

but it was now comparatively easy, as every family is required to learn music, reading, and writing, which is superintended at ward periods by the missionaries; and they said it was pleasing to witness the emulation manifested and the progress made in almost every family, so that in fact there is now a race of educated, moral, and exemplary Christians springing up from these poor heathens, who, but for the labours of this mission among them, must have remained degraded, as, alas! we still find some of them on the more westerly parts of the coast, where their interviews with the white people, who have visited them, seem to have resulted in imparting all our vices without any of the advantages of civilization or religion. I walked with the missionaries to see their gardening operations, consisting of some 8 or 10 very small enclosures, and entirely of an artificial soil, formed, with much labour, of sand, turf, seaweed, &c. The produce consisted of cabbage, turnips, carrots, potatoes and a few other similar vegetables in small quantities, and of diminutive growth, notwithstanding the great amount of labour and attention evidently bestowed upon them.

The appearance of the coast is very barren and sterile, totally void of vegetation or verdure; but at a distance in from the seaboard, at the heads of the bays in coves, there are forests of spruce and fir which supply fuel and building material. The buildings of the mission stations are large and commodious, built of wood at an expense of much labour.—Those of the natives are small and low, built with logs, and partly covered with turf and sea-weed to resist the severe cold of winter; but the people appear comfortable and clean, both as regards their dwelling and apparel.

There are four Mission stations on this coast, Hopedale is the most southern, being in about 56½ N. lat. The Society numbers about 250 communicants. This station has two clergymen, one lady, the wife of one of the clergymen and one gentleman who superintends the trading establishment connected with the Mission. These are all the white persons belonging to the settlement. The 4 stations number about 1500 Indians in their communion, embracing an extent of some 250 or 300 miles of coast.

A ship owned by the Society visits all the stations on this coast once a year from London, bringing supplies of provisions, clothing, &c., and takes away the furs, oils, skins, &c., that are collected at the stations during her absence. The same ship has made her yearly voyage 39 years without interruption or accident. She was overdue at the station at the time of my visit, and much anxiety was felt on account of her delay, there being so many dependent on her for the comforts and necessities of life. The missionaries informed me, however, that they always kept a year's supply of bread and some other articles on hand for fear of accident. The missionaries appear to be zealous, evangelical men. They require some satisfactory evidence of a change of heart as a condition of admittance to their communion. In all my intercourse with the missionaries and their people I was much pleased with their candour and correct moral deportment, as well as their religious character. One instance of the latter impressed me very favourably. An Indian (a pilot), his wife and three children were on board my vessel several days, they had formerly lived at Hopedale, and belonged to the Society there, but had been absent three years, residing about 70 miles further south in the employ of an Englishman. They were going in my vessel to reside there again. The first evening after they came on board, Iker, (as the husband and father was called) collected his family upon the after hatch, sung a hymn, in which the wife and two children joined, and then offered their evening prayer, without being at all interrupted by what was passing around them. This was the first intimation I had of his being any more than an Esquimaux Indian. A very little conversation convinced me however that he was in possession of "the pearl of great price." He continued to worship with his family evening and morning as long as they were on board.

I shall long remember my visit to Hopedale with pleasing reflections.—The intelligent and happy countenances that composed the congregation, the sweet and melodious music which seems still to vibrate on my ear, have made impressions that must long remain. May God bless the mission and increase its usefulness, and multiply its converts a hundred-fold, is the prayer of the writer.—*Con. to the (Halifax) Christian Messenger.*

All orders, payments, and communications to the Editor, to be sent (Post-paid) to the REV. JOHN JENNINGS, Toronto.

## The Canadian Presbyterian Magazine.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1854.

"A Subscriber" should, in the note at the end of his communication, have given his name. We doubt not the facts, but before publishing we must know the authority.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—COMMENTARY ON THE EPHESIANS. By the Rev. John Eadie, D. D., L. L. D. Glasgow: Griffin & Co. Toronto: A. H. Armour & Co. Price, 11s. 3d.

DAILY BRITISH ILLUSTRATIONS; Apostles and Early Church. New York: Carter. Hamilton: D. McLellan. Price, 3s.

A GALLERY OF DECEASED MINISTERS. By Rev. Edward Barriss. Vol. 1. London: Primitive Methodist Book Room.

CAMPBELL'S PECTRAL WORKS. By E. Sargent. Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co. Toronto: A. H. Armour & Co.

CHAMBERS' JOURNAL OF POPULAR LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART. Part 2. March, 1854. Toronto: A. H. Armour & Co. In this part, W. Chambers gives his impressions of "Things as they are in America."

THE DIVINE CHARACTER VINDICATED.—A Review of Dr. E. Hooper's "Conflict of Ages." By Rev. Moses Ballou. New York: Redfield. Toronto: A. H. Armour & Co.

[Reviews crowded out: some will appear in our next.]

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—At several parts to the westward, the *Messenger*, for some months past, has either been delivered long after due, or has not been delivered at all. Subscribers may see from the newspapers that complaints are frequent with them on this matter. Somewhere about Brantford and Woodstock there is "confusion worse confounded." We have endeavored to supply as far as possible, but of the last number only one copy remains, and with great regret, several of our friends must remain unsupplied. The fault is not ours however, for, as an instance, we supplied one district three times with copies of one number, and only the third parcel was received.

We exhort Subscribers in arrears to remit as soon as possible. There are now between five and six hundred in arrears, and it may be easily supposed that that is a larger number than is favorable to our pecuniary engagements. This list we doubt not will be responded to.

The Presbytery of Toronto meets on the 9th May, at two o'clock, instead of the 2nd, as formerly intimated.

CALL.—The Rev. William Dickson, formerly of Vaughan, has received a call from the congregation of Amherst Island—Bay of Quinte.

DEMISSION.—The Rev. Alexander Kennedy has demitted his charge of the congregation of Darlington.

DEATH.—The Rev. Mr. Gale, of the Free Church, died at his residence, Logie, near Hamilton, on the 6th inst. For many years Mr. Gale was the much esteemed pastor, first of the Church of Scotland in Hamilton, then, for a short time, of the Free Church: afterwards he came to Toronto to take charge of the Academy, and give his services to Knox's College. For some years he labored under a severe bronchial affection, and which became so severe as to compel him to give up active duty. Mr. Gale was much esteemed by all who knew him for his friendly disposition; and especially in his own church was he highly respected as a judicious adviser, and in the Church Courts his loss will be much felt.—Of late years several of the most prominent ministers of the different Presbyterian Churches have been called up by the Master; and this event now occurring in the ministerial ranks, has a voice to all, "Be ye also ready." We must all give an account to God. Solemn thought! How true and earnest should be the purpose; how unremitting the work, if so be we shall save some. A faithless minister's future?—we leave it unspoken.—A faithful minister's future? They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever.

REV. DR. DUFF.—This eminent and energetic missionary of the Free Church, is now in Canada, on a hasty tour: but hurried as he is, there is no doubt that, more than any other man, he will leave a blessed effect on the Presbyterian Churches. His visit will stir up missionary effort: and will do much to promote union. In Toronto he preached in Knox's Church, on Sabbath, 9th inst, to a crowded house of 2,500 people. On the 11th, in the Wesleyan Church, he addressed a crowd of 3,000. On the 12th, a Public Breakfast was given to him in St. Lawrence Hall. Every meeting was better than the other. All was soul-stirring. Our space will not allow of more, but this we will say, for the spiritual interests of Canada, we augur great, very great good from the visit of Dr. Duff. From two public meetings in Toronto he received for the mission in India, upwards of £160. Can Canada support her churches? Aye, and India, and Calabar, and Anokoum, and Caffraria too, were we but to set to work, in right earnest, to draw out, by the power of gospel truth and energy, the resources that are allowed to remain in the grasp of Mammon.