



CORDOVA MINES CHURCH AND READING ROOM.

no: give him warmth and light and companionship. But down there at the corner saloon—there is light and laughter and cheer, and there is a place for him. And so he flees from the darkness to the light—from the silence of the woods to the laughter of men.

But if that solitude had been filled with the thoughts of great souls; if the greatest thoughts of the greatest minds had been instilled into his nature out there in those winter evenings; if he had formed a taste for reading and study; if his soul had been thus fortified, how much weaker would be the attraction of the saloon's buffoonery! It is just here that the Church as well as the Government has a duty to perform. Here is an open door through which we can reach fifty thousand of that class and reach them all the more effectively because of their isolation and their needs. The litera-

ture put into their hands, the thoughts given them, will make all the deeper impression because of the surrounding solitudes. Many of these men, indeed the majority of them, are young men. We could not surely ask a better opportunity for developing among them strong and manly characters. We have too long forgotten them.

Yet these men have a most important part to play in the work of this young, giant nation. There is no small honour due to the men who fell our forests. They are the advance-guard of civilization. While we stretch ourselves in our Morris chairs and wile away an evening hour reading tales of the days of knight-errantry, there are tales just as heroic and thrilling enacted every day in the old commonplace lumber-shanty. It is said the death



THE CLUB-HOUSE, COPPER CLIFF.