

The need of a suitable building at Port Essington was long felt, but we had no funds to spare for it. However, last spring we made a special effort and got up a building fit for summer occupation and almost as commodious as that at Port Simpson. The cost, so far, has been \$720, but \$200 more are necessary to complete it. Against this we have raised, chiefly by local subscription, \$600. It was a great boon to us last season; we cared for twenty-one patients in it, all urgent cases, many of whom we could not otherwise have accommodated.

In the six years' history of the medical mission, attendances have amounted to over 35,000, individual cases numbering nearly 12,000. There have been four visitations of la grippe, one each of mumps, measles and whooping cough, the latter two affecting Indian children very severely. We have also been threatened by scarletina and smallpox, but both were happily averted, the former by isolating an individual case.

Although our field here is not apparently so wide as might be found in some of the greater heathen nations, yet we find ample scope for our powers. As physician, I am brought in contact with the sick and dying, who are impressionable to Gospel truths; as missionary, I am constantly consulted by natives in trouble or in search of spiritual light; as Justice of the Peace, I deal with criminals and settle disputes, and perhaps help repress illegal traffic in intoxicants; and since becoming conversant with the Tsimpshian language and dialects, and the Chinook jargon,* which

* This jargon is understood by all the tribes in British Columbia and along the Alaska coast, and is very useful among a people of such diversity of tongues; *e.g.*, at one time we had in our hospital seven patients speaking five distinct languages, but all understanding Chinook.