

perplexing. When we can speak a few words the people think we understand all they say, and talk freely to us. We are helpless, and any little pride which may have followed our first attempt is banished at once. Will the home friends—whose faithful prayers daily ascend on our behalf—add this petition: "That they may be helped in the study of the language." The promise to acquire it is a gift promised to the messengers of Christ—not without effort on our part—but none the less to be prayed for in a very special manner.

Chinese Work in British Columbia.

From MISS CHURCHILL.

IT affords us a good deal of gratification to be able to report that during the quarter our day school has not only maintained its past standing but that very considerable progress has been made.

We have registered 101 pupils, our daily attendance ranging from 20 to 35. Though Chinese New Year has intervened, during which season our school is always much thinner, we have to report an increased average attendance of 25 per cent. over any previous quarter of the school. Indeed, we feel assured now that we have the nucleus of a first-class day school in Chinatown.

This month ends the second year of our connection with this school, and we have watched with a good deal of interest and with some anxiety the attitude of the parents of our children since its organization up to the present. As we remember the difficulties in keeping this school together in its early days, its many fluctuations, the multitudinous visits to the children's homes, and interviewing of parents to try and awaken their interest, we are glad indeed for the change which has taken place, for the prejudice and indifference which we have seen changed to real interest.

Nowhere has the appreciation of the Chinese people been more apparent than in the ready response to our appeal for two hundred and fifteen dollars, which the General Society asked us to raise this year, to supplement the small amount granted for the maintenance of a missionary and his family, teacher and assistants, and all the expenses