

and reliable Christians. In the old days the Haidas were amongst the bravest of brave Indians, and had a name which struck terror into the hearts of the neighbouring tribes. Now you see them a quiet peaceful, law-abiding intelligent community. I am sorry to say that many of the brave old men have passed away and lie in a silent tomb. I must also bear testimony to the splendid work which has been done among these Indians by the venerable Archdeacon Collison, Rev J. H. Keen, and Rev. William Collison. These men laboured among the Haidas for many years, and you see here today the effect of their labours. At a time when the Dominion Government were not in such a position as they are today to devote financial help (because they had not the money 30 or 40 years ago that they have today) the Church Missionary Society of London, England, stepped into the breach and supplied teachers as well as missionaries, and the Dominion Government paid a very very small sum to help in the work. It is well for us to look back and remember the progress and development which has taken place in the condition of the Indians, and what has helped to bring that band of men to their present position. Many of them, as you are aware addressed you today in good English. In their lives they are good and true men. I am not afraid to pick out ten men of the Council here today, to whom I am not afraid of turning over the Haida work in connection with the Church when I am away. Now as to the requirements of the Indians here today, and in the future. There are several things I wish to bring before your notice today as a Commission, and I would like you to bring them before the notice of the Dominion and Provincial Governments, as being necessary for the good of the Haidas. This year has been a hard year with our people. They were very successful as regards the Spring Salmon it is true, but the supply of the Humpbacks, Choes, and sockeyes was most unsatisfactory. The Indians scarcely made enough to pay their store bills, at the Cannery. Our Haidas in days gone by, never begged from the Government, nor from anyone else, but gentlemen, this year has been a hard one for them. They are most anxious to rebuild our Church here, I know they are. The Church has been up for over 30 years and it is all too small. The Indians are growing and it is overcrowded from a health point of view. They bring their children to the service, because I would not have them leave their children at home, and the result is that the Church is crowded Sunday after Sunday when the Indians are here, and it is too small to be sanitary. They want a paternal Government to give a donation to enable the Haidas to rebuild their Church. The Women of Masset have set an example to everyone, the equal of which I don't think you will find anywhere in British Columbia, having by working at home, earned sum \$316 towards the re-building of their church. I think that, in itself is an indication that they are not beggars but are trying to do what they can. There are just a few other things which I think are most necessary for this village. The nearest Doctor lives some 3 1/2 miles away from this village. All the year round accidents will happen and cases of sudden illness arise, and it is not always possible to get the Doctor when he is wanted. He may be miles away attending some other case. If the Department could see its way to make up the appointment of a qualified nurse, who could instruct the Haida women in simple medical and surgical duties, it would I am sure be the means of saving life in many cases. It would also be a great boon to the Indians of this tribe if a mechanical instructor could be appointed by the Government, who would instruct the Indians in the art of running gasoline engines, electricity, and other modern scientific trades. I venture to say that if this were done every man would be furnishing and running his own gasoline boat, and I think they would prove to be very skilful at other trades. If I want to forestall accidents. If you want to have them a strong race as they were before, when they held these Islands and hurled back the wave of Asiatics from the Pacific Coast of America, then you must support them today. Is there any reason, gentlemen, why men like Henry Henshaw and Alfred Adams, should not have the franchise. They are able to build their own boats, and to do other good works. They are not children now although they are treated by the Government as children. Their position in the past, gentlemen, has been one of passive unresisting resistance to injustice. We hope now, that justice will be done and that every man of them will receive 160 acres of land in his own right to pass down to his children in the days to come. We insist upon the young people here who have nothing to do during the winter

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