

Missionary Intelligence.

THE MISSION TO THE INDIANS OF THE NORTH WEST.

As mentioned in our last number our brother Nisbet with the Mission party left the Red River Settlement on the 6th June. Before their departure an interesting prayer meeting was held, in the church, at Kildonan. The following account taken is from the *Norwester*, and from the pen of the Rev. J. Black:

On Monday afternoon, 4th inst., a fare-well prayer-meeting was held at Kildonan Church in connection with the departure of Rev. Mr. Nisbet and party for the field of their future christian labours among the Crees of the Saskatchewan. The meeting though full would have been much more so but for the pressing engagements of the large numbers who at this season set out on their journeys to the various points where business calls them.

Suitable songs of praise were sung, and appropriate addresses made by Mr. Nisbet and Mr. Black, and the missionaries and their work heartily commended to God by the prayers of the brethren. In the course of the meeting Mr. Nisbet made a statement of the contributions collected in money and kind in the congregations of the Settlement, towards the outfit of the mission, which, together with the collection taken up on the previous Sabbath, amounted to about £100 *s.g.* a sum which speaks well for the diligence of the collecting committee and for the missionary liberality of the people, especially considering their straitened circumstances for some years past.

An address was presented to Mr. Nisbet, expressive of the warmest feelings of esteem on the part of the congregation, and of their most hearty wishes for the success of the mission.

The missionary party consists of Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet and child, Mr. and Mrs. McKay with two children, Alex. Polson and Wm. McEach. These, last under charge of Mr. McKay, are to be employed in erecting buildings and other necessary work. Mr. George Flett already on the ground is to be interpreter. James Green also accompanies them as far as Carlton, to help on the way. Miss Rowland and Miss Tait also join in the party on a visit to their relations on the Saskatchewan. The cars left on Wednesday (6th), Mr. Nisbet and family the day following, but all were detained at Headingley till Monday last by the heavy rains. While there they were all deeply saddened by the intelligence of the death of Miss J. McBeath, sister of Mrs. Nisbet and Mrs. McKay, on Sabbath morning, and of the dangerous illness of Miss Anne Polson, sister of another of the party. Not allowing however this sad news to detain them they left Headingley on Monday on their long and tedious journey and expect to reach their destination in 40 or 50 days. The mission will probably be located somewhere near Fort Pitt. They take with them all the various tools and implements necessary for their undertaking—for building—farming—fishing, &c., besides a good stock of provisions and other necessities so that with a liberal outfit and a staff of good steady assistants Mr. Nisbet's Mission promises to be as well equipped as any in the country.

Mr. Nisbet is well known in the Settlement where he has been nearly four years diligently labouring as colleague of the Rev. Mr. Black, and every year he has gained upon the esteem and affection of those who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance. A better man in all respects could not have been selected to inaugurate the Indian Mission of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Much sympathy is expressed in the afflictive circumstances in which he and his friends have been called to begin their enterprise.

Mr. Matheson arrived in the settlement on the 18th of June in safety, although his health had suffered somewhat on the journey. We shall anxiously look for tidings from Mr. Nisbet.