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Gospel Light for the Lapps.

HOW IT WAS CARRIED TO THEM BY TWO BRAVE WOMEN.

The women whose portraits accompany this article are both officers of the Salvation Army; and the wonderful work they have been enabled to do for God deserves to be recorded. The taller of the two is Captain Klara Backstrom, a native of

good news of salvation into ears that had never yet heard its sweetness.

So these two brave women set out on their long and lonely journey. It was no light task that they had undertaken. The cold grew more and more intense as they proceeded, and the exposure and bad food began to tell on the captain. They lived principally on reindeer flesh and coffee; and the nearest approach they could get to a wash was to rub their faces and hands with frozen snow.

high mountains, silent, deathly, shrouded in snow; more than once they had to wait at some little encampment till packs of wolves had gone by, and yet they never missed their chance of holding a meeting and preaching Jesus round the little wood-fires, nor would the captain ever lie down to sleep till the last question had been answered.

'The condition of the Lapps,' said Miss Backstrom, 'is sad beyond words. True they know God as the Creator and Judge, but of Christ, His pardon, love and mercy, they understand little.

'They have little or nothing which makes life happy. Weary and lonely as they are, for long months in darkness and cold, with not even a ray of sunshine or sprig of green, one is not surprised to hear of constant cases of lunacy and suicide among them. There is much drunkenness and much immorality, too, and yet they are like children, willing to be helped and taught and led to Jesus.'

A while ago Captain Backstrom was in London at the Salvation Army Exhibition, but she has now returned to her work amongst the Lapps, many of whom she has already won for the Master in whose sacred name she has dared and done so much.—'Sunday Companion.'

Stumbling Blocks.

Rev. Ghosen-el-Howie, Ph.D., late of Toronto, writes: 'We visited the village of Siloam. The main portion of the population are Mohamedans, but a few years ago a large number of Jews came from Arabia, and formed quite a Jewish settlement here. It being their Sabbath, they were holding two meetings, one in the school-house, another in the synagogue. I addressed them in both places, beginning by stating that we had just come from Canada, and how tenderly and with what deep concern Canadian Christian hearts beat towards their orphaned race. Christians are deeply grieved because Jews persist in shutting themselves out from the blessings, which Jesus Christ their countrymen, brother and Messiah, originated among them, and for them first.' To my astonishment they listened apparently respectfully. At the close, however, one of them took all the conceit, if not the spirit, from my buoyant soul, by quietly, but significantly, asking 'And why do you not first Christianize the Christians?' This sorrowfully reminds me of a rebuff a Christian lady received at the hands of a Jew in Thornhill, near Toronto, as I had it from her own lips. He allowed her to go on discoursing to him of Jesus and His love, then, all of a sudden, he startled her by saying, 'And do you obey and love this Jesus?' She drew back in confusion, and the pertinent enquiry pierced like an arrow through her soul.

We may say that this Jew is more wily than wise, for one sin cannot be an excuse for another. Two blacks cannot make a white, and yet what else can we expect from him, when he knows that Greek and other Oriental Christians cherish an habitual hate towards his race, and he sees the conduct of the drunkards, not of



TWO SALVATION ARMY LADY CAPTAINS IN THEIR LAPLAND COSTUME, JUST READY TO START FOR THEIR SUNDAY SERVICE.

Sweden, and the other is Lieutenant Kant, a lady of Lapland.

Having expressed a desire to engage in missionary work amongst the Lapps, they were appointed to the little Lapland town of Lycksele, just beyond the northern border of Sweden. For four months the two officers trudged and toiled in the streets and byways of Lycksele; and then they decided to make their way up into the far north, to carry the Gospel message to isolated Lapp villages, and to speak the

Altogether, they travelled about two hundred and seventy miles over trackless snow on their immense wooden shoes, like long narrow canoes, called 'ski'; and their luggage, which they carried on their backs, consisted of a change of things, some handkerchiefs and stocking, Bibles and song books, a map and a compass, some matches, and a very little money.

Blinding snowstorms frequently whirled round them, driving them to their compass for guidance. The way led up and down