

Klondike Missions.

The enclosed letter from the Rev. Mr. Pringle has just come to hand. When he left Winnipeg, it was fully expected that the Railway between Glenora and Teslin was to be built; and Mr. Pringle was to establish a cause at Glenora, and then, after a month or six weeks, to push on to Teslin and get work organized there, Glenora being occupied by another missionary. The defeat of the Railway Bill interfered with our plans somewhat, and it is considered advisable to wait any additional light that may come from Ottawa during the next few days before maturing further plans. That a large number will go into the Klondike this season, if allowed, railway or no railway, is evident. From British Columbia and United States ports 25,000 are said to have gone during January, February and March—*i.e.*, before navigation opened at all, or the C.P.R. steamers had begun to run, one can imagine the rush in April, May and June!

When last heard from, the Rev. Mr. Grant was at Lake Bennett; but he was to push on to Lake Lebarge to attend to the building of boats with which to sail down to Dawson. At Lake Bennett, Mr. Grant had a church built—a wooden frame, covered with a tenting, the only church of the kind belonging to the Presbyterian body, likely. At the opening service there were 26 present, 21 men and 5 women. Major Walsh and his party attended in a body; The Governor has done all in his power to encourage our missionaries, and has given instructions to the Mounted Police to render any practicable aid wherever the Church is planting missions. Long may Canada have rulers of this spirit.

Toronto April 6th, 1898.

Steamer "Amur" enroute to Wrangel

Saturday, March 19th.

DEAR DR. ROBERTSON,—In one hour and a half I shall be in Wrangel, on Monday I shall be one of a thousand camped on Cottonwood Island at the mouth of the Stikine, waiting for the trail to harden so that they can proceed. The American Church is established at Wrangel, gives morning service to the Indians and evening service to the white population and birds of passage like myself. The only church there, besides, is the Roman Catholic. It will be unnecessary for me to do anything there. I shall, as soon as possible, start for Glenora, and shall try to make it by the first Sunday of April. I have taken measures which will ensure us a church site at that point. Mr. J. T. Bethune, formerly of Ft. William, and an elder of St. Andrew's, Victoria, will attend to this interest for us. He will see the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Victoria, and will, if his Company's reserve is more convenient than Government property, give us a site himself.

I received the Bible through Superintendent Perry at Vancouver. I am very thankful for it, and glad that it has its dedication in your hand and over your name.

I shall, with others, start afoot from Wrangel, if it is possible to proceed at all. The general opinion is that while the trail is unfit for horses, it is possible for those who travel afoot. I have a reversible sleigh, sleigh on one side, toboggan on the other, and when I am in my harness will be able to draw my stuff with considerable ease.

Mr. Bethune has promised to get hymnbooks from St. Andrew's, Victoria, for my work in Glenora. It is cheering to meet men like Supt. Perry, Mr. Bethune and others interested in our work. At Wrangel Inspector Primrose, C. J. Maclellan foreman for Mr. Bethune, and Neil Keith, are also Presbyterians. I shall not depend upon them, but I believe we can count on their sympathy and keep in our work up here.

Give my thanks to the friends who marked the 23rd psalm in my Bible. It had a new meaning for me with the love and prayers of an old friend behind it. My affectionate regards to you all.

Yours in sincerity,

JOHN PRINGLE.

P.S. - It would have been more than foolish for me not to have taken a special outfit of clothes and provisions. I may be a month on the ice between Wrangel and Glenora.—J. P.

Nurses for the Klondike.

BY W. MORTIMER CLARK, M. A., Q. C.

For the Review.

The Presbyterian Church has been the first, among the Churches in Canada, to take action in providing for the spiritual need of the extraordinary collection of all kinds and conditions of men who, in the pursuit of material wealth, have poured into our country. Several of our missionaries are already in the field, and more will follow. A movement has been inaugurated by our ladies with much unanimity and the cordial approval of the Missionary Boards, and our Church authorities, to send to the assistance of our missionaries trained nurses who will minister not only to the bodily needs, but also to the spiritual necessities of the many wretched ones, who will be found in ever increasing numbers in the dismal regions of our gold fields. These nurses are intended to be as much aids to our missionaries as are our hospital assistants in foreign lands.

They will act under the direction of our missionaries and will be stationed with them. Their work will be not only philanthropic, but distinctively Christian. In this they differ entirely from the Victorian Order of Nurses, an institution managed by a committee the members of which may, by their constitution, be of any or no religion, and the objects of which are purely philanthropic. An attempt was made to get our assembly to give its imprimatur to this order. But that body wisely declined to give the weight of its approval to any organization based on such lines as that of the order. It is to be regretted that attempts continue to be made with a persistence which has become irritating, to divert the liberality of the Presbyterian Church into the treasury of an order which is negative in its religious aspects, and which has not so far commended itself to the people of Canada. It is a matter of great congratulation that our Church has manifested so much prompt and active interest in meeting the new and great trust committed to it, and in embarking on this new aggressively evangelical and Christian enterprise. We wish the ladies of the Presbyterian Church in Canada God speed and bespeak for them the liberality of our people.

The following extract from the letter of a physician in Dawson city to his mother in Toronto, will be read with interest, and shows the great need of immediate action.

"There will be an appalling amount of sickness and want here next summer. Money has been subscribed liberally here but no one can treat patients on gold dust or feed them on it. The money will not be available until after the wash-up in May and June, when it will be too late to get in supplies for a hospital. So far, enough money has been paid in to build a place for them, and an appeal has been sent out by the Presbyterian minister here to the Mission in the United States asking them to send help in the way of nurses, hospital supplies and food suitable for fever patients. He was sent into Alaska years ago by the Presbyterian Mission Board in the United States and moved up here when the rush to these diggings made a town here.

"As there are so many Americans in this district, it is but right that they should be looked after by their own countrymen, their appeal will be published widely in the States and he expects to receive considerable assistance. He asked me if there was any way of stirring up a movement in Canada asking for relief. I told him I would write you and ask you to inform the Presbyterian Mission Board of what he had done and also that I would ask you to communicate with any other society who might aid in the matter and ask them to send out a nurse and anything in the way of hospital supplies or suitable food for patients that could be gathered together. I don't know if any Mission Board contemplates sending any one here, but I can assure you that there is no spot in this world that needs the services of a few nurses and supplies of food so urgently as this district does. The situation next summer will be awful, and under the present conditions the matter admits of only one way of solution,