

The Algoma Missionary News.

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The Official Organ of the Diocese of Algoma.

New Series—Enlarged.
VOL. V. NO. I.

TORONTO, JANUARY 16, 1892. 3

Published Monthly,
50 cents per annum

The Algoma Missionary News

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PUBLISHERS:
THE J. E. BRYANT COMPANY (LIMITED),
58 BAY STREET, TORONTO.

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THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS (New Series) is published monthly. The price for single copies is 50 cents per annum. But for clubs of five or more sent to one address the prices are as follows:

For clubs of 5 or more, 45 cents each per annum.
For clubs of 10 or more, 40 cents each per annum.
For clubs of 25 or more, 35 cents each per annum.
For clubs of 50 or more, 30 cents each per annum.
For clubs of 100 or more, 25 cents each per annum.

All items of news and communications of an editorial nature should be sent direct to the Editor, The Rev. C. PIERCY, Burk's Falls, Ontario, Canada.

A Retrospect.

year 1892

With our feet now well over the threshold of a new year, and while we greet all our readers with wishes of joy and happiness for 1893, earnestly hoping for an ever-widening constituency in Canada and in Great Britain, we feel that a glance at the year gone will not be out of place. The principal event in Algoma was the meeting of the Third Triennial Council at Sault Ste. Marie in June last. There was celebrated the tenth anniversary of the consecration of the Bishop of Algoma, which event was the occasion of the presentation of a congratulatory address to him by the clergy. At the Council of 1892 the laity were, for the first time, entitled to representation. True, only three or four missions sent delegates, but the hope of a large delegation in 1895 we believe to be firmly based upon the increasing interest which the privilege of representation must arouse in all parts of the diocese. Our missions are scattered; the Church people having little, if any,

knowledge of each other, though the aspirations, needs, and general surroundings are much alike; and it is high time that the laymen in Algoma came to the fore with propositions to solve the problems peculiar to the diocese. For a more intelligent acquaintance with our position, the columns of this journal are by far the best source of information. Its existence is inseparably bound up with the progress of the work of the Church in Algoma. Whoever helps it to succeed, either as an educator, alike to friends at home and abroad, by supplying items of news concerning the work in our several missions, or by lending a helping hand towards the extension of its circulation, helps onward the Church in this field. The publication of the proceedings at the Council of 1892 has been unavoidably delayed by a series of unlooked-for circumstances, but will be issued at an early date. The year 1892 saw Algoma for the first time represented by delegates in the Lower House of the Provincial Synod. Two matters of great moment were then discussed: (1) That of the Confederation of the Church in Canada at great length; (2) that concerning the aggressive work of the Church, contemplating an increase of the episcopate, briefly. We are glad to note, however, that some of the clergy are beginning to take a very live interest in the latter question, and evincing a spirit that, in the end, must overcome all obstacles. During the past year three clergy left for fields of labour beneath the Stars and Stripes, viz.: Revs. P. G. Robinson, L. Sinclair, and G. H. Gaviller. The latter gentleman's departure is a subject of sincere regret. For five years he ably edited THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS, and also filled the position of Secretary of the diocese. We wish him God's blessing in his new home. Other changes were made, but within diocesan bounds. The year 1892 will be noted at home by the serious illness of the Bishop. From a human standpoint, the breakdown of the

Bishop of Algoma is looked upon as the greatest blow the diocese could have suffered. Strong though he was, to the heavy strain of work and worry he at length succumbed. The only hope of recovery depended upon total cessation from all work and a change of scene. We rejoice to learn the news (published in another column) of his progress towards good health and strength again, and hope that it is the will of the Head of the Church to spare to Algoma her Bishop for many years. We look forward anxiously—as doubtless the Church in the Dominion does, though in a lesser degree—to the time when he will again resume the duties of his order and office.

Notes By the Way.

OUR thanks are due the Ontario editor of the *Leaflet* for the following words respecting missionary literature:

We recommend to our readers to begin now, if they have not done so before, to subscribe for two or three missionary periodicals for themselves and their friends. The benefit is twofold; for further knowledge about the "field, which is the world," broadens our sympathies, and makes us less likely to overestimate the work done in our "small corner"; and the subscriptions help to swell the funds of the society which issues the magazine. The list given below is comprised of those which treat of the mission field in general, with the exception of one, THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS, which is just now of particular interest to us, as it tells of the daily life of a scattered and overworked band of missionaries mourning the absence of their spiritual father.

Friends of Algoma can materially help the diocese by subscribing for and making our paper well known. Through its columns we should address each parochial branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, and each chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood.

BUT very few of the clergy have contributed news item for this number. We regret that our repeated requests for

material to make our columns alive with matter interesting to the public are met with silence by so many. A brief account of Christmas services from Port Arthur to Gravenhurst would be read by many with much interest. Certain features of our work, though common to us, are uncommon to others who live in less scattered districts.

THE Algoma Association (England), which met recently at Westminster, asked the Rev. H. N. Burden to act as secretary for THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS in England, and he consents. We hope he will be able to enlist the sympathies of friends across the sea to help onward the Church of Christ in this field. Having laboured with us, Mr. Burden is well fitted to give an intelligent description of the work.

CHRISTMAS day was bitterly cold. The thermometer registered from 15 to 35 degrees below zero in different parts of the diocese. In the earlier part of the day, the cold was more intense because a light north wind prevailed. However, we have not heard that anybody was the worse for the "snap."

IN the report, to April, 1892, of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada, we find the returns from Algoma for the year to be as follows: For domestic missions, \$49.31; foreign missions, \$91.73; missions to the Jews, \$59.07; total, \$198.11.

THE clergy are reminded that subscriptions to the diocesan library are due on January 1st. The librarian, Rev. Rural Dean Llwyd, requires prompt payment. It is hoped that all interested—especially the clergy in the diocese—will remit at once.

REPORTS are due this month from clergy on the lists of the S.P.G. and C.C.C.S. respectively. They should be forwarded promptly; the former to 19 Delahay street, Westminster, and the latter to 9 Sergeants' Inn, Fleet street, E.C.

THE Secretary has received no further replies to circular *re* insurances, stations, buildings, etc. In this matter the clergy are treating the Standing Committee with scant courtesy, to say the least.

SUBSCRIBERS in arrears are reminded that their little payments are needed to pay the publisher.

PARRY Sound, Sudbury, and Magnetawan are missions still vacant. Powassan is anxiously looking forward to the time when it will form the centre of a mission.

It is hoped that our old friend, Rev. H. N. Burden, will continue his subject in some future "English letter."

Good News of the Bishop.

Mr. Alan Sullivan, who has accompanied his father to Europe, writes from England to the editor under date of Dec. 18th, 1892, and says:

"You will, I know, be glad to hear that the Bishop is making steady progress towards total recovery. Indeed, even now you would see but very little difference in him from what you remember. The total change and relaxation has worked wonders. He has been staying with friends in Wales and the south of England, but we leave on Tuesday, the 20th, for Mentone *via* Paris. After two or three months there he will be able to travel without fatigue, and we purpose visiting Rome, Naples, Florence, and Venice, returning to England either by Switzerland or the Mediterranean. July should see us on our way across the Atlantic."

Our readers will be pleased to learn that news of our Bishop will be received and published from time to time.

Gravenhurst.

The Christmas day services were poorly attended, the cold being intense—16° below zero—and so many having gone to Toronto and elsewhere to spend the holiday with their friends. The decorations were very good even for this parish, whose reputation in this respect stands high.

The Rev. W. H. French found awaiting him in the vestry on Christmas morning a gift always welcome to a clergyman, viz., a cassock, linen surplice, and figured stole, with a short-note asking his acceptance of the same. Needless to say, they were accepted as a present very much suited to the occasion, and duly worn at the ensuing services.

At Northwood the church was also very prettily decorated, the service very hearty; communicants eleven, and on Wednesday twenty-eight. A Christmas tree, bearing a gift for every child in the parish from sixteen years of age and under, was distributed. This we were enabled to do through the kindness of the All Saints' branch of the W.A., Toronto, whose generosity also enabled the Incumbent to af-

ford welcome help to several families under his pastoral care, who really deserved every assistance.

On Monday, January 2nd, our Gravenhurst people hope to gather a large number to partake of their hospitality at a tea meeting and entertainment. From the very many who are helping with might and main to ensure success, we hope to be able to report next month that they had all they desired and deserved.

Chapleau.

Though Chapleau is, geographically, beyond the Diocese of Algoma, it is as yet within its ecclesiastical bounds. The following item of news we take from the *Sudbury Journal*: A special song service was held in St. John's Church on Christmas night, at which a large congregation attended. During the intermission between the anthems, Mr. Thomas Nicholson, the church Sunday-school superintendent, presented the Sunday-school children with their Christmas prizes. The song service was under the direction of Mr. N. H. Nellis, organist and choirmaster of the church. The service throughout was efficiently rendered, and did credit to the choir.

LATER.—The above-mentioned paper of Jan. 5th, 1893, is our authority for the following two paragraphs: Rev. W. Evans preached his farewell sermon in the English Church on Sunday last. The reverend gentleman will take up his residence at Parry Sound, Ont.

The new pews have been placed in the English church. Yet there was not seating room when Rev. W. Evans preached his farewell sermon, which brought tears to the eyes of many in the congregation.

Sudbury Mission.

The following is taken from the *Sudbury Journal* of December 22nd, and is evidence of a lively interest in Church affairs. There now remains no debt on church, nor any little floating accounts, and we learn that there is a stock of coal in the basement. Financially, the Sudbury congregation is in a prosperous state:

On Thursday of last week the Woman's Aid of the Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury, held, in McCormick's Hall, their third annual sale of useful and ornamental articles, and although the attendance was not, perhaps, so large as on some previous occasions, still the ladies are to be congratulated on having scored a finan-

cial success. Refreshments were served from six to seven o'clock, and the tables were well patronized by people of all denominations. The fare was substantial, and the tables well served. An excellent concert was given at night, in which Mrs. Chamberlin, Mrs. Struthers, Miss Wilson, Miss Purvis, Messrs. J. W. Evans, A. W. Wolter, R. Dorsett, and J. Henry took part. The following day the sale was continued at Copper Cliff, and the concert repeated at night, and were quite successful. Where all did so well, it is difficult to single out any one for special mention; but it is generally conceded that to Mrs. Jas. Purvis is due special credit for the great success attending this affair. She has been untiring in her efforts, and has the satisfaction of knowing that her services are thoroughly appreciated by the others members of the congregation. Mrs. Mitchell, of Copper Cliff, is also deserving of much praise, as by her own exertions she raised the very handsome sum of \$34.80 in that place. The Woman's Aid received a valuable parcel from Mrs. Cummings, Secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary, Toronto, and also another from the Willing Workers of Trinity Church, Barrie. We understand that the secretary-treasurer of the Woman's Aid will be able to hand the churchwardens about \$145. This is a wonderfully good showing, seeing that this congregation is without a clergyman, and has really had no regular service since last May.

The teachers of the Sunday-school of the Church of the Epiphany, of this place, entertained the children at the residence of Mr. Wm. Warren on Friday evening, Dec. 23rd. A book was given to each boy and a doll to each girl. The little ones were then served with refreshments. It is needless to say that all were delighted. This school has been kept open, although there has been no resident clergyman here for some months.

Aspdin Mission.

(From the *Aspdin Church News*.)

We have in this number to congratulate the congregation of St. Mary's on the completion of the vestry walls, which are now, we trust, really strong enough to resist Jack Frost. We thank our many friends for their timely and liberal help, and are gratefully glad to be able to tell them that the whole sum is in hand to pay for the work done. Also, besides the original contract, the builder has re-pointed the tower and placed spouts to

prevent the washing out of the mortar in future. The vestry chimney, which always smoked badly in a north wind, is being rebuilt. With mortar ready and the man on the spot, it seemed a pity to miss the opportunity. For this also the money is ready. Our readers will see the accounts in the December number, and we will now only repeat our earnest thanks to all friends, Canadian and English, who have lifted the burden from the shoulders of the Incumbent and wardens, and enabled them to begin the winter free from debt and anxiety.

St. John's, Stanleydale, is also to benefit by the kindness of English helpers. A small portion of the sum sent will complete the payment due on the woodwork done, and the remainder the Incumbent means to use towards making the sanctuary a little more fit for its most sacred purpose. The church is now sound and weather-tight, and the remaining outside woodwork must wait for another year. . . . The chancel furniture at St. John's has in us, we confess, always roused a feeling of irritation by its extreme ugliness. It would obtrude itself in spite of our efforts to withdraw our attention. Every one is not spiritually-minded enough to worship with due reverence in a barn, and for the sake of such the surroundings ought to remind them of their duty. We hope that St. John's, Stanleydale, will soon possess a chancel at least decently appointed for its purpose.

The afternoon service at St. Michael's, Allansville, on Sunday, Nov. 6th, was taken by Mr. Coldwell, owing to the absence of the Incumbent in Port Sydney mission. The other stations had no services on that day.

North Bay.

(From the *North Bay Despatch*.)

As we were just going to press last week while the supper in Brownlee's Hall was at the height of discussion, we could only extend a passing notice. We wish to say this week that the success on every hand exceeded all expectations, the tables being loaded with the richest bounties, provided by the tireless energy of the ladies of the congregation with unstinted hands, and which more than repaid the numerous guests who favoured the committee with their presence. Long tables were stretched from end to end of the hall, and from 6 to 8.30 p.m. a continued succession of visitors thronged the boards,

which were being replenished by the attendant guests. The richness, variety, and abundance of the viands were sufficient to grace a banquet. A contingent of the Citizens' Band furnished some excellent selections and did much to enliven the evening's enjoyment, as did the piano and orchestral accompaniment on the previous evening. In addition to the tables, on the right of the hall were arranged numerous stalls decked and trimmed with evergreens, and in each a vast variety of fancy work tastefully arranged, from the tiniest doll to children's dresses, rich cushions, and various articles of ornament and use. All, the laborious handiwork of the ladies, freely contributed, was offered for sale, and of which many purchases were made for "dimpled darlings" of various ages, all the way up to the staid and stately matron. At the conclusion of the supper Mr. Hannen was invited to take the stand and do the auctioneering, which he did very efficiently, and disposed of a large quantity of the bazaar goods, to the infinite delight and amusement of an admiring but good-natured crowd of purchasers. The whole affair proved an eminent success, both financially and enjoyably. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Church of All Angels, and the congregation, are to be congratulated.

On Sunday, Dec. 18th, the Rev. C. Piercy conducted services here—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m., and Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. The Incumbent, Rev. A. J. Young, is slowly recovering from his severe illness, and, if able, he was to make an effort to reach his home on the 23rd ult., in order that he might keep Christmas with his family.

Mr. Wilson, a student at Montreal Theological College, was expected to spend two weeks at North Bay to assist the Incumbent. Mr. W. made many friends last summer, and his arrival was anticipated with pleasure.

Mr. Dunn, lay reader, has read prayers on alternate Sundays, and thus helped to maintain regular services.

All who know Churchwarden Mahinney and his hospitable wife will regret to learn that death parted them from one of their sons on Advent Sunday.

Huntsville.

All Saints' Church presented internally a bright and attractive appearance on Christmas day; the sombre hue of the evergreen wreaths and festoons, neatly

woven into appropriate designs, being well set off by the pale-green background of the walls, the whole presenting a striking contrast to the rough and dingy exterior. The congregation met in large numbers at both the day's services, and testified by the amount of their offerings in money, and by the numerous attendance at the Lord's table, to their appreciation of their Christian privileges and responsibilities.

The ensuing week our indefatigable Incumbent engineered a series of social gatherings which will long be pleasantly remembered. There was the annual treat for the children in the church hall, commencing with a substantial tea, followed by romps of all kinds, and brought to a close by a general distribution of cards, toys, candies, and fruit, which were, for the most part, supplied by our kind friends, St. James' W.A. and St. Peter's W.A., Toronto. A few days later the Young People's Guild Committee entertained a few friends in the same useful hall. All present spent the evening delightfully in music and dancing, under Mr. Llwyd's genial patronage.

A number of the congregation watched the old year pass into the new at a midnight service in the church, at which the Holy Communion was celebrated, and the Incumbent delivered a seasonable address.

At the recent examination conducted by the Interdiocesan Sunday-school Committee, the following candidates from Huntsville passed: Teachers' Examination: Mr. A. J. Down. Scholars' Examination: Emma Peacock, II. class; H. C. Llwyd, II. class; James Doherty.

Parry Sound Mission.

The Rev. Rural Dean Chowne officiated at Parry Sound on the 1st inst. There were two services and two baptisms. Next morning a vestry meeting was held, at which the attendance was large. The reverend gentleman drove home by way of Rosseau, Ullswater, and Huntsville to Emsdale.

Manitowaning Mission.

The Christmas season here has indeed been a merry one. The people of this mission seem to have a higher idea of keeping Christmas than mere worldly merry-making. St. Paul's Church was tastefully decorated by the congregation under the management of Mr. Johnston, catechist-in-charge. The Christmas services were hearty and well attended.

On New Year's day, Rev. F. Frost, of Sheguiandah, took the services in this mission, when he had two celebrations of the Holy Communion, one in St. Paul's Church, Manitowaning, and one in the Slash schoolhouse. On the same day he baptized twenty-two persons, adults and children.

On the evening of Jan. 6th, St. Paul's Church Sunday-school had their Christmas tree and entertainment, which was a great success in every respect. Great credit is due to Miss Phip, the organist, who trained the children. The entertainment was almost entirely musical, and gave great pleasure to a very large audience. Not the least interesting and pleasing part of the evening was the distribution of the gifts by Santa Claus, who first appeared as a beggarman, and after he had thrown off his second disguise was no other than Mr. John Shields, our worthy Sunday-school superintendent. We are indebted for the greater part of the gifts which covered the tree to our kind friends, Mr. and Mrs. Evelyn Macrae, of Toronto.

Burk's Falls Mission.

The Woman's Auxiliary in connection with All Saints' Church, Burk's Falls, held a sale and entertainment on December 15th last, and succeeded in adding a little over fifty dollars to the parsonage fund. Besides their own work, they were largely helped by articles sent by friends at a distance.

The time taken preparing the above and the necessary after work prevented the accustomed decoration of the church for the Christmas festival. However, the chancel looked very pretty. A reredos was made having three panels. The centre contained the common symbol of our religion, the cross, in combination with the letters I.H.S. Lettering on the other panels showed forth the angels' song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace."

Christmas morning was bitterly cold. The first service was a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at 8 a.m. Morning Prayer was read at 10.30 by Mr. E. Bazett, and Evening Prayer by the Incumbent.

On the 31st ult., a special service was held at 11.15 p.m. It comprised Evening Prayer to end of third Collect, Litany of the Four Last Things, short address, silent prayer, and, immediately after midnight, the Te Deum. The service over,

the congregation waited some few minutes, and everybody wished everybody "A Happy New Year."

January 1st, being the Feast of the Circumcision, the Incumbent officiated at Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, and again at Evening Prayer.

On the Feast of the Epiphany, there will be Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. In the evening the Christmas tree will be unloaded for the children.

At Sundridge, about fourteen miles north of Burk's Falls, the congregation of St. Paul's Church have likewise been busy. They decorated their place of worship very prettily, and were assembled in large numbers on Christmas morning. Rev. C. Piercy was late in arriving, not having sufficient time to get there after the 8 a.m. service at Burk's Falls. Then, to make matters worse, the road was not well broken all the way and the frost was intense. Further delay was occasioned in putting his horse in the stable. But delays and disappointments have an end, and in this case the end was a hearty service. After dinner he returned to Burk's Falls.

On the 29th a tea and entertainment was given, which helped the payment of debts to the extent of \$21. Next night the Sunday-school children were seated to a good tea, and afterwards assembled in the Orange Hall to take part in a short programme of songs and readings, and to share in the burden of a Christmas tree. The gifts were all provided from local sources; and if they were not as handsome as those often sent by friends in larger and older settlements, they were gladly received as an evidence of the joy born on the first Christmas morn. Much praise is due Mr. Joseph Edgar for the interest he takes in the Sunday-school.

The wants of this mission are many. At Burk's Falls funds are urgently needed to make habitable the building purchased for a parsonage. In the last issue of this journal an appeal for this object was published, endorsed by the Commissary, Rev. Rural Dean Llwyd, of Huntsville, to whom, as well as to the diocesan treasurer, D. Kemp, Esq., Synod office, Toronto, all subscriptions are requested to be sent.

The church at Sundridge is, probably, one of the most poorly furnished in the Diocese of Algoma, needing prayer desk, lectern, and holy table, besides the work and material necessary to place such articles in proper position. If these could be provided, they would be ready when the time comes to build a chancel to the present church building.

Uffington Mission.

When writing last month, I made some slight reference to the educational work which has been set in motion by the ladies of the Woman's Auxiliary, having as its object the relief of the clergy of Algoma, and the qualifying of their children for the future estate of their lives. It is a much-needed movement, since many of us live long distances from the facilities of suitable education; it is a most generous movement, for thereby several missionaries are relieved of much expense, anxiety, and care; and it is producing noble effects, because the children are placed under the fostering care and affection of suitable guardians, and are not only receiving a sound education in all respects, but participate in the culture and character-forming power which is to be found in the refined influence of the best Christian society. During my visit to London I found the ladies there very enthusiastic in this matter, and no wonder, for in addition to personal love towards such a beneficent work, they yield themselves gladly to the warm-hearted enthusiasm of Mrs. Boomer. That lady's affection and ceaseless labours for Algoma are not only well known in the diocese, but also throughout the Dominion; for wherever there is a breach into which she can step action is at once taken, as witness the recent appeal for the purpose of liquidating the diocesan debt. Personally, I owe much, very much, of the success and happiness of my visit to Mrs. Boomer; for not only was I introduced to various ladies in their own homes, and amongst them to Mrs. Baldwin, but had also the pleasure, delight, and benefit of a drawing-room reception, in order that I might know and value the friendships by which my daughter is surrounded. In the Misses Penney's home my daughter is truly comfortable, and to them are due the most hearty and ungrudging thanks for their self-denial, unflagging interest, and ceaseless care and affection. Mrs. Boomer undertakes the main supervision, which is carried out excellently—yea, with all the solicitude, interest, anxiety, watchfulness, and prayer of a mother. I will only add that if all the children of the clergy are as well cared for as my daughter, then we need have no anxious thought about them, but simply prepare ourselves to surrender cheerfully others of our families whenever the opportunity offers itself. God's blessing is upon the movement, and it will

grow, yielding ultimately abundant fruit to the glory of God, and the still further gladdening of the hearts of all those connected with it. Perhaps I should have thrown this into the form of a letter, but the expression of it is incidental to the seeking of friends and means for carrying out most necessary work on the parsonage here, and also the stable. Sorry I am to state that not nearly sufficient has been done to the parsonage as yet, seeing that the severe weather before Christmas brought to us a repetition of former experience, viz., everything frozen in the cellar—which means that vegetables, two barrels of apples, etc., are ruined. However, one thing is certain, the abundant fall of snow granted us has made missionary operations more easy and expeditious, so that quite a distance can be covered in a day, and far-off families visited and cheered. Christmas day was well observed in this mission, since there were three services conducted, and each of them fairly attended. Indeed, for a country village, the evening service was fully appreciated, since there were over sixty persons present, whilst the weather was not of the most inviting character. "God is our help and strength."

ARTHUR H. ALLMAN,
Incumbent.

Sheguiandah Mission.

We have completed some of our Christmas festivities, so I write you a short account of our doings in that direction. Almost every one is interested in Indian work, so I begin with a short description of their endeavours in keeping the birthday of our blessed Lord and theirs.

The decorations of St. Andrew's Church, Indian village, Sheguiandah, were more than usually elaborate this year, and greater care had been expended in doing the work neatly. The wreaths and festoons were nicely made, and the flowers were quite pretty, without being gaudy, for Indians are fond of colour, yet they moderated their preferences and did things in taste suitable to the occasion. The women also scrubbed the church very clean. We held a service for administration of Holy Communion at day-break, at which a goodly number of Indians, men and women, were present, and received the emblems of their Saviour's love. Their manner was most reverent, and the few words of counsel, warning, and exhortation that were spoken by the missionary after the administra-

tion were listened to with rapt attention. Morning service commenced at nine o'clock, when the church was full to the doors, for the Indians had all come home from the different places where they were at work in order to be present at the Christmas services. The singing was good, and so was everything else; and as we can always expect God's blessing upon our poor labours, we may say that it was present with us, and this, of course, is the best of all. I should have liked to stay all day with them, but there were four services elsewhere which I was expected to conduct, as well as Sunday-school.

It is customary at Sheguiandah for the Indians to make a feast on Christmas day, but I told them as Christmas day came on Sunday this year it would be better to postpone it until Monday, which they did. It was my privilege to be present at their festive gathering. It was indeed a great supper—the sum of the culinary efforts of all the female inhabitants of the village. I do not know how many sat down to the table, but a very great number partook of the dainties spread out before them—fish, and fowl, and partridge, and meats of all kinds, and vegetables, and pies, and bread, and cakes. Some white people arrived when the supper was under way. These were also entertained afterwards. There were singing and speeches, notorious among which was a speech by the ex-chief, our worthy lay reader. On Tuesday evening we held our annual Christmas tree, when the gifts sent by the W.A. were distributed among the needy, two widows and their children being specially blessed. Our friend mentioned above suggested that some gifts of Indian manufacture should be sent as souvenirs to the ladies of the W.A., a suggestion which has been complied with.

On Friday evening we held the Christmas tree at Aundagwahmenekauning, when a number of garments were distributed among the Indians there.

Sheguiandah, New Year, 1893. F.F.

Port Carling Mission.

MR. EDITOR,—Just a few notes, as it is now the 10th of January, and I fear if I write much you will not insert it. I have been extremely busy for the past three weeks or else I should have sent you my usual amount of mission notes.

Well, to begin: Christmas day was ushered in by a celebration of the Holy Communion at 9.45 a.m. in St. James' Church, Port Carling, followed at 11 a.m.

by matins and sermon. Twenty communicants presented themselves at the 9.45 service. The morning, and therefore the church, was very cold; nevertheless, the service of praise and thanksgiving was very hearty. The 11 o'clock service was also very cheering, and the church itself presented a Christmas appearance. The decorations, though not elaborate, were nevertheless very pretty.

On Christmas Monday, at 10.30 a.m., Christmas service was held at Gregory—matins, sermon, and Holy Communion, of which ten partook.

On Christmas Tuesday there was a tea and concert in Victoria Hall, Port Carling. There was to have been a Christmas tree in connection with it, but the presents were delayed, so that the tree was postponed until the following Wednesday. The first entertainment was a decided success. The hall was full, and the receipts at the door amounted to \$25.

On Christmas Thursday there was a Christmas tree and entertainment at Gregory schoolhouse for the children of the Sunday-school, under the superintendence of M. Woods, Esq. This also was quite a success, and the children here, as well as at Port Carling, were very much pleased with their presents.

On New Year's Tuesday there was a third Christmas tree and entertainment at the residence of W. Gregory, Esq. Here the gifts were for the children of five families who do not attend the Sunday school for various reasons, but receive instruction, some of them from Mr. Gregory, and all of them from the Incumbent.

On the same evening as the last mentioned Christmas tree—but later—there was a taffy-pull at the residence of Mr. Woods. The Incumbent and his lady were invited to this, as it should have formed part of the programme of Christmas tree No. 2, but was postponed until the following Thursday. There was programme and taffy-pulling enough to do the children, and older ones, too, until next Christmas. These, Mr. Editor, are a few of the chief events of interest to your readers, although they are by no means the only events. Before closing, allow me, through your columns, to acknowledge with thanks the following: One box of Christmas presents, etc., from St. Peter's branch W.A., Toronto; one bale of clothing, etc., from the W.A. branch at St. George's, Toronto; one bale of Christmas presents from W.A. branch of St. James', London, Ont., per Rev. Canon Davis.

English Letter. II.

The Rev. H. N. Burden, at one time a missionary in this diocese, and now a missionary in East London, contributes our second English letter, which he entitles

AN ALGOMA MISSION.

Passengers by the Northern Railway may have noticed two small stations upon that line, the one called Gravenhurst, the other Bracebridge. Some twenty-five years ago, long before the railway was thought of, a few early settlers made what is now the little town of Bracebridge their headquarters. Here, in time, they were joined by a clergyman, who found the little settlement a point of vantage from which to direct operations. Twelve miles further west, and at an angle with both the railway stations mentioned, another settlement soon began to spring up. The name given to this hamlet was Uffington. Still further west by a dozen miles or so, another and even more scattered settlement followed, at first called Oakley (the name of the township), and afterwards Vankoughnet; while in a third direction, but at somewhat later date, yet another settlement (Purbrook) was formed, this time to the north of Uffington, and somewhat more in a line with Bracebridge. It is of these three hamlets we have to tell.

At first, the clergyman at Bracebridge came over from time to time and held services literally from house to house. Later, at Uffington, in a log building erected for the purpose; while at Purbrook and Vankoughnet schoolhouses were pressed into service, that at the latter place being so continued until within the last two or three years, while at Purbrook a building was erected which did duty until the year before last.

The time came when it was thought necessary to divide the mission, and our three settlements, with Gravenhurst, became separated from Bracebridge, and were placed under the charge of a clergyman, who made Gravenhurst his headquarters. In 1884, another division was found necessary, and Uffington became the place of residence of a clergyman who had charge of that part of the Gravenhurst mission now known as Uffington, which included in it, as outstations, besides Purbrook and Vankoughnet, Lewisham, Ferrishill, and Barkway. This arrangement lasted for three years. In the meantime many settlers retired from the two last-named stations, and they were closed by order of the Bishop. Then followed a time when the old order of things

had to be resorted to, and the mission was again dependent upon the joint clergy of the original mission for the Church's ministrations.

A year later the prospects of the mission began to brighten again. The Bishop had written from London saying that by the end of the month of October the late order of things would be revised; and before that month had run half its allotted days the people had welcomed, in a most hearty manner, their second resident clergyman, who had left Liverpool *en route* for his cure on the evening of September, the 28th, and duly arrived at Gravenhurst on the 9th of the following month, and was conveyed the next morning to his destination. The news of his arrival at Gravenhurst having spread, it is perhaps not surprising that the people of the mission should be inquiring as to where he could be found. A ring at the Gravenhurst parsonage door, and a voice saying to the resident clergyman, in a tone of inquiry:

"We read of the shepherd searching for a lost sheep: here is a sheep looking for a lost shepherd. Does the poor sheep find his shepherd here?"

Introduction discovered the inquirer to be from Uffington, and in due time he conducted his newly-found shepherd, together with his wife, to the awaiting flock.

The Bishop had said: "One of the first works must be church building"; and indeed he was right, church building was an urgent necessity; but that is a thing much easier to talk about than to do. In the first place, the people had lost heart. Almost the first question asked was an inquiry as to when the newly-arrived clergyman proposed to leave them. Even the most staunch of the settlers, who had for years worked and hoped even against hope, could hold out no encouragement; in a word, hope seemed utterly and entirely dead; and if ever a man had reason to feel his own weakness, surely here was one. The clergyman's first service was held in a log schoolhouse, after a long drive, during every minute of which he seemed, to his unaccustomed eyes, to be in imminent danger of being dashed to pieces. Then back again, at the same awful pace, over the same terrible stones. He will never forget that drive, although he had many worse during the three years it was his privilege to minister to the poor souls resident in the mission. In the autumn of 1891 he, too, was called away to work in another field, among a people in a far less satisfactory condition; but during these three years he learned many les-

sons, and was privileged to take part in many works of love, and to see God bless His people and their work abundantly. To Him be all the glory. Soon after Christmas a third clergyman became resident in the mission, who, doubtless, is meeting with the same earnest support, the same thoughtful loving care, that the settlers have shown to his predecessors.

What a privilege is his, what a privilege is ours, to be workers together with Him to whom the earth and all things owe their birth! Oh, surpassingly wonderful that we in our very littleness, in our weakness, in our poverty, should have a message sent to us, fresh with the pure breath of heaven upon it, from Him who owneth all things; and what is more, not only to have a message sent to us, but to be permitted to hear, and, hearing, to understand!

How little do we grasp the true meaning of that still small voice which is ever penetrating through the mighty thunderings of the world, awakening us, that in His service he who obeys may experience the God-sent blessings obedience brings.

The little flock at Uffington heard, understood, and obeyed, and He blessed them, permitting them, in the short space of three years, to dedicate from their hard-earned monies (solely among themselves) as large a sum as \$847.11 for church building alone. And thus, with the help of friends far and near, to each little settlement has He given its own beautiful church. And then, granting them the greater privilege, the greater blessing, of being permitted to use these churches, one having never less than twenty communicants at any celebration of the Holy Communion, no matter how often they occurred; another, during the same year, to be filled at all services (save one) with earnest worshippers; while the third not only required these figures to record the average Sunday attendance, and also had its faithful few regularly to be seen at daily services; but of it can be said that during the time mentioned there never was a week-day celebration, much less a Sunday, without the required three to communicate with the minister. Earnest work on the part of all, from the clergyman to the youngest Sunday-school scholar, each remembering whom it is they serve, will at all times and in all places bring its reward. But the former, whether he officiates in "the backwoods" or in our overcrowded cities, must ever remember that it is his privilege to be the servant of all, "going

before them" in all things, especially when such "going before" means sacrifice of self.

Early Missionaries.

It seems odd to think of missionaries going to Scotland, the home of the Covenanters, to convert the savage inhabitants to Christianity. At Anwoth, in Kirkcudbrightshire, there was found recently one of the old "hillside crosses" set up by the early missionaries who went to the Lowlands from Iona, or Ireland, to mark the spots where they first preached Christ to the heathen Scots. This interesting cross is of red sandstone, forty-eight inches long, fourteen and a half inches across the widest part, and four inches thick. Its arms are twenty-six inches in length, or were, for one is broken off. Rude inscriptions are carved on the cross.

An Epiphany Carol.

Saw ye never in the twilight,
When the sun had left the skies,
Up in heaven the clear stars shining
Through the gloom like silver eyes?
So of old the wise men, watching,
Saw a little stranger star,
And they knew the King was given,
And they followed it from far.

Heard ye never of the story,
How they crossed the desert wild,
Journeyed on by plain and mountain,
Till they found the Holy Child?
How they opened all their treasure,
Kneeling to that Infant King;
Gave the gold and fragrant incense,
Gave the myrrh in offering?

Know ye not that lowly Baby
Was the bright and morning Star,
He who came to light the Gentiles
And the darkened isles afar?
And we, too, may seek His cradle;
There our hearts' best treasures bring—
Love, and faith, and true devotion—
For our Saviour, God, and King!

INDIFFERENCE to the Church and its privileges means indifference to God, to divine things, to the real permanent interest of their immortal natures. The Church is an attractive place to those who are alive to their needs, and who long to have them supplied.

If there is a right thing to be done, and we seem to pass through a wrong thing on our way to it, depend upon it there's another way to it, and a better one, and it is our own fault, and not God's, that we do not find it.

The Clergy List.

We have been requested to publish a list of the clergy now in charge of missions in Algoma. They are as follows:

DEANERY OF MUSKOKA.

Name	P.O. Address.
Rev. Thomas Llwyd, Rural Dean and Bishop's Commissary	Huntsville
Rev. James Boydell, M.A., Examining Chaplain	Bracebridge
Rev. W. H. French	Gravenhurst
Rev. A. H. Allman	Uffington
Rev. H. P. Lowe, M.A.	Aspdin
Rev. W. A. J. Burt, B.A.	Port Carling
Rev. H. C. Aylwin (d)	Ilfracombe

DEANERY OF PARRY SOUND.

Rev. A. W. H. Chowne, B.D., Rural Dean	Emsdale
Rev. Gowan Gillmor	Rosseau
Rev. A. J. Young	North Bay
Rev. Charles Piercy, Editor A.M.N. and Secretary of Standing Committee	Burk's Falls
Rev. G. Gander (d)	South River
Rev. A. J. Cobb (d)	Dufferin Bridge

DEANERY OF ALGOMA.

Rev. E. A. Vesey, Rural Dean	Sault Ste. Marie
Rev. F. Frost	Sheguiandah
Rev. Jas. Irvine	Garden River
Rev. W. B. Magnan	Bruce Mines
Rev. Jas. H. McLeod	Gore Bay
Rev. R. A. Sims (d)	Cook's Mills

DEANERY OF THUNDER BAY.

Rev. C. J. Machin, Mus. Bach., Rural Dean	Port Arthur
Rev. M. C. Kirby	Fort William
Rev. W. Evans	Schreiber

Those marked "d" are in Deacon's Orders.

To cure us of our immoderate love of gain, we should seriously consider how many goods there are that money will not purchase, and these the best; and how many evils there are that money will not remedy, and these the worst.

THE youth of Daniel and his friends makes it evident that their resolution was due to early training, and probably to simple habits of home life. Hence the importance of the religious education of children; the desirability of directing this education to the formation of character and the training of will, not simply to the enlightening of intellect, and the wisdom of simple home habits.

Intercession for Missions.

I do really, and in my own conscience, believe that if you will make it a matter of duty every day to pray to God specially for some one mission, which circumstances may, perhaps, give you more interest in than any other; if every time you came to Holy Communion, in the interval which the time of administration to others gives you, you would make it a point to intercede for the work of some one mission, and to pray for its bishop and clergy by name; if, while you are pleading in that great act of the Church's Intercession, and are showing forth the Lord's death till He come, you would unite to your holiest feelings an act of direct intercession for some one of the Church's works, under God's blessing, you would find that you would be able to maintain a more lively interest than you ever yet had done in the great work which the Church is doing upon the face of the earth. I believe it to be of the greatest importance that you should do this. In the first place, unless you do it, the work will not be done, and that is a great thought. Who can tell how far already the blessed day of the Lord's return has been delayed by the unfaithful indolence of the Church? In the hidden counsels of God by which the day was fixed when the mystery of iniquity should be accomplished, and the regenerate earth enfranchised from sin, and garnished again with the bright presence of its Lord—that day, fixed in those secret counsels, could not come till the elect are gathered, and the Gospel has been preached for a witness to all the earth; and so each effort, each prayer, each self-denial you make is indeed hastening on that blessed accomplishment, ending, so far, the tale of man's toil, and sorrow, and bereavement, and bringing in the glory of the Lord in the salvation of the elect. This work is the work of the Church of Christ, and the Church only can do it; it is the work pre-eminently of the Church of Christ in this land, both from all God's gifts to it, and from God's requirements at its hand.—*Bishop Wilberforce.*

No knowledge, however vast; no matter, however scriptural; no creed, however primitive and orthodox; no style, however faultless; no manner, however graceful, can avail without the force of the preacher's own character, example, hopes, aspirations, prayers, going along with the sermon.—*Prof. Blunt.*

Old Men Who Worked.

Some are apt to think that none but young men can do much. Some, indeed, shoot up like a rocket, and go out like a rocket. Others rise slowly, like fixed stars; and as they are slow to rise, they are slow to set. But whether men get to their zenith slowly or rapidly, they may be useful, even to old age. Wycliffe, the morning star of the Reformation, was most active and useful from forty-eight to sixty years of age. The martyr Latimer was, in King Edward's days, a diligent preacher and a hard student. He was at his studies about two o'clock in the morning, summer and winter, though his body had been bruised by the fall of a tree, and he was about sixty-seven years of age. Cromwell was only a captain when he was forty-one, and his greatest deeds were performed between forty-eight and fifty-nine, when he died. Young was an old man when he wrote some of his best poetry, and he was sixty when he began his "Night Thoughts." Thomas Scott wrote as much at seventy as at any period of his life. What a wonderful man Talleyrand was! To eighty years of age he stood at the head of affairs in France under Napoleon, and then under the Bourbons. Go back to ancient times, and see the Apostle John writing his Book of Revelation when he was ninety years old. Isaiah, resembling John in his inspired thoughts, prophesied for sixty years. How astonishing was the energy of Jehoiada in accomplishing a revolution in Judah when he was about one hundred years of age! And then there is Moses; he accomplished his amazing labours between eighty and one hundred and twenty. Surely God has honoured old men. Sir Isaac Newton enjoyed good health to eighty, Young to eighty-four, Usher to seventy-six, Warburton to eighty-one, and John Wesley to eighty-eight. But the longest life here must have an end.

Married.

AYLWIN—FAIR—At Christ Church, Ilfracombe, District of Parry Sound, by the Rev. Rural Dean Chowne, B.D., the Rev. Henry Cooper Aylwin, Incumbent of Ilfracombe, to Catherine Jane Fair, of the same place.

Acknowledgments.

Receipts at Synod Office, Toronto, for the Diocese of Algoma.

FOR GENERAL FUND.

Per Rev. T. Llwyd, \$28.50; a Friend, \$2; Mrs. Fanny Fussell, sale of work through Mrs. W. A. Fussell, £5 6s.; Anon., Toronto, \$5; James Rosamond, Esq., \$10; W. F. Brownlee, Esq., \$5; from Diocese of Toronto, in excess of \$500 contributed for Bishop's travelling expenses \$395.50 and

\$183.37. Per Mrs. Lings, London; Brantford W.A., \$15; Sarnia, \$20; Aylmer, \$10; Port Dover, \$6; Mrs. James Hutton, \$75. C. Handyside, Esq., \$5; Miss Bruce, £2 2s.; Egerton D. Hammond, Esq., £1; W. Robinson, Esq., \$25; Mrs. B. Allenby, \$2; tithe, Parishioner, Franklin Centre, \$5; Tramp, \$1; A. F. Gault, Esq., \$100; Mrs. H. Clime, 50c.; per Mrs. Lings, treasurer W.A., Christ Church, London, \$10; New St. Paul's, Woodstock, \$20; St. Thomas, \$22; St. James', South London, Junior Missionary Band, \$25; Miss Wood, \$5; Old St. Paul's, Woodstock, \$10; St. Mary's Missionary Aid Society, St. Paul's Church, St. John, N.B., \$12; R. Adams Davy, Esq., \$5; J. S. J. W., Rockingham, \$5; Miss A. C. Day, in response to pamphlets *re* Sussex Society, £6 11s.; Lady Friend, Stratford, \$1; Anon., \$1; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Wilmot, two of the forty asked for by Mr. Pellatt, \$50 each; Rev. Grasett Smith, \$1; Hugh Robertson, Esq., Brookholm, \$5; Rev. W. Craig, Petrolia, \$5; per Rev. T. Llwyd, \$12.60; E. Hooper, \$50; Geo. Hague, \$50; E. Cody, \$2; various subscriptions from W.A., per Mrs. Boomer, \$132.55; Home Memorial, W.A. Stratford, \$2.78; Ingersoll W.A., \$8; Petrolia W.A., \$17.57; Haysville Junior Branch W.A., \$6; Forest W.A., \$3; Mrs. J. Franklin, \$1; Mrs. T. Stanton, \$1; J. C. Ritchie, Annapolis, \$20; a Friend, Galt, per J. E. Bryant Co., \$50; a Friend, London, \$30; "Observer," Chatham, \$10; T. Ritchie, Halifax, \$25; Lady Awdry, £2; Rev. S. D. Stubbs, 5s.; F. Ritson, Esq., £1; Miss S. E. Truman, 5s.; Mrs. A. Ritson, £1; Job i. 21, £5; Mrs. Fussell, 10s.; Miss Utermark, 1s.; Miss Buckle, 2s.; Miss Hadon, 2s.

FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES FUND.

For Shingwauk and Wawanosh.—Per Rev. T. Llwyd, 82c.; Jas. Rosamond, Esq., \$5 each; Mrs. M. H. Harrison, \$2 for Shingwauk; tithe, Parishioner, Franklin Centre, for Shingwauk, \$2.50; for Wawanosh, \$2.50; Niagara Falls South Sunday-school, for Wawanosh \$1; for Shingwauk, \$1; per Rev. T. Llwyd, for Shingwauk, \$17.

For Burk's Falls Parsonage.—"Sympathizer," \$5; Mrs. P. G. Robinson, \$7.

For Education of a Missionary's Child.—Member of Ontario Diocese W.A., \$5.

For Uffington.—Mrs. M. H. Harrison, \$1.

For Elkhorn.—Mrs. M. H. Harrison, \$1.

For Hilton Parsonage.—Mrs. Freer, \$5; M. R., Caledonia, \$1.

For Evangeline Fund.—Miss A. C. Day, in response to pamphlets *re* Sussex Society, £16 1s. 9d.

For Port Carling Missionary Stipend.—F. W. Kingstone, Esq., \$25.

For Rev. G. Gander's Stipend.—Clinton W.A., \$15.

FOR CHURCH AND PARSONAGE FUND.

Per Rev. T. Llwyd, \$117.50 and \$20.

FOR SUPERANNUATION FUND.

Per Rev. T. Llwyd, \$2.15; Uffington, 62c.; Purbrook, 62c.; Marksville, St. John's, \$1.26; J. and E. S. Roper, Caledonia, \$10; per Mrs. Boomer, W.A., Mrs. Bradley, \$1.25; Mrs. Acer, \$5; Mrs. Falls, \$1; Chatham, thank-offering W.A., \$13.35; Chatham, Holy Trinity W.A., \$7.50; Chatham, Christ Church W.A., \$7.50; Old St. Paul's, Woodstock, W.A., \$1.92.

FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Holy Trinity, Jocelyn, \$1.

Rev. C. Piercy acknowledges with thanks the receipt of \$10, per the Commissary, from "Anon.," for Burk's Falls parsonage fund.