

MISSION FIELD.

MELANESIA.—Continued.

The Rev. A. Britain in describing an outrage upon a man and his little daughter in Opa, says: "It was by no means difficult to trace the guns and bullets by which these deeds were done. So little are the responsibilities of civilization realised, that men in high positions who have the ruling of the trades, and others by whom the arms are distributed, try to justify themselves in allowing actions of this kind. The author of a book entitled 'Canibals and Convicts' tries to make out a case of general good influence of the trade upon the natives, but without any real foundation. Many outrages have occurred in Opa, and to one who knows the circumstances there is little wonder caused by their occurrence.

The *Island Voyage* tells of signs of progress in every part of the extensive field of the Mission, notwithstanding the troubles caused by head-hunting and the labour traffic, and the opposition of many of the chiefs whose suspicious and superstitious alarms have yet to be overcome. Difficulties also arise out of questions of marriage and divorce, though the question of polygamy is practically settled, the sense of the people being generally against it.

CHINA.

The Emperor Kwang Chu went, on June 14th, to pay his devotions to the heavens in the Tien-tsau. Great preparations had been made previously in taking down the sheds of the small pedlars inside the enclosure of the south city gate, the streets were swept and carefully levelled; all places on the road which looked dirty were covered by sprinkling fresh yellow earth upon them. The Emperor's court and retinue were a splendid sight. First there were people in official robes hurrying to and fro, and then there were mule carts and chairs, followed by trains of horsemen proceeding to the Temple of Heaven. When the heralds came out crying "T'ow ch'ow," all the officials and soldiers stood in their places, lining the streets. After a short interval other heralds came out, and cried "Rr, ch'ow," followed by others calling "San ch'ow;" then a small party of horsemen and couriers, and so on, till the imperial chair of yellow satin itself appeared, bearing in it a frail, pale-looking boy, the sovereign of this empire. The chair was borne by sixteen men. The Emperor gazed with curiosity at the closed doors and windows of the shops, turning his head in all directions, apparently delighted at seeing the buildings of his own imperial city. He comes out so seldom, that such an event is quite a relaxation to him. He was attended by a select body guard of the princes of his court. They were mounted on elegant ponies, and wore buttons of a brilliant red, said to be rubies of untold price. Straggling groups of men followed the imperial train, and then some thou-

sands of riders closed the procession. Many eunuchs followed, carrying all kinds of things for the Emperor's use. At the city gate, the Tartar General welcomed the Emperor on bended knee. He then hurried forward to be at the Temple of Heaven to greet the Emperor again on his knee. At each official yamen passed by the way, a man of rank knelt as the Emperor approached, the streets being lined with soldiers. When in the Temple, the Emperor is assisted by the President of the Board of Ceremonies in writing prayers and burning them to waft their desires to the skies. The Emperor kneels and bows his head so many times to the ground during the ceremony, that the task is a very tiring one. The President of the Board of Ceremonies, especially if he is an old man, often gets so wearied with kowtowing that he is laid up for days. The Emperor stayed over night in the Temple, as more kowtowing had to be done on the following day. The procession on the homeward journey was very much a repetition of the one which conducted the Emperor when he came out.



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SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tenders for the Sault Ste. Marie Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the eastern and western mails, on TUESDAY, the 23rd day of October next, for the formation and construction of a Canal on the Canadian side of the river, through the Island of St. Mary.

The works will be let in two sections, one of which will embrace the formation of the canal through the island; the construction of locks, &c. The other, the deepening and widening of the channel-way at both ends of the canal; construction of piers, &c.

A map of the locality, together with plans and specifications of the works, can be seen at this office on and after TUESDAY, the 8th day of October, next, where printed forms of tender can also be obtained. A like class of information, relative to the works, can be seen at the office of the Local Officer in the Town of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Intending contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms and be accompanied by a letter stating that the person or persons tendering have carefully examined the locality and the nature of the material found in the trial pits.

In the case of firms, there must be attached the actual signatures of the full name, the nature of the occupation and residence of each member of the same; and further, a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$20,000 must accompany the tender for the canal and locks; and a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$7,500 must accompany the tender for the deepening and widening of the channel-way at both ends piers, &c.

The respective deposit receipts—cheques will not be accepted—must be endorsed over to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and will be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works, at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted.

The deposit receipt thus sent will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tenders.

A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 8th August, 1887. } 6-8

Sault Ste. Marie Canal.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

THE WORKS for the construction of the Canal, above mentioned, advertised to be let on the 23rd of October next, are unavoidably postponed to the following dates:—

Tenders will be received until

Wednesday, the 7th day of Nov. next.

Plans and specifications will be ready for examination at this office and at Sault Ste. Marie on and after

Wednesday the 24th day of Oct. next.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 27th Sept. 1888. } 24-4

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