

old building was taken down it was found so rotten (the logs actually broke in two as they were taken down) that very little could be used again; so now I find myself saddled with a debt of \$200, for which I am personally responsible. The building is now nearly completed, and consists of a sitting-room, a kitchen, with part screened off for a storeroom, four small bedrooms, and a good cellar. It is lathed and plastered inside and out, so I hope it will be warm. My sister came out from England in the spring to assist me in the work, which makes it much more comfortable for me; but I sometimes doubt if it was not rather cruel to ask her to leave the comforts of England to come out into these wilds. However, she has faced all the inconveniences bravely; and now that we have a more comfortable house I hope that she will not feel it too much. My conscience rather reproved me when I saw the children come into school, shivering in their scanty garments, that I had not applied to you earlier. I should feel very grateful if you could again assist us with clothing, etc., for our children. I have now twenty-one altogether in school. Three of these are half-breeds, not in the treaty, but are allowed by the agent to attend the school. Of the twenty-one, eight are girls, ranging from five to sixteen, and the rest boys, from four to fourteen years old. I would be especially glad to get warm clothing for the boys, but almost anything and everything finds its use on an Indian reserve, second-hand things being often as much appreciated as new. Boots and rubbers, too, would be of the greatest value. The children generally have nothing but moccasins to wear, and in the spring their feet are wet the whole time, so that it is little to be wondered at that they get ill.

The following interesting account of the Chinese mission school in New Westminster is given by Mrs. Williams, the superintendent, in whose house the school is held: "Our school has remained open all through the summer, though most of the pupils drifted away during the canning season, down the river. While this work lasts, Chinamen are scarce in the town: still, we always had some pupils. Ah Ming, one of our boys, has, I think, been the most faithful and regular in his attendance throughout the year. When he first came he was not only very dull, but so resolved to learn in his own way that each teacher wished to pass him on to some one else. Time, however, proved that Ming was wiser than any of us, and his own way was the right way after all. But it was a trying time for his teacher. He would shake his head, put his hand firmly down on the book, and positively refuse to learn any fresh words; and if we still persevered, he would shut up the book altogether, and quietly settle down to his writing. So we had to listen

patiently while he spelt out "run, rat, run," night after night for about a month; but now patience has its reward, and he reads fairly well. He always comes into the room with a beaming face, and a little time ago he presented his teacher with some Chinese tea. Our pupils pay nothing, in order to distinguish our mission school from purely secular ones; so this was really a mark of gratitude on Ming's part. I must mention one more pupil, little Joe Mee, by name. He is quite a boy, and just as much of a pickle as any street arab from East London. He is quite the reverse of Ming, for he could read pretty well when he came to us, and does not seem to take any pains to learn more. Joe Mee is a great favorite with the Chinamen, but the teachers find him too full of tricks. One day we were showing the class a book full of pictures of Chinese dress and customs. Joe Mee seized it, and collected the men round him, chattering like a jay all the time. No one had a chance of a word till he had done his lecture. One can subdue him, however, by calling him "monkey," because on one occasion, when the names were called, Joe Mee replied for a newcomer "His name is A-P-E," and at the same time pointed to the picture of an ape in his reading book, which was not unlike the man. A few evenings ago Mr. Gowen exhibited a magic lantern to the class. The pictures represented scenes in the life of our Lord. Charlie, our most advanced pupil, undertook to explain what was going to happen. His services were very necessary, for, at first, the pupils thought the "picture lantern" was a machine to photograph them, and some ran away, fearing their portraits were going to be taken. About ten or eleven remained, and were much interested. The resurrection and ascension pictures seemed to impress them most; they seemed to grasp the meaning. I think whatever progress has been made is in the direction of strengthening the feeling of friendship between teacher and pupil. When one meets the scholars in the street at any time, they never fail to stop and say something about their school. A happy New Year to one and all."

Books and Periodicals Department.

- (1) *American Reformer*, edited by Carlos Martyn. Henry Ward Beecher.
 - (2) *American Reformer*, edited by Carlos Martyn. John H. Gough.
 - (3) *Humanities*. By John Staples White.
 - (4) *Recent Explorations in Bible Lands*. By Rev. Thomas Nicol, D.D.
- Funk & Wagnalls Co., New York and Toronto.
- (1) Henry Ward Beecher in many ways was a great man. The Funk & Wagnalls Co., Toronto, have produced a very interesting book bearing upon his life and sermons. A boy of New England, he fast developed into a man of the United States' nation. He began his preaching in the far west, and Indianapolis first saw the clawning power which was to make crowds of eager people rush to hear him. But it was at