

the white missionary or heaven will be closed against them." The missionary was puzzled and asked to be given a few days in which to consider his answer, in the meantime sending two young Indians to the camp of the Kootenay chief to ascertain the facts of the case. In a few days they returned, and the people assembled to hear the answer of the missionary. He related how that he had sent these two young men to ascertain the truth, that they had found the old chief in good health, that he denied the medicine-man's story of his death and return from heaven, and that he sent two of his sons to bear witness to his testimony. When the people thus saw the deception of the medicine-man and observed his crest-fallen appearance, they lost all faith in him. To-day, on these reserves, the religion of the white man is taught to young and old. The Gospel of Christ is winning its way amongst the Indians and exerting a beneficial influence over them. There are, in the Indian's opinion, two religions; the one recorded in a book for the guidance of the white man, who, by paying heed to its precepts, will at last gain the white man's heaven: the other is recorded in the heads of the Indians, in the sky above them, and in the rivers, rocks, and mountains among which which they wander. The red man, who listens to God as He is in Nature, will hear him as He speaks, and by following His teaching will at last gain the Indian heaven. *i.e.*, the happy hunting-ground. Determined opposition to this religion will not win the way, but only such earnest efforts as will undermine their religion by shewing them one far superior, with purer customs, grander objects, and a nobler civilization than they now possess; preserving their past only in historical records and supplanting it by the nobler present.

Another serious obstacle to the work of the Christian Missionary is the very superstitious nature of the Indian. He is a firm believer in dreams, attaching great weight to visions passing before him in the hours when darkness shrouds his camp. All objects seen in these visions have a reality in his mind which constantly haunts him during his long journeys over the prairies of the West. No visions cause such great fear in the Indian mind as those in which the spirits of their dead friends appear, and occasionally, on the death of a chief, the whole tribe will seek another location far distant from the former appearances of their visions. Some of them to-day, if forced to pass the