

How Ellen went to Port Simpson.

(CONCLUDED)

She told me she hoped I would be a good girl and learn a great deal. I was sorry to say good-bye to the lady for she had been very kind to me, but I was anxious to see the Home.

We walked to the end of the long wharf, then turned to the right, went along a road, there were houses on one side, but the bank on the other sloped down to the shore; there were all kinds of houses some low and some high, some painted and some not painted. I saw one or two of the funny looking poles like I saw in the other villages only these stood all alone, not against the houses as they did in the other villages.

After going along this road, which was not straight but wound around, we left the shore road and turned up a road that led to the church; the gate into the church yard, opened at the top of the road. There were lots of nice houses on this street. We turned off before we got to the top of this street, into a side street that led up to Mr. Crosby's house. There was a very steep hill just before we reached his house; just as we got to the top, a lady met us. She stopped and spoke to the gentleman I was with. He told her I had come to go into the Home, and would she take me over? She said yes, spoke very kindly to me, then I went with her. We passed in front of Mr. Crosby's house, down till we reached the gate leading into the Boys' Home but here we turned and went along a path in front of this house, out a gate, over a hill, through another gate on to a nice walk that led to the home. There was a broad flight of stairs leading to the front door. Then we entered a hall, the lady told me to wait there a moment. She went into one of the rooms and spoke to another lady, who came out and took me with her through the hall and down stairs into a very long room.

On one side there were a lot of clothes hanging against the wall, next to these a row of wash basins with a water tap over each basin; at the other side of the long room, through a door way, I could see another room; this room had three large wash tubs built on one side. There were three girls there washing clothes. The lady opened a door just opposite the basins and took me into a bath-room. First she cut my hair, then I had a bath, and had clean clothes to put on.

When I was dressed, the lady took me into the kitchen, we went through the room where the tubs were. The kitchen was large and light, two girls were here taking up the dinner; the lady told them to hurry, it was time the bell had rung. We went through the kitchen up a flight of stairs, through a room where dishes were kept, then into a large room where were five large tables all nicely set. The lady showed me a place where she said I was to sit. Just then a bell rang and in came such a lot of girls! They stood all in a row till all were in the room. I noticed all had short hair, so I did not mind then that mine had been cut. When all the girls were in, the lady told them to take their places at the tables.

After dinner I went with the girls; we went into the hall I had first entered, then turned to left, into a large room, one of the girls told me this was

the work room where they did their sewing; went through folding doors into a school room and then into a large room. The girls said this was where they played when it was raining, but it was fine to-day so we went out of doors and played till a bell rang.

The girls said, "There is the school bell," and all went in, I went with them. They all sang after we got settled, then the girls had their lessons.

The teacher asked me a lot of questions, I told her I had never been in school before, so she did not make me do anything hard, but made some marks on a slate and told me to make some like them. After a while she gave me a book but I did not do much only look around and watch the girls.

When school was out, all the girls got on their things,—a handkerchief on their head and a shawl around them—I put my things on too. Two of the ladies came with us, we went for a long walk. We walked two and two, it looked so funny to see such a long string of girls.

The girl who walked with me asked me a lot of questions, where I had come from, and all about me; then she told me that my mother was a "Flat-head," that made me cross, I said she was not, but had as round a head as anybody; the girl laughed, "Oh" she said, she does not have to have a flat head but she belonged to the Flat-head tribe; ever so many of the girls belong to the flat-head tribe; a long time ago, these people used to flatten their heads but they do not now." I thought of the funny heads. I had seen in one of the places we had stopped and concluded these must have been Flat-head Indians too. We had a nice walk, tea was ready when we came home, after tea all went into the work room.

One of the large girls gathered all the little girls together on one side and began teaching them a few words out of a book. The older girls each had books and were studying to themselves; I found out after they were studying the Bible and this text was to be repeated next morning. The girl who was teaching the little ones, made me say the words over after her too, till I could say them alone. One of the girls asked me if I had ever studied the Bible before? I said no, did not know there was such a book. She said "Did you never hear about Jesus before?" I never had and told her so, but they all looked so surprised I thought it must be some one they all knew very well, so asked if he lived in this house. Before the girl had time to answer the teachers came in and sat down, then they all sang a very pretty piece. One of the ladies said a few words then we all got down on our knees; I did too the girl next to me whispered we were having prayers, and were going to pray to Jesus. Two of the girls prayed, I did not understand what they said they spoke in a different language, then the lady prayed in English just as if she were talking to some one in the room but I did not see anyone, I had never heard anyone pray before. After prayers we played a little while, then one of the big girls came and told us was time for the little ones to go to bed she and another girl helped to undress and tucked us in bed. When we were all in bed, one of the ladies came up and told us we must not talk any more. So ended my first day in the Home.

Since then I have learned about Jesus, and what He did for us. Have learned to love Him, and