

and others, in which kind mention was made of ourselves and our work ; the wish expressed that we should repeat our visit, and that our words might be remembered and profitable. Promise also was given that a new school should be ready for us in the Spring. Then I took the opportunity of pressing the claims of Jesus upon them ; and after singing and prayer we closed with the hymn, "Shall we gather at the River?" Many of the young people have learned this tune—some the words, and many the sense ; and there were a good many moistened eyelashes as the thought came, shall we meet again in Heaven ? How many of us, and how soon ?

Almost all came down with us next morning to our boat, and amid earnest requests for a school-teacher, and injunctions to come back again, sorrowful at the thought of the long and mentally dark winter before them, we bade farewell.

As a people they are industrious and prosperous, civil and kind, and seemingly happy. Their village consists of some twenty-five log-houses, and contains about one hundred souls. Most of the families possess a boat and nets, and cultivate gardens. In all, about thirty acres are under crop, in the shape of corn, potatoes and beans. These vegetables, with white fish in summer, and pork in winter, make the almost unvarying food of the people. Hunting is almost entirely abandoned ; and a few oxen and horses are possessed by the more wealthy. All appear to be well fed, and comfortable as to the body, but the poor mind is dark and destitute.

PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE.

Small as is the field yet occupied by the Society, and limited—very limited as its resources are, yet in both respects it is far in advance of 1860, when it took its present shape. *It has grown !* And we see every indication of a healthy growth in the future. One thing the Churches must not forget—the benefit to themselves of having such a work on their hands ! Instead of contracting the operations of Churches in other quarters, well-directed Missionary efforts have always been found vital to their best home-interests.

As our Society gains a lasting and liberal sympathy and support from those to whom it appeals, and as Missionary explorations reveal locations for Missionary and Educational efforts, we hope to make great advances in the evangelization of the tribes and bands lingering on the verge of our civilization ; and to penetrate gradually further and further to their interior haunts. It is not ours to speculate *when* the whole remaining Indian population may be hoped to be evangelized : but it is ours to go on patiently with the work !

In August last year, Mr. Robinson writes respecting the little Mission boat *Nereid*, in which he made a trip of over five hundred miles in July :—"Keeshig says that our boat is too old to be safe for next year's journey. Accordingly I have left orders to sell her for her value, and it will remain for the committee to decide as to the purchase of a better boat. We had a good deal of trouble with leakage on this journey."

A new boat, larger, and in every way more substantial, has, by direction of the Board, been built during the winter. She is named the "*Aurora*," twenty-eight feet keel, and half-decked. Under date of 22nd May, Mr. Robinson writes : "Our new boat is launched, and is *good*." The boat will cost about \$150 ; and may be expected to do good service for many years.