

they will fish all the summer. These damp, mud huts are often full of snow to the very day they go in. There is an entire absence of any sanitary provision, resulting in a great deal of sickness.

"When sickness came on, no one knew what it was or how to treat it. Children were born, and, alas! too often with their mothers died for lack of any skilled aid. Accidents were constantly happening among the fishermen, which, with no medical man near, in many cases proved fatal.

"In 1892 the hospital ship *Albert* went out with a proper staff, and everything necessary in the way of medical stores, warm clothing, healthy literature, etc. In ninety days she visited many harbors, during which time 900 patients were treated, and clothing and literature distributed. As to the spiritual work Dr. Grenfell says: 'We found men and women only too glad to join in simple praise to God for mercies past, and prayer for the unknown future before them.' During the following year three doctors and two nurses were added to the staff."—*Report of the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen.*

Dr. Grenfell, who is Superintendent of the Labrador Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, and a man of most winning presence, has since visited Toronto with the object of creating an interest in this work. Encouraged by the sympathy and the generous contributions of a rapidly widening circle of friends, Dr. Grenfell organized in February last, what is known as the Toronto Committee of the Canadian Branch of the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. This committee hopes to send out a steam launch for Battle Harbor Hospital, Montreal having already undertaken to supply drugs and instruments, and Halifax most of the nursing department wants.

The following interview appeared in the *Mail and Empire* during Dr. Grenfell's recent visit to Toronto:

"The work of the Labrador Deep Sea Mission to Fishermen is only four years old, but it is growing very rapidly. The facilities for transportation and visitation have been increased during the past two years. The mission now has two steamers—the *Sir Donald*, named after Sir Donald Smith, of Montreal, who presented her to us; and the *Princess May*.

"Our missionary work extends along the Canadian and Newfoundland Labrador coast, from Cape Chidley to Bonne Esperance, a distance of eight hundred miles. There are four coaling stations—Battle Harbor, 350 miles from St. John's; Indian Harbor, Cape Harrigan, and Nakvah, about 200 miles apart.

"We have two hospitals in connection with these missions. One is situated at Battle Harbor, and the other at Indian Harbor, at the mouth of Hamilton Inlet. One is open both summer and winter. The season for the larger amount of our work begins in May and ends in December. Dr. Willway, who has been connected with the work two years, has consented to remain five years longer. It is difficult to render permanent medical assistance on account of the difficulties in travelling. Last summer a number of cases of typhoid fever among the Eskimo had to be treated. This disease was previously unknown among them, until it was brought by a party of them from the World's Fair at Chicago. In Battle Harbor hospital during the past season, 477 patients were treated; at Indian Harbor 543 patients. Of this number 45 were in-patients at Battle Harbor, and 31 of the same class at Indian Harbor. On the *Sir Donald* 895 patients were treated. Forty-six operations were performed; five patients died in the hospital, and eleven under our immediate care."

A letter received from Dr. Grenfell since his return to Labrador, says: "We found there had been a religious revival along the French shore last winter, under the Methodist itinerant minister. We find a most marked change in several persons' houses and families as the result, as we visit from house to house."

And again, "A revival all along this shore (Red Bay) has followed the work of the minister in charge of the Presbyterian mission at Harrington, some 150 miles to the west of this place."

"Our services were in demand among the sick.

"Our visit to one home I shall not easily forget. A poor lad, sixteen years of age, had hip disease, and lay dying. The indescribable dirt I cannot here picture. The bed, the house, and in fact everything was full of vermin, and the poor boy had not been washed since he took to bed, three or four months before. With the help of the Rev. H. Clegg, who had once taken passage with us, we chloroformed and washed the lad, ordered his bed to be burned, and provided him with some clean things, and put him into a clean bed. The people's explanation was that he had too much pain to be touched, so they could do nothing. We attended to his wounds and left what we could for him. Had he not been so far gone we should have taken him to the hospital."

A most interesting account of Labrador and the work of this mission is given in "Vikings of To-day," written by Dr. Grenfell. Price, \$1.25, postage prepaid; at Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

MEDICAL WORK AMONG THE INDIANS,

PORT SIMPSON DISTRICT, BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.

While by works of mercy and ministrations of love Dr. Grenfell and his assistants are demonstrating to the natives of the Labrador coast the exalted character of Christianity, at the other extremity of our Dominion, in much the same latitude, by unselfish, faithful, persevering devotion in behalf of suffering humanity, Dr. Bolton is evidencing to the Indians of the Port Simpson District, British Columbia, that ours is a religion of love.

"For some years Christian missionaries have been at work among these tribes, teaching gospel truths by precept and by practice, and so essentially trying to relieve bodily suffering. By the application of a little medical knowledge hastily acquired, and the use of some simple remedies supplied by the Government, by advice generally well taken, and by nursing and food, usually supplied by the missionaries' wives, much has been accomplished under divine blessing for the alleviation of sickness, often leading to a more ready acceptance of the Gospel.

"Yet they had to witness a great deal of suffering that they were powerless to relieve, and had to face the fact that the people they labored to save physically and spiritually were being diminished by the ravages of disease which scientific treatment might stay.

"It is little wonder, then, that the workers on the Methodist missions there should have asked that a medical missionary be added to their force. The Indians of Port Simpson, the oldest and largest mission, promised that if a doctor came to reside among them they would do something toward his support (a promise they have kept, contributing on an average \$200 a year).

"In response to these appeals, and desiring to consecrate a medical education to the best advantage in furthering the Master's kingdom, Dr. Bolton went out to Port Simpson in November, 1889."