

and pleasantly through the winter, and have abundant reason for thanksgiving that in many ways we have been blest far beyond what we have any reason to expect. Our health on the whole has been very good.

We have been greatly favoured in having one of the mildest seasons known on the coast for a number of years; we have had no severe cold, and no great storms. The lowest indicated by the thermometer was 14 degrees below 0 on the 4th of January; we have had no long-continued cold weather, as so often in past winters; but nearly every month, mild weather and rain, continuing sometimes several days. Our fall was quite a late one; we had no real winter weather until December, and the ice was not fast until the week before Christmas. We are now waiting for it to break up in the river. The straits are open, and have been for some time, and seal catchers from Newfoundland have been up and down along stream quite frequently during the past week.

SCHOOLS.

In regard to progress in the various departments of the Mission work, the *school* has gone on very successfully. We have had about forty-five scholars on the list, the average attendance between thirty and forty. Miss M. has spared no pains in teaching them, and they have made good progress, I think, under her instructions; they are very fond of her, and at the same time are very obedient to her regulations. They all seem to think that the school has been a very pleasant one this winter; the parents seem to appreciate it also,—more I think than in times past. The evening school, under Miss Brodie, was very well attended the first part of the season; during the latter part of the time, the young men have been busy most of the time in getting wood and with their hunting. But the school has gone on, and instruction has been given to some of the older as well as the younger women; some have made quite rapid progress, and are able to do what some of them have long wanted to do—read a chapter in the Bible. The evening school has been quite a success, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which it has laboured at times, viz: stormy evenings, and often work to be done at home. The older persons are much more anxious, many of them, to learn than the younger ones; and in some of the houses the old women will be seen perseveringly perusing over their primers, and calling in the aid of their children and grandchildren, as they go along. Miss Brodie and Miss Macfarlane have also given evening lessons in some of the houses where it was convenient for the people.

EPISCOPAL MISSION.

The friends of Missions, and of this Society especially, will be glad to know of the establishment of another Mission upon this coast, among a people who have heretofore had but very few privileges. Just about the time Mr. Carpenter left, a minister of the Church of England landed on the coast and established himself at old Fort Island, some six or seven miles from here. He called on us at the Mission House, after we had been in the river settlement a short time, and expressed the utmost good will to the work of this Mission, and his desire not to interfere in any way with the work as carried on here. In February, during a journey some sixty or seventy miles to the westward, he found the people in that part of the coast destitute entirely of any religious privileges, and very desirous at the same time that he should come and settle among them and establish a school. After some further conversation as to the expediency of establishing a station there, he decided to move his family to the River St. Augustine, about fifty-four miles west of this, and make that his headquarters. There is quite a large number of families about here, some Romanists, and more Protestants. They live at various points up and down the coast in the summer, and he hopes that they will all be induced to gather together on the river in the winter time, just as they have been induced to in this river. He is to remove this week if possible, and a Mission House is to be erected as soon as the wood can be gotten down from the river.

HARD TIMES.

The fears which were entertained during last summer that the winter's supplies of the people would be very insufficient, are happily not realized, so far as I have heard; there may have been suffering and destitution in places to the east and north of this, and it has undoubtedly been much harder to 'get along' among the families around us, on account of the scarcity of game this winter; but the people seem to have made up their minds to do with less this winter, and have shown much more care and forethought in using to the best advantage, what they could, of food and clothing. There is a great improvement among them, Miss Brodie says, in this respect, since the Mission was first established.

But I will close here for the present, and add a postscript if anything of interest transpires before the vessel arrives. We all expect Mr. Carpenter in some one of the early American vessels, and with him, perhaps, a new Missionary. I think that one is needed here; for although my own