

It will be seen below that Mr. Gray brings to view openings for above fifty families, which might be composed of preachers, school-teachers, and intelligent farmers and mechanics—probably about an equal number of each would be desirable. How long must it be before these benighted and wretched tribes—more desirous of christian instruction and aid than perhaps any other people—shall have the gospel sent through all their mountains and valleys?

*Openings and Demand for Additional Missionaries.*

I cannot expect in this letter to give any thing like all the reasons we have for asking, in behalf of the several tribes, for teachers. You have been informed of our reception thus far among the Indians; at least so far as it relates to the Kayuses and Nez Perces. That Mr. Spalding and Doct. Whitman want assistance at each of their stations is obvious and needs no reasons from me. The Flat Heads are now without a teacher. They have asked with tears, for the living teacher, and in their efforts to obtain one four of their number have lost their lives. The vote of the Committee can at most only give them two teachers, or two families, for the present. In this part of the field we have, at least, six hundred families, who are ready, and have said to us, "Come and teach us—we will do as you tell us." I was permitted, in company with Mr. Spalding, to meet the Spokans, in their own country. Many of them came to us with tears in their eyes, asking us to come and live in their country, and teach them as we were doing to the Nez Perces and Kayuses. This band certainly claims a share in our efforts, and a teacher, or one family, ought to be with them immediately. They were, when we were with them, sustaining a school of near one hundred children and adults, and a teacher, by their own exertions. At this point, it was thought best for me to return immediately to obtain more assistants in carrying on our labors. I will omit for the present, this band, and commence with those on the coast, among which missionaries and teachers are needed.

1. Bands on the Cowlits. A missionary station on the Cowlits near the mouth of the Columbia river, is of vital importance to our future operations and labors, and would justify the sending of at least two families of the five which it is in contemplation to send west of the mountains, to this point. There ought to be at least four families there. We may,

however, conclude, on reaching the country, if the Board do not object, to establish a station at that river with perhaps one or two of the five families. Doct. Whitman was in favor of our establishing ourselves at this point on reaching the Columbia; we, however, thought we ought to act as near our instructions as possible, and accordingly selected our present location.

2. The next station that seems to be called for is one about two hundred miles from the mouth of the Columbia. At and near the falls, or shoals, as they are called, we find the shores of the Columbia lined almost with little native villages, the occupants of which, wretched as they are, exert a powerful influence on many of the adjoining tribes, with whom they have intercourse along the Columbia river. Could we have divided ourselves into forty families, we should have found twenty stations at once, in this vicinity.

3. We will pass the Kayuses, Nez Perces, and Spokans, and speak of the next tribes that came on the line of the Columbia.

4. The Okanagans, speaking the Flat Head language, and numbering between one and three hundred families. The disposition and character of this band resemble very much that of the Flat Head. They are situated near the mouth of Clark or Flat Head river, about 700 miles from the mouth of the Columbia. The station might be in the vicinity of Colville, one of the posts of the Hudson's Bay Company, in latitude 48°, longitude 118°. Two families would find this a delightful field for usefulness, there being a readiness on the part of the natives to receive instruction from teachers who may go among them.

5. Proceeding about one degree farther north, and in longitude 120°, is a numerous and well disposed tribe by the name of Carriers. This band numbers about 500 families, or 3,500 persons. We estimate seven persons to the family. Their language is somewhat different from that of the Flat Heads, yet they are on friendly terms with them, subsisting principally on fish and roots. They are nearly stationary, and would be quite so, whenever teachers can be sent to them. Four families would find abundant labors among these tribes.

6. About one hundred miles east of this tribe, between the waters of the Columbia and Clarke river, are the Ponderas, numbering about 150 families. This band I met on the 16th of April, and made known to them our object in