

in his exertions to preserve, if possible, a few of the many Indian tribes north, and knowing also how little help they have received from the Executive in this particular, I could not but feel surprised and gratified at the vast improvement in the condition of the Indians, both morally and socially, that I witnessed at the different Missions since my last visit. At Metlahkatlah, the charge of Mr. Duncan, this improvement was particularly marked. The confidence reposed in Mr. Duncan by his dusky flock has never for a moment been shaken, in fact, is daily on the increase, as the many additions to the population from outside sources will attest. . . . The town is triangular in shape; the Mission buildings being located on a bold promontory forming the apex. The view from the southern entrance of the harbour, looking townward, is extremely pretty. The church, of octagonal form, having a handsome portico and belfry, and surmounted with the emblem of Christianity and peace, occupies a prominent position in the foreground: adjacent to this are the parsonage, store, and sawpits, the latter supplying lumber of good quality, the product of native labour, at the rate of fifteen dollars per 1000. The houses, numbering about fifty, are nearly all of a uniform size—16 by 24 feet—good frame, weatherboarded and shingled, glazed windows, and having neat little gardens in front; the whole forming two handsome esplanades, one fronting the outer and the other the inner harbour. The interior of the houses did not belie the promise held out by the exterior. Every thing was neat and scrupulously clean. The inmates were as well supplied with the requisites to make life comfortable as any of our labouring class here. Cooking stoves and clocks were common to every dwelling, and, in a few instances, pictures adorned the walls of the more luxuriously inclined. The sight at church on Sabbath morning was pleasant to behold. The congregation numbered about 300, the females preponderating, the major portion of the males being at that time out fishing. They were all well clad—the women in their cloth mantles and merino dresses, and their heads gaily decked with the graceful bandanna; the men in substantial tweeds and broad-cloth suits, and having the impress of good health and contentment on their intelligent features. Their conduct during divine service was strictly exemplary, and would have done credit to many a more pretentious edifice than that at Metlahkatlah. As a whole, Mr. Duncan's people are industrious and sober; they are courteous and hospitable to strangers,