

selves into congregations under native teachers. Some Bibles had been preserved, many precious fragments had been stowed away and studied; the knowledge of Christ had outlived the persecuting queen; and now Madagascar may be called a Christian country, with its Christian queen and 150,000 worshippers in Christian Churches.

The Presbyterians can tell an equally wonderful tale of Formosa; while we can point to the Friendly Islands where, sixty years ago, there was not one Christian, and now there is not one worshipper of idols. The Sandwich Islands, the name of which was a synonym for cannibalism, where the undaunted Bishop Patterson gave up his life, now inhabited by Christians. The New Hebrides, where the people were ever at war, having no word in their language for forgiveness, every wrong must be redressed with blood; where widows were strangled; infirm fathers buried alive; infants murdered; now coming under the blessed Law of Love.

When the Martyr's Memorial Church was to be built at Ecromanga, the corner stone was laid by "Osoya," the son of the murderer of John Williams.

He afterwards prayed "O God, let not the words we have heard be like the fine clothes we wear, soon to be taken off and folded away in a box, but let Thy truth be like the tattoo on our bodies, ineffaceable till death."

*(To be continued.)*

#### PEACE RIVER DISTRICT.



THE Rev. George Holmes writes from St. Peter's Mission, Lesser Slave Lake, as follows:

The result of my appeals, I am thankful to say, amounted to \$450 in cash, besides a goodly number of bales.

I am very thankful to report a nice number of children in the Home, seventeen boarders and one day scholar. My dear wife has eight girls in the Mission House, and Mr. Muller, our new teacher, has nine boys in what we call the Boys' Home. Mr. Muller is a general favourite with the children, and I think he is getting them on very well, especially with their English, which is so important. The girls are able to do a good deal of their own work, but they, nevertheless, require Mrs. Holmes' constant attention which, besides her own household duties, keeps her very busy and leaves no time whatever for visiting the Indian women in their homes. From our brief experience it is very clear that Mrs. Holmes will not be able to do all the work in connection with the girls single handed, especially when they are removed into a separate building, as we trust they will next Autumn. I need not tell you what a joy it is to us to be able to bring these seventeen little souls twice a

day to the Master's feet to hear the wonderful words of Life. And we are often surprised at their intelligent grasp of truths they have heard either in church or at daily prayers. I wish that our kind helpers in this work could drop in some morning or evening and see them all listening attentively to the message and hear them lisping the praises of their Redeemer. They would feel that they were repaid a thousand fold for all their labour of love. As I write just now three or four of the youngest are singing as they play, "Jesus paid it all."

There are still very many of these poor little souls out in the world who never hear the name of Jesus from year to year. We earnestly pray that soon we may be able to take fifty instead of only seventeen. I could soon find twenty or thirty more, but I'm afraid our supply of provisions will not admit of more than our present number.

The furnishing of the Home was a more difficult task than we had anticipated, for besides clothing and provisions, we found ourselves in need of a host of other things, such as blankets, cooking utensils, plates and dishes, knives and forks, soap and towels, and many other little things too numerous to mention. For the support of the Home, I find we shall need about \$25 per head, apart from the clothing which we hope to find in the bales, if our Christian friends will continue to help us in this way. I don't know what we, in this far north, would do without the bales. I know that, as far as we are concerned at Lesser Slave Lake, without such valuable help we would not, up to the present, have been able to take in a single child; so from this statement you will have some idea how dependent we are upon the "Woman's Auxiliary."

I have now two men in the bush getting out logs and boards for our new Home, which will cost, by the time we can place them on the site we intend to build on, about \$250. I shall then have left in hand only a balance of \$200 for the building and furnishing. I do hope we shall not be delayed in raising the Home for the lack of funds.

Soon after our arrival last summer, Mrs. Holmes commenced a sewing class for Indian women, which proved a very great attraction, there being an average attendance of twenty. Such a number, however, soon exhausted all the little material we could find, consequently we were obliged to close the meetings before the winter set in. We were very sorry to do so, because it afforded grand opportunities of setting the Gospel truth before these poor blind women. Mrs. Holmes will be glad if those who are sending us clothing, will kindly remember her sewing class.

As regards work amongst the adults, I am thankful to say that God is still blessing our feeble efforts. Since our arrival last summer,