on Sunday evening, in order to accompany him to Algoma Mills on Monday. It was quite dark before Mr. Beer started in a little skiff to row himself across the seven miles which lay between Hilton and Bruce Mines. All went well until he got half way across, when a thunder storm arose. The sky got black as ink and the wind began to howl. Mr. Beer who had now to steer by the direction of the wind soon lost his way. The waves were getting pretty high for his small skiff and the missionary began to fear he might get into trouble. After rowing for a time in constant danger of being swamped he at last reached the shore and got under lee of the point. But now his troubles were only begun, he could not tell where he was, he only knew he was out of his course, the sky was pitch dark, and the thunder was growling in the distance. He went ashore and pulling his boat out he turned it upside down and crawled under and thought of staying there until the morning, or at least until the storm abated. However as the rain did not appear to be coming Mr. Beer launched his boat again and tried to find out where he was. He wished to find the gap, a passage between an island and the mainland which leads to the bay in front of the mines. After rowing a while he passed what he thought was the gap but it was so dark he

could not tell, and the storm was just about to break so he tried to get ashore again. In this he failed, for the boat was in a shallow spot among big stones, and he could not get near the land, he tried another place and there it was marsh. And now the rain came down in torrents. The night was so dark he could not see the boat he sat in, which was now pounding among the boulders once more. He could have waded ashore perhaps, but as he wanted the boat to turn over him, he might as well get wet in the boat as to let it drift away and he get wet on shore. At last after perhaps an hour of drenching rain the storm ceased, the sky got a little brighter, the stars shone out and Mr. Beer managed to push on and at last found the gap and reached the Mines, more like a drowned rat than a parson. He met the Bishop at the yacht and then went to the house of Mr. G. Marks, where Mrs. Marks soon made both the inner and outer man comfortable. After a sound nights sleep rendered necessary by thirty miles in the saddle on Sunday and the little adventure on the lake Sunday night, Mr. Beer rose on Monday morning none the worse for his overnight troubles.

About half past nine the yacht steamed away from Bruce Mines for Algoma Mills. The weather was fine and we made good time. When a few miles from our destination we were met by the C.P.R. Tug Magdalena. Some few friends had come to meet the Bishop and the two vessels kept near each other until we reached the Mills.

Mr. Gillmor the catechist in charge had arranged everything very nicely. Mrs. Sampson entertained the party that night and Mrs. Young in the morning. Service was held in the school house. Mr. Beer read the prayers, Mr. Gillmor the lessons and the Bishop preached the sermon.

The C.P.R. have temporarily abandoned this place and most of the people having left, our congregation was therefore small, but Mr. Gillmor assured the Bishop that nearly every available person was present.

The next morning the yacht started early for the Sault. Mr. Beer was dropped off at Hilton and the Bishop reached home late at night and found that all his family had retired to rest having given up all hope of seeing him that night.

The Evangeline behaved splendidly, and the trip to Algoma Mills and back was a most enjoyable one.

THE BISHOP IN MUSKOKA.

BRACEBRIDGE.



On Tuesday Dec. 9th the Bishop of Algoma arrived at Bracebridge, Muskoka, in the little steamer "Lake Joseph," having just visited the Gravenhurst mission during which visit a thaw had set in which rendered the road almost impassible. However the weather providentially changed on the 8th, snow fell, and also the thermometer, so that during his stay in the Bracebridge mission, his Lordship enjoyed good sleighing over the eighty miles he covered.

The first station visited was

BAYSVILLE

a village of about 200 inhabitants, situated at the south east end of Trading Lake (or Lake of Bays) and about 16 miles distant from Bracebridge. Service was held in the little frame church dedicated to St. Ambrose, at 7 o'clock, the first held by any one (save the lay-reader) for nearly a year. There are not many church families but amongst them there are some who show a very practical interest in the improvement of their church in spite of the paucity of the services. They have collected from outside help and among themselves between \$300.00 and \$400.00 with which the building has been roofed and plastered, window frames have been put in and the church ground fenced. There are still several needs such as Communion Plate, Font, rail for chancel, and a vestry but as there is a debt of \$20.00 on the work already done, these needs must remain unsupplied for the present.

A start was made next morning (Wednesday Dec 10th) in spite of a Scotch drizzle for

STONELEIGH

where 11 a.m. was the hour appointed for service but the clocks of Muskoka are proverbially indifferent so that it was close upon noon before our congregation had assembled. The little church here is of the roughest description, the plaster in many places being conspicuous for its absence, thus providing an inexpensive system of automatic ventilation. A hearty little service was followed by a vestry meeting at which attention was called to the unfinished state of the building, about \$50.00 being needed to put it in a sound condition. No grant having been already made by the S.P.C.K. towards its erection, the Bishop held out the hope that an application for aid would meet with a favourable response. The various heads of families present also promised to aid their minister with oats (for his horse) and potatoes. A Sunday School lately started here was spoken of as being in a flourishing condition, the great need being magazines to give the children every Sunday and a lending Library for the use of the scholars.

Mr. Piper, the people's warden, entertained us most hospitably, but time was short and we had to hurry on to Bracebridge 8 miles distant, where at 6 p.m. the Bishop met the church officers and workers at tea in the "Parsonage" and had some social intercourse with them before adjourning to the church for a Devotional Service at which he gave an address specially to workers, calling their attention to the way in which all the returned Jews aided Nehemiah in the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem, princes, priests, guilds and women all being found willing to take their share. About 25 of the congregation which numbered 70, remained to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Next morning (Thursday Dec. 11th) we drove 6 miles North to

FALKENBURG,

but all the settlers were hard at work on the railway now in course of construction, and as a consequence the attendance at the service was miserably small. The Bishop preached from the text Rom. 1:16 "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ

for it is the power of God unto salvation." The warden, Mr. Moore, stated after the service that the church was free from debt, but uninsured, thus the Bishop said must be remedied forthwith, and called on the families belonging to the church to unite in showing more interest in the cleanliness and general condition of the building. After a hasty dinner kindly provided by Mrs. Moore, we drove another 10 miles to

UFFORD,

where the Rev. R.W. Plante of Port Sydney met us. The hour for service being 6:30 p.m. we had ample time to rest and refresh ourselves with Mr. and Mrs. Gill's abundant hospitality. Then a mile of heavy walking brought us to St. John's church where a crowded congregation numbering between 50 and 60 assembled to see and hear the Bishop. Here the good work done in the Sunday School was very apparent for in it the children are taught to respond and take the alternate verses in the Psalms, consequently the service was a very hearty and enjoyable one; and although there is no instrument to lead the singing, the canticles are chanted and the hymns sung admirably. The Bishop preached from the text "my Father worketh hitherto, and I work;" his sermon being listened to with marked attention. It was followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion at which there were 8 communicants.

At the vestry meeting attention was called to the very draughty state of the church and it was decided to put up felt paper and over that a wooden lining. It was also definitely settled that this station should belong to the Port Sydney Mission and not to Bracebridge, for though each missionary supplies a monthly service, there can only be one hand to hold the reins. Mr. Knowles provided his Lordship with accommodation for the night, while a small apartment known as "the Prophet's Chamber" was placed by Mr. Gill at the disposal of Mr. and Mrs. Stubbs.

9 a.m. Friday Dec. 12th saw us starting off for

BARDSVILLE,

picking up the Bishop at Mr. Knowles en route. We had a little difficulty in keeping to the road through the bush as it had not been broken for nearly a mile. However by noon we reached our destination, where another very small congregation assembled to meet their Bishop. After the Litany, his Lordship preached from the text "Except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Math. 18:3. He addressed himself specially to the juvenile element in the congregation which predominated. No regular vestry meeting could be held owing to the absence of so many church members. An eight mile drive brought us back to Bracebridge. The next day (Sat. Dec. 13th) the Bishop drove alone to Northwood which station is to be henceforth part of the Gravenhurst mission. Its members are very united and work together for the best interests of the church, it contrasts favorably with many a larger and more flourishing church.

Sunday Dec. 14th was quite a field-day, a good congregation assembled in St. Thomas Bracebridge in the morning, to whom the Bishop preached a very solemn sermon on the words "We must all ap-

pear before the judgment seat of Christ," dwelling specially on the universality of the judgment, and the necessity that each one should come to His tribunal drawn from both the Divine and the human points of view. At 3:30 a children's service was held in the church at which the Bishop gave an address, showing how even children may become missionaries for God.

After this we hurried off on foot to

A NAVVIES CAMP

about a mile from the village, and making our way into the dormitory found an attentive congregation of 20 rough men. It was a scene worthy of a picture, that long dimly lighted tent with a double row of berths on either side on the edge of which sat the men gazing intently at the Bishop, and drinking in every word he uttered. We left a copy of "Friendly Greeting" with each, that some reading suitable for the day might be within their reach.

A very crowded congregation assembled at St. Thomas' in the evening, the aisle being filled with forms from the school and men standing to the very doors.

A missionary sermon on the words "What wilt Thou have me to do?" was preached by the Bishop who called on every true Christian, particularly women, to go out and find some work to do for God. The collections this day, which were devoted to the usual church expense, amounted to twenty dollars.

On Monday evening Dec. 15th after a brief vestry meeting (at which the Bishop speaking of the raising of monies for church work, put plainly before the people that paying for a concert ticket is not giving to God, and that all true giving must involve the spirit of self sacrifice) a missionary meeting was held in the school house, which with the help of a large map of the Algoma Diocese proved very interesting, and it was determined that by God's help a missionary association should be started in Bracebridge with one Branch for Domestic and another for Foreign missions the former, if possible, to support an Indian child in the Shingwauk Home. This is the first attempt of the kind in the Diocese but it is hoped that others will follow the example. The Bishop left next day for Toronto.

HUNTSVILLE.

On Monday January 19th. The Bishop of Algoma arrived at the Allensville Station of the Huntsville mission for 10 a.m. service in St. Michael's church. It was snowing heavily and the congregation was small in consequence. It was remarked that it was just such a morning, when on that day two years ago, the Bishop had visited the station and opened the church for Divine worship. We were pleased to note that the church had been lined with thick paper, the gift of the Rev. W. Crompton, preparatory to being finished with matched timber, which will add to its comfort and appearance both. Morning prayers was said by the Rev. T. Llwyd, who was appointed to the charge in September last, the Bishop preaching the sermon, and celebrating the Holy Communion. After service the Bishop held a business meeting and the questions of financial position of the congregation, work of the Sunday

School &c. were fully discussed, and found to be satisfactory.

A drive of some six miles through a blinding snow storm brought us to the parsonage, Huntsville, where a dinner was waiting for us, which with the congenial warmth of a good fire, soon brought us into a state of comfort. At 6 p.m. an invitation to take tea with Mr. H. May, church warden, at his hospitable mansion some half mile away had to be obeyed. A few friends had been invited to meet the Bishop, and in congenial chat upon Huntsville church matters, a most enjoyable evening was spent.

ILFRACOMBE.

At 10 a.m. of the 20th we left Huntsville for the visitation of the Ilfracombe Mission, lately vacated by the Rev. A.S.O. Sweet, whom ill health had compelled to return to England. A drive of six miles brought us to the house and farm of Mrs. Tipper, who hospitably entertained us to dinner. A further drive of three miles along the smooth face of Vernon lake, in the teeth of a keen wind, brought us to Hoodstown, where a neat frame church is dedicated to St. Jude. Service was appointed for 2 p.m. but as seven of the candidates for confirmation had to come six miles or more, we could not commence until 3 o'clock. After evensong by Mr. Llwyd, the holy and apostolic rite of confirmation was administered to fifteen candidates, to whom the Bishop gave a most impressive and suitable address. Twenty-eight communicants including the new members, partook of the Lord's Supper, and an offertory of \$3.95 was made in behalf of the Widows and Orphan's fund of the diocese. The Bishop said this was the heartiest and most enjoyable service of this section of his tour. A business meeting followed, in which the station was declared solvent, and arrangements made for the continuance of the services by the Lay Reader Mr. Hunt until another missionary could be appointed, but this the Bishop pointed out was a serious difficulty, as the Colonial and Continental Church Society grant to the stipend of the late missionary had been made for only five years, and they were expired, he had written the Secretary asking him to continue the grant five months ago, but had not received a reply, and he was afraid the Society did not intend to continue the grant, in which case, he, the Bishop was powerless, as he had not the funds in hand to warrant his appointing a new missionary, and all he could say to them was to rally round their lay reader and keep together until he could see further what was to be done. A cup of tea hastily taken at the house of Mr. Hilditch, a warm hearted churchman from Lancashire, and we were again in the cutter, toiling along a heavy and very hilly road to Ilfracombe, where we were due for service at 7 o'clock, but the road was unfavourable, and it was eight o'clock when we began the ascent of the truly formidable hill, on which stands the log church, and parsonage of Ilfracombe. The congregation was patiently waiting—which is not unworthy of note—as the night was extremely cold, and the church possessed greater facilities for ventilation, than for heat. After shortened form of evensong, the Bishop preached. The offertory—\$1.80 was for the Widows & Orphans fund, after which Holy Communion was administered to twelve recipients

and a business meeting for 10 a.m. the day following announced. A drive of two miles brought us to the house of W. A. R. Garratt Esqr., whose guests we were to be for the next two days. With characteristic hospitality we were almost immediately ushered into the dining room, and the well spread table, and enjoyable society of our hosts, soon caused us to forget the discomforts of our journey.

The parish meeting of the next day brought together a working majority of the sterner set. The Bishop called the meeting to order, and then spent a patient two hours investigating and putting into shape the station's accounts; this done, and a hasty luncheon partaken with the Misses Bell, we started, under the guidance of Mr. Delafosse for Round Lake. The route lay along the length of Burk Lake then through two clearings, which were made merry by an upset, the Bishop falling undermost, then across Round Lake to the shanty of Mr. Smith. Here the Bishop's good fortune seemed to desert him, for only *one woman*—and she had walked four miles—appeared in the shape of congregation. So we turned it into a cottage meeting, Mr. Llwyd said the Litany, and the Bishop read and expounded the Gospel of the Sunday. We then partook Mr. Smith's hospitality and hastened to make our return journey. Halfway to Ifracombe, we were earnestly requested to turn in and baptise the infant child of Mr. Wm. Remington. Mr. L. did this while the Bishop elected to walk on to get his feet warmed. We picked the Bishop up on Buck Lake, and at 7 o'clock arrived—most gladly—at Mr. Garratt's. The next morning our host informed us that the thermometer had fallen to 40 degrees below zero, and then frozen, all this we felt to be so, and were easily induced to delay our journey to the next station to the last moment possible. A sharp drive of nine miles brought us to

RAVENSCLIFFE.

After tea, with our good friend Mrs. Tipper, we drove to the school house a mile and a half distant, and again enjoyed a most hearty and united service, 20 communicants partook of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The offertory was \$2.07 to the widows and orphans fund. In the business meeting following arrangements were made for the annexation of the Station to the Mission of Huntsville, with which it is most connected.

A beautiful and church-like structure is being erected by the Tipper Bro's, which when completed will be an ornament to the diocese, and is a fitting example of what can be done by earnest hearts, when judiciously aided and encouraged by help from outside the diocese.

Having refreshed mind and body with peaceful slumber in Mrs. Tipper's "prophets chamber," we prepared early for further travel, when the cry of "fire" startled everyone, the roof had caught fire from the stove pipe. Fortunately abundant help was at hand, and what might have been a serious calamity was by timely action averted.

After inspecting the new church with which we were greatly pleased, we drove to the Whiddon settlement for service in Dixon's school house, which was well filled.

The Bishop pointed out the injury of multiplying

stations too closely together, and said he felt that it would be unwise to advise the formation of a station here, one side being near to Ravenscliffe and the other to Ifracombe, and strongly urged the church people of this locality to attach themselves to— and strengthen the interest in one or other of these two places.

This completing the visitation of the Ifracombe Mission; we then entered the cutter, and a brisk drive of some ten miles brought us to the parsonage, Huntsville.

Saturday the Bishop employed himself industriously endeavouring to overtake his correspondence.

This week the interest of the Huntsville congregation had centered itself in the erection of a temporary tower, built for the reception of a new church bell recently purchased, which the Bishop was to inaugurate on the Sunday. This, their trial and energy enabled them to satisfactorily accomplish, of which we had timely and most infallible proof by the bell itself on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday at 10 a.m. the volunteer bell ringer entered upon his duties. And for the first time in the history of the Mission the people were called to worship their God by the old familiar sound, so many had not heard for many long years. The interests attaching to the Bishop's visit, the new bell, and the fact that there was to be a confirmation brought together a large congregation. The Missionary read prayers and presented the candidates, fourteen in number, upon whom the Bishop laid hands and prayed. The Bishop preached a most impressive sermon from 2 Cor. v. 10. The offertory in aid of the bell fund was \$10.97. Holy Communion was then celebrated of which 34 including the newly confirmed partook. At 3 p.m. the Bishop addressed the Sunday School upon the work of the Diocese amongst the Indians, and an offertory was made in aid of the work of \$2.59.

In the evening a crowded congregation assembled to hear the Bishop preach, the offertory being \$7.24 to the bell fund.

At 9 a.m. the 26th we drove to the

GRASSMERE STATION.

six miles east. The Bishop's sermon being upon the necessity of conversion. Offertory to widows and orphans fund, \$1.83. A meeting was held immediately after service to settle the question of building a church. It was fully conceded that one was needed, but the poverty of the people stood in the way of anything being given, except in the shape of work. The Bishop promised \$50.00 from the fund of the diocese, and \$5 for himself. A committee was formed to push on the work in the spring, so far as it may be possible to do it with little or no funds. After partaking Mr. Morgans' hospitality, in whose house the service is held, we returned to Huntsville for a missionary meeting at 7:30, to be followed by a parish meeting. The Rev. T. Llwyd took the chair, and opened with prayer. After a brief speech by the chairman the Bishop gave an interesting account of the work in the diocese generally, dwelling more particularly on those aspects of his work amongst the Indians and in the lake district with which the audience was not familiar. The

offertory at the close was \$6.78 for the general fund of the diocese.

At 2 p.m. the 27th we left for what is known as the

HARRIS' SETTLEMENT

township of King, some 16 miles north by east of Huntsville. The sleighing was magnificently good, but the air was piercingly cold. Shortly after 4 o'clock we reached the homestead of Mr. Harris from whom we received a most kindly welcome, and with whom we lodged.

Several of the candidates came in the evening to be catechised by Mr. Llwyd, they having been trained by the Lay Reader, Mr. Large, who for several years past has with praiseworthy zeal and a good deal of self-denial, kept the flock together here, and at a settlement three miles south, hoping that some day, in the providence of God, they might get a clergyman.

At 10 a.m. the 28th we were all assembled in the little log church built in the bush, and apart from the extreme cold, had a most enjoyable and a hearty service. After matins seven candidates were added to the full roll of the church in confirmation, and 20 communicants knelt at the Lord's table, and the offertory to the widow's and orphan's fund, was \$1.80. An earnest appeal was made by the Lay Reader in behalf of the people for a Sunday service, if only occasionally, from a clergyman. The Bishop promised to use his best endeavours to persuade, and enable the Rev. Messrs. Llwyd and Magnan to give each one service per quarter, which would give them a clergyman's visit once in every six weeks.

This completing Mr. Llwyd's programme, that gentleman handed the Bishop over to the Rev. W. B. Magnan incumbent of the Burk's Falls Mission, who accompanied by Mr. L. drove the Bishop to Cyprus, six miles distant, where dinner was prepared for us. After which the visitation of the Burk's Falls Mission was entered upon, and Mr. L. returned to Huntsville.

CLERICAL CONFERENCE.



An important step has been taken in connection with our Missionary Diocese in that the present energetic Bishop has called a portion of his clergy together for the purpose of conferring one with another, discussing the affairs of the Diocese, and suggesting modes by which the work might be done with more efficacy.

The Bishop and clergy met at Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m. in Christ Church, Port Sydney, on the morning of Wednesday, Jan. 14th. All the clergy of the Muskoka and Parry Sound District, eight in number, were present. At 10 o'clock a.m. the conference met in the Music Hall, which had kindly been placed at the disposal of the Bishop by A. S. Smith Esqr., during the sitting. After prayers had been read by the Rev. W. Crompton of Aspdin, the Bishop briefly but clearly explained the objects he had in view by calling the conference, and why he thought such conference of his clergy requisite for their mutual edification and official advantage.

A clear and incisive paper was then read by the

Rev. Mr. Osborne of Gravenhurst, on "our clerical staff, how best to secure well qualified workers for the Mission Field," in which he advocated the training of what may be called a native ministry, that is, young men selected from amongst the settlers, who should go through a course of appointed study under the direction of the clergy for one year at their own cost, and without any promise whatever of ordination. At the end of such probation, if the young man should offer himself for the ministry, and has shown the necessary natural abilities, let a testimonial be signed by the minister and church wardens where he has officiated, stating these facts, and let such testimonial be forwarded to the Bishop, who will notify his examining Chaplain to make strict and personal enquiries by interview and otherwise respecting the morals and educational standing of the candidate and report. This also being satisfactory, the Bishop can send the candidate to some Divinity School, or have him trained in the Diocese. The paper was freely discussed, and, to a great extent, its suggestions were approved, but it was pointed out that, however well some such scheme might be carried out in towns or cities and older settled countries, it would be found utterly impracticable in such a diocese as Algoma, where the struggle for bare existence effectually precludes any of the young men, however much they might be disposed to do so, offering themselves as candidates. The want of means, and, what is alas! apparently to become chronic in the diocese, *the continued want of means*, is a decided bar to any attempt of the Bishop's either sending young men, if he could get them, to a Divinity School outside, or commencing such a school inside his diocese.

An almost exhaustive paper was read by the Rev. Mr. Chowne of Rosseau upon "*The Algoma Missionary News*, how to increase its efficiency as a medium of communication with the church outside the Diocese both in Canada and in England."

In the discussion which followed, from the Bishop downward, every one agreed that some such medium was an absolute requisite if the Diocese is to be properly and effectually brought before the world at large. A proposal was made to publish the paper in Muskoka, should the clergy in other parts of the Diocese approve, and the Bishop was asked to communicate with the Rev. Mr. Wilson, the present editor, on the subject.

Sunday schools was the subject next on the list, and a paper was to have been read by the Rev. Mr. Stubbs of Bracebridge. But that gentleman has been compelled by the state of his health and urgent medical advice to seek a more genial climate, and consequently his paper was not forthcoming. The conference unanimously expressed the general sorrow and regret at the absence of Mr. Stubbs for the cause assigned, and requested his Lordship to convey to that gentleman this expression of their minds and at the same time to forward to Mrs. Stubbs their warm sympathy with her in this hour of her trial.

A warm and earnest discussion followed upon "Sunday Schools," the management, conductors, teachers and lessons. But the subject was too important a one to be fully discussed so late in the day and therefore an adjournment had to take place.

Thursday Jan. 5th. After morning prayer at 9 30 a.m. in Christ church, the conference met again in the Music Hall. The Bishop opened the proceedings with prayer, and then examined "letters of orders," and gave his "license" to those who had not yet received it. The subject of Sunday Schools being resumed, the Bishop emphatically laid down the dictum that the clergyman of any mission ought to have absolute control and supervision of every Sunday school in that mission. The clergyman being responsible to the Bishop, the Superintendent responsible to the clergyman, and the teachers receiving their instructions from the clergyman through the Superintendent. Thus all would be "under authority" and more probably work as a harmonious whole, than when "every man did that which was right in his own eyes." The suggestion was made that a series of Lesson Papers should be arranged which should receive the approval of the Bishop, and in which should be given distinctively church teaching as to the different church seasons, and every Sunday; and in this series to be Lesson Papers on church history and cognate subjects written clearly and in simple language, so as to train up our children in such a way that they may in after life, give a reason why they belong to the church, and why they believe her to be a true Branch of the church of Christ amongst us. The idea was strongly endorsed by the whole conference, and, at the suggestion of the Bishop, a committee was appointed which should take up the subject of Sunday school instruction, and, if possible prepare a scheme of lessons on the basis proposed which could be approved by the Bishop, and by him laid before the clergy of the other parts of the Diocese, and, when agreed upon, to have thus one uniform system of teaching in all the Sunday schools of Algoma.

A paper on "Clerical Stipends, with reference to local contributions" was read by the Rev. Mr. Knight of Port Carling, and in the discussion upon it, every member of the conference took part. It was agreed to without dissension that "there ought to be no payments whatever from congregations to the clergymen personally, but that all contributions for the support of the clerical staff ought to be sent directly to the Treasury and the Stipends all paid therefrom. The difficulty which met the conference was "how could this be managed?" Every one bore testimony to the fact that there was a willingness on the part of the people to contribute to the support of the clergy, if not in money, (which at present they have not) in kind or produce. But how can this be made available or properly directed? Giving "in kind" needs great care and supervision, or much might be given which would be of small intrinsic value. The idea suggested was a good one but the conference was reluctantly compelled to come to the decision that the plan must be deferred.

The Bishop stated that the proposed Widow's and Orphan's Fund was moving slowly onward, there being \$3000 in hand, but nothing which could be made available at present. There was absolutely no provision for those left behind should any of the clergy be called away by death. There was a scheme afloat by which it was proposed to insure the lives of clergymen in some cases at the expense of the Di-

oces, but this, like all other schemes, could not be carried out, however good they might be in themselves, without the necessary means of doing so at command.

The Rev. Mr. Llwyd of Huntsville read a thoughtful and earnest paper on "Missionary work, its methods and requisites," in which he gave the suggestion that students from the various Theological Colleges should be urged to come and spend their vacations in the different missions under the superintendence of the clergy, he, himself, being prepared to welcome four good men at any time. This would be a means of giving these students the best possible insight into the work which hereafter would be required of them, and also enable them to test and prove their fitness or unfitness for that work. The discussion, or rather consenting speeches, which followed (for not one differed) were warm, hearty, and loving; the paper with its practical suggestions being praised on every hand.

The Bishop wound up the conference by remarking that he had come to it with no small amount of fear and trembling, for which he now felt not a little ashamed. The proposed conference was a new thing, and an experiment in a fresh course by means of old materials, and "what was he, that he should dare say, the experiment would be blessed with complete success?" But he ought to have had more faith in Him who had put it into his heart to call his clergy together for this, their first conference. He should go away rejoicing that they had thus been brought together, and at his having seen the loving spirit of unanimity which appeared to move them all; divided, they could do nothing, but united as they had seemed to be, there was nothing in reason, which they could not do."

Before separating a unanimous and cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Mr. Plante of Port Sydney for the admirable arrangements he had made for the accommodation and comfort of the clergy; and with this was coupled an expression of feeling for the general courtesy which had been extended to the members of the conference by the people of Port Sydney.

His Lordship's earnest and feelingly pronounced blessing brought to an end the first conference of clergy ever held in the Diocese of Algoma; a conference which, from the fact of its being the first, will be forever memorable in the annals of the Diocese, and every one, as he left the room, most emphatically endorsed Bishop Sullivan's words when he declared, "he felt it had been good to have been there."

MANTOWANING.

ST. PAUL'S S.S. CHRISTMAS TREE.

Jan. 1st, 1885. The teachers and scholars of St. Paul's Sunday school met in the Agricultural Hall at 5 p.m. for tea and at 8 p.m. the entertainment for the general public began, consisting of hymns, carols, duets etc. The programme was entirely sacred and gave great satisfaction to all present, the hall being crowded by an appreciative audience. After the singing Mr. Cole delivered a short address, and explained the principles upon which the church of Eng-

land Sunday school in Manitowaning was conducted. Prizes and gifts for the children were then distributed from a handsome Christmas Tree, many of the presents having been sent to us from Guelph and Hamilton. Our own people (with scarcely an exception) helped us in every possible way, all working together in a manner that was truly gratifying to their clergyman. We also received liberal help from all denominations for which we tender them our sincere and grateful thanks. Our Sunday school, is small, but steadily growing, and rapidly improving. Any help for the school in the shape of money, books, cards etc. will be thankfully received by the Superintendent Mrs. T.S. Cole, as at present we have no library whatever.

SOCIAL.

Last Thursday evening the residence of Mr. John Reynolds of this place was the scene of one of the most pleasant social reunions which has ever taken place in this village. The proceeds of the social were supposed to be applied toward the funds of St. Paul's church. After the rendering of the programme which by the way was excellent, the guests were regaled with a splendid supper provided by the host and hostess. It would be doing an injustice to close this notice without chronicling the most pleasing event of the night, which was the presentation of a purse to the Rev. J.S. Cole, together with an address of which the following is a copy, which was read by Mr. John Reynolds, and after a most feeling and appropriate reply on the part of Mr. Cole, a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close.

To the Rev. J.S. Cole, Dear Sir:

Your congregation and friends in transmitting to you by my hands the proceeds of this pleasant social reunion intended for your benefit desire to accompany the present with such an expression of their regard as I may consider appropriate. If however they think I can translate their hearts and give you a true version of their feelings in words, they overrate my powers. You know dear sir, better than I can tell you that no "set phrase" can do justice to the esteem in which you are held by us all. We tender you this token of our good will simply as a recognition of the zeal and energy with which you fulfil the duties of your sacred office. We entreat you to accept it, being convinced that you will derive more satisfaction from the assurance that we appreciate your labours than you could possibly from any consideration of a more worldly nature.

On behalf of congregation and friends,

JOHN REYNOLDS

RECEIPTS.

ALGOMA DIOCESE.

The Bishop desires to make grateful acknowledgement of the following contributions sent to him for various purposes, for Sheguandah church: Thos. E. Sanders, Aylmer, \$5. Infant Class Christ Church, Belleville, per J. W. Daront, \$14.10. For Communion vessels, Mrs. H. Dixon, \$10. Church Woman's Missionary Association, St. Peter's Toronto, per D. Kemp \$150. Church Woman's Association St. George's Granby, \$8.69. Burkes Falls Mission Offer

toy for W. & O. Fund, \$15.80. From England, Mrs. Day, Buxted, Sussex, £5. 12. 6. Colonel Gzowski, \$100. Rev. F. Chambers, £10. The Net per Miss. Wignam, £13. Mrs. Broomfield, £10.18.11. A. H. Parsons, per Rev. W. Crompton 5s. The Messrs. Rowsell, Brighton, per Mrs. O'Reilly, £1. Miss A.M. Wilson £2, for Burkes Falls.

MUSKOKA--The Rev. R. W. Plante acknowledges the following contributions toward the fund for rebuilding the parsonage at Port Sydney. S. A. Openshan, Southport, England, 10s; Miss Lefroy, Uppercross, Reading, England, £4; E. Bosanquett, Bristol, England, £1. 1. 0. Mrs. Chas. Coate, Memphis, Tenn. \$5.00.

INDIAN HOMES.

JANUARY.

Mrs E. H. Wilnot, for Wawanosh.....	\$ 25
Sir H. W. Hoyles, 2 years '83 '84.....	20.00
Grace ch. Sunday School, Toronto.....	19.00
St. Luke's Sunday School, Toronto.....	8.00
L. Skey, St. Paul's, Port Dover, for boy....	7.00
St. John's Sunday School, London Township	7.00
Per Rev. W. H. Naylor, for Christmas....	4.25
Per Rev. T. F. Wood, for freight.....	1.85
Miss Desprez, £2.....	9.60
W. F. and D. M., St. John's, Peterboro, ½ year	42.29
St. Paul's, Port Dover, special for Prizes...	2.00

Total..... \$121.24

FEBRUARY.

Miss Wright for Wawanosh.....	\$ 2.45
Chapter House Sunday School, London....	21.48
Per Mrs Kent, Newcastle.....	20.00
Miss Crouch.....	5.00
St. John's Sunday School, York Mills.....	3.00
Per Rev. J. Lindsay.....	1.50
Christ Church Sunday School, Exeter.....	5.00

Total..... \$58.43

SHINGWAWK HOME FOR INDIAN BOYS

\$75 (£15) feeds and clothes a boy for one year. \$50 will provide food for one year. Contributions to General fund and to the Memorial Chapel solicited. In England, address Mrs. Wm. Martin 27 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C. In Canada, Rev. E. F. Wilson Sault Ste. Marie.

WAWANOSH HOME FOR INDIAN GIRLS.

Support of a girl \$75 or \$50, the same as for a boy. In England, address Mrs. Halson, Suckworth Hall, Arreton Isle of Wight.

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Sault Ste. Marie Ontario.