

"I met a most kind and hospitable reception from the Bishop, and found him as usual immersed in business. After a detention of exactly a fortnight at St. John's, I sailed in one of Mr. C. & E. Hunt's vessels, the 'Cheetah,' for St. Francis' Harbour, Labrador, which during last summer was my head quarters.

"I here found an establishment of Messrs. C. & E. Hunt, of Winchester Street, London, in which a considerable number of Eskimaux families are employed, and their comfortable houses, good clothing, and generally their happy appearance and good conduct, do the greatest credit to Messrs. Hunt and their active and zealous agent, Mr. Saunders, and his estimable lady.

"How much more prudent and politic—how much more humane and Christian is it, to treat the natives of any country in which English merchants carry on their business thus, than, as is too often the case, to drive them away—to exterminate them, it may be! Generally it is very difficult to make them give up their roving and bad habits, 'received by tradition from their fathers;' but such fair, kind treatment as the Eskimaux meet with at St. Francis' Harbour and Sandwich Bay (where the Messrs. Hunt have another establishment, with a larger number of Eskimaux in their employment than at St. Francis' Harbour,)—such treatment will not fail in any country to convert the natives from foes into useful traders and dealers.

"The number of Englishmen who have married Eskimaux women, from time to time, is very considerable; and this also produces a good feeling between us and the Eskimaux, and has prepared and made ready the way for spreading Christianity among the Eskimaux scattered through Labrador and all the northern parts of America.

"As a consequence of these favourable circumstances, I found the Eskimaux women and children,—many of whom had been baptized by the Bishop and the Clergymen who attended his Lordship two years ago to Labrador,—more anxious to receive instruction. I opened school the first Sunday I was at St. Francis' Harbour; and though none of the people from Newfoundland had at that time reached Labrador, I had a large school, chiefly Eskimaux. On each Wednesday and Friday, during my stay at St. Francis' Harbour, I kept school, and the Eskimaux women and children attended it, some of them coming from a considerable distance. They shewed the greatest anxiety to learn to speak and read English.

"I have a district of above two hundred miles of coast under my care. For there is no Clergyman or schoolmaster from Red Bay, the extremity of Mr Gifford's Mission, to Hopedale, the most southern of the Moravian settlements, a distance of more than three hundred miles. I have a population during summer of more than ten thousand, and a resident winter population in my own immediate Mission, (which consists of Henley Harbour, Cape Charles, Battle Harbour, St. Francis' Harbour, Venison Island, and Seal Islands, and about twenty other considerable harbours,) of about six hundred. I cannot, therefore, afford to devote as much time as I wish to the teaching of the Eskimaux. I trust, however, please God, next summer to see a good boys' and girls' boarding and day school established at Battle Harbour, which is to be the head-quarters of the Mission: and at which a house has been begun, to be used at first as a school-house, until a house in a more convenient situation shall be built for the school, when the present one is to be used as a parsonage. I need not tell you that there was neither church, school-house, nor parsonage, belonging to the Church, (or indeed belonging to any religious denomination, except the Moravian settlements at Hopedale, Nain, Hebron, and Okkak, two, three, and four hundred miles to the north) in Labrador, and all these have to be provided. With the aid of Messrs. Hunt and Messrs. T. and D. Slade of Poole, who have establishments at Battle Harbour and Venison Island, churches at Battle and St. Francis' Harbour will, I hope, be finished next year, please God: that at St. Francis Harbour was commenced on the 3rd September, and I hope it is now progressing rapidly, and also the school-house above mentioned at Battle Harbour.

"I ought to mention that I visited all the harbours (except one or two minor ones) from Henley Harbour to Sandwich Bay, most

of which had never before been visited by a Clergyman—above twenty. I had large congregations at eight different places in stores provided by the merchants or planters. I administered the Lord's Supper at five different places. I admitted fifty persons into the Church by baptism, and married nine couples. Considering that the Bishop had last year and the year before admitted so large a number, it will be seen from the above statement how important the Mission to Labrador is likely to prove. I sailed or rowed in a whale-boat many hundred miles, and both on Sundays and week-days I was incessantly occupied with teaching and preaching, visiting the sick, dispensing medicines, &c.

Yours very truly,

"HENRY P. DISNEY.

"Rev. Ernest Hawkins."

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

67, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

November, 1850.

The Ven. ARCHDEACON SINCLAIR in the Chair.

The Standing Committee laid before the Board the following Address to Her Majesty, which was unanimously adopted:—

"TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, members of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, most humbly beg leave to approach your Majesty with the assurance of our firm attachment to your throne and person.

"We have witnessed with regret and indignation the recent aggression of the Bishop of Rome.

"The promulgation of a Papal Brief, pretending to assign specific dioceses in England and Wales, and confer ecclesiastical jurisdiction on Bishops of the Romish communion, and thus, at the will of a foreign Prelate, to extinguish the ancient provinces and dioceses of this realm, is an invasion of your Majesty's Supremacy, of the rights of the Church, and of the liberties and independence of England.

"In accordance with the principles on which the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge was founded, and on which it has continued to act for a century and a half, we venture humbly to express our hope and confidence, that your Majesty, and your Councillors, will, under the Divine guidance, adopt such measures as shall preserve unimpaired to your people the blessings of a pure religion, and establish your Majesty's throne in peace and righteousness."

The Lord Bishop of Colombo, in a letter dated "Government House, Mauritius, July 23, 1850," wrote as follows:—

"I write to you with much thankfulness from this colony, now for the first time episcopally visited, since the island became a dependency of the British crown. For forty years it has been without a consecrated church. Much therefore is required, and much must be done, before we can hope to impart to it any thing of our national tone and character. It is still wholly un-English in language, in faith, and also in feeling: and up-hill work it will be for some time to make it otherwise. Nevertheless, my welcome has been a very cordial and gratifying one, and has awakened, I humbly trust, in many faithful hearts something better and more enduring than the expression of personal kindness. When I have completed my visits to the outer districts, a detailed report shall be forwarded to you. A very brief statement must suffice for the present. It has been my privilege to consecrate the three churches, in the capital and immediate neighbourhood of Port Louis, and to solemnize the holy ordinance of Confirmation in each, as well as in other stations not far away. Very full congregations have been assembled on every occasion, and many circumstances of more than usual interest have occurred, which in due time I shall hope to communicate."

It appeared that the Bishop had visited Mahébourg, a military station at the southern extremity of the Island, and held a Confirmation. "There were thirty-five communicants, and yet they have no church. The barrack-room is ordinarily used for Divine Service. A great desire is felt at once to begin the erection of a church. A plan is already in preparation,—a plain stone