

## Young People's Department.



DOG TEAMS IN THE FAR WEST.

### DOG SLEIGHS.

**H**ERE is a picture of Indian runners with their dogs and carioles. The cariole is the sleigh which the dogs pull. It is only a flat board turned up in front, with a sort of box on it so that the load, or whatever the dogs have to pull, will not fall out. It is just like a toboggan with a long box on it. It is long enough to carry one person, and that person stretches himself out on it as if he were on a sofa. He is all tucked in with furs and buffalo robes, and has on a big fur coat, and fur cap and gauntlets. Four dogs of a particular breed are harnessed in line, one after the other, and in this way they jog along for ten hours without stopping to rest, except at noon. They will go about forty miles in the ten hours.

These dogs must have an Indian to run along with them. With his whip under his arm, to keep the dogs up, on their proper pace, he runs by their side or after them. You would think the poor man would soon get tired; but these Indian runners get used to their work, and will run for a very long time without stopping; but at the end of the cariole there is a board which sticks out so that the man can jump on and ride for a little while till he gets his breath back again. It takes at least eight dogs and two Indians for one passenger. Four dogs and an Indian for the man, and four dogs and an Indian for the provisions. When they camp at night the dogs have to be fed, but they feed them very little at

a time. The poor things are nearly always hungry. The passenger and the Indians also have to be fed.

For sleeping at night, a space is cleared away in the snow; a carpet is made by branches cut from the trees; a big fire is lit, and supper is cooked; stories are told; prayers are said; and then, wrapped up in furs, the men go to sleep. The dogs curl themselves up also and sleep as well as they can.

So, you see, it costs something to travel in the Northwest. Bishop Anderson, the first Bishop of Rupert's Land, travelled hundreds of miles in this way, and so have nearly all the other missionaries in the cold regions of north-west Canada. It does not seem very hard, simply to lie down, tucked up in buffalo robes, and be pulled over the shining snow; but it is hard enough, and a man soon gets so tired of it that he hardly knows what to do. And then it is so slow—only about forty miles a day of ten hours—a distance that an express train would go in about an hour.

But men that do this work are content to do it. They visit places where white people and Indians live and have no clergyman to preach to them or help them to know about the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church. So, you see, missionaries must have money, for all these Indian runners must be paid for themselves and their dogs. Sometimes they do travel long distances alone, but when they do that they go on snowshoes and carry their provisions on their backs.