

me to change it. Learning to read according to it is reduced to little more than learning to numerate. The Indian who was with me last week, went away, able to spell out any word, and was surprised and delighted with his new acquisition; he had learned in that short time to form the letters accurately. He could scrawl a little before, and pick out a letter after a very long time, (written in the old style,) in which *one letter has a dozen of sounds, and one sound a dozen of letters to represent it*; and I have no doubt of his becoming able to read and write with comfort and ease in six or eight weeks." The Committee, after deliberation, resolved on publishing the tract, and in the way recommended; and having laid the matter before the Committee of the Tract Society, they have voted the sum of five pounds, sterling, which will nearly cover the expense. Some delay has occurred in procuring the type; and the Committee cannot now submit the little work, but they trust that it will be forthcoming soon, and that it will prove the earnest of good things to come.

Among the interesting incidents and correspondence of the past year, nothing to a greater extent surprised and delighted the Committee, than the letters and aid of Lieut. Herbert J. Clifford, R. N., of Tramore, Waterford, Ireland, a total stranger to us all, at first, though now known as a brother and fellow-labourer, whose zeal will provoke very many. It appears that Mr. Clifford is a Nova Scotian, and loves the land of his birth. He is also a Christian, and more intensely loves the cause and people of his Saviour and King. The Micmacs he speaks of as his brethren. "*They are my own people. I was dandled on the knee of one of the Red men, often times in the kitchen of my grandfather in the backwoods of my native land, and I always had a love for them, especially for their souls, since I knew the truth.*" This gentleman had long been anxious to see such an enterprize set on foot, as that for the support of which we are this evening met. In 1842 he wrote to a friend in Halifax to know if it would be feasible to get up a mission to the Micmacs. He was discouraged. He was told that the attempt was useless—that the ground was pre-occupied. Regarding the case as hopeless, he then turned his attention to the far East instead of the West, originating the Loo-Choo Mission, which is mainly indebted to his exertions for support. In April last, however, a No. of the P. E. Royal Gazette, containing notices of Her Majesty's Surveying Schooner the *Gulnare* (with the officers of which he was acquainted) and notices of the Micmac Mission and of Mr. Rand's movements, was forwarded to his address by the Lady of Lieutenant Forbes of the *Gulnare*, when all his former interest was revived. He immediately wrote for information to Dr. Twining, to the Corresponding Secretary, and to his naval friends. Copies of the report and a few other documents were immediately furnished, and this warm-hearted friend of the Micmac did not rest, until, by the republishing and circulating of extracts from these, he had infused some measure of his own enthusiasm and zeal into his Christian friends, and raised and transmitted the handsome sum of Thirty Pounds sterling. Such an example can scarcely fail in stimulating to greater zeal and activity christian people, in these provinces, who are the neighbours of these people, and who ought to be foremost in promoting their evangelization.

And surely with such aid there should be no difficulty as regards the financial department. The chief ground of apprehension is, that as our revenues come from *so many sources*, individuals and Christian Societies may neglect personal responsibility and effort, and leave the duty of support to others. Meanwhile while some are waiting for others to give, more funds are urgently demanded, that the operations of the Society may be enlarged, and missionary

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