

delight." We meet that widow and those fatherless children occasionally, and we do not wonder at their comfortable and respectable appearance, when we remember the faith and triumphant death of our poor brother. Others among the living might be mentioned concerning whom we have good reason to hope. It is much that the Scriptures may now be read to them everywhere, and evangelical instruction imparted, without let or hindrance. It is more that some of them can read, that the number that can read is increasing, that such portions of the Bible as we have been enabled to publish in their tongue, viz., Genesis, Psalms, Matthew, Luke, John, and Acts, are eagerly received, prized and read by them, and the desire for instruction on a larger scale has been awakened, and must be satisfied. The improvement too, in their social and domestic habits, is a matter of no small moment. So manifest is this improvement, especially along the Annapolis Valley, as to arrest the attention and awaken the astonishment of even careless beholders. Indian houses are rising in all directions throughout the Province, and their wigwams in winter are assuming the form of comfortable cabins, having floors and windows, doors and cooking stoves in them. Indian men appear well clad, sober, industrious and clean. The women also, in some places, have abandoned their half savage costume, and appear in the garb of civilised life, and some of them are industrious, intelligent, tidy and modest. I am acquainted with Indian women to whom Solomon's description in Prov. xxxi. 19, 27, will literally apply. "They look well to the ways of their households, and eat not the bread of idleness"—they are industrious and never beg. "They seek wool, and lay their hands to the spindle : " The "warp" of their own buying and the "woof" of their own spinning, is taken to a white neighbour to be woven. The long "piece of cloth" is in due time brought from the weaver's, the weaving promptly paid for, and their husbands, their brothers, and their children are clad in comfortable homespun, both the cutting and the making of the garments being the work of their own hands. In Pictou town, Indians supply the market in summer with fresh fish, caught and brought in sailboats of their own. On Cape Breton they till the land, own cattle and horses, and instances of the same kind may be met with in Nova Scotia. I have seen very well written letters, in intelligible, though broken English, that were written by an Indian girl of the Annapolis valley, to her white "sisters," and have seen a respectable specimen of that same girl's oriental painting. I do not of course pretend that all this improvement is to be ascribed directly to the Micmac Mission ; but I am satisfied that a large portion of it is to be ascribed to this source. And sure I am that where the Bible is received and read by them, there they are most free from priestly domination, and that there the improvement is most