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zealous in preserving law and order during the twelve months of his absence, but during that time some of them had scarcely ever left the village even to gather supplies of food for the winter, lest in their absence anything should go wrong.

Of the real value of the work which Mr. Duncan has been permitted to do a more crucial test than this year's absence could not well be imagined. We shall look with interest for some particulars of the domestic history of the settlement during this time. We know, however, enough to assure us that there must be a far greater amount of stability of purpose and character amongst those new converts to Christianity than most persons would have been inclined to give them credit for.

How far the moral and social elevation of the whole Indian race may be affected by what is being done at Metlahkatlah, and what may be the result of the formation of a sort of native capital and model settlement, it is impossible to predict. That with God's blessing it may result in the saving of a goodly remnant of a noble race we would fain hope.

What Mr. Duncan's own plans are, and how far he will hereafter devote himself to the extension of the great work which he has so successfully inaugurated, we have no means of judging. He speaks continually of the time of his own retirement from the work as being near at hand. Being himself a layman, he naturally wishes to see a clergyman permanently established in charge of the settlement.

That a man possessed of such singular administrative ability, such great earnestness, and such unusual power of influencing others, and who has gained so thorough a mastery in the language as "to think and dream" in it, should entirely withdraw himself from the work to which he has hitherto devoted himself would be a cause of general and deep regret, and we may well express the hope that the day for his so going may yet be very far distant. Great as has been the work which has been already done, a greater still remains to be accomplished. If Metlahkatlah is really to become the centre of any widely-extended efforts to evangelise the native tribes of North West America, it must be under the guiding and controlling influence of such a mind as that of Mr. Duncan. Most sincerely do we trust that he will meet with such encouragement and assistance as will enable him to complete that which he has begun so well, and that the Christian community which we have seen so successfully organised may only be the first of many other settlements modelled on the same plan and showing the same signs of material prosperity, combined with a thorough appreciation and practical application of the saving truths of Christianity.