

tral settlements, ignorance and vice have their almost undisturbed reign, in the entire absence of either Schools or religious means of any description to remedy the evil. With the view of ameliorating the morally wretched condition of the people on the Western shore, the Rev. WILLIAM MARSHALL was, more than twelve months ago, appointed as a Travelling Missionary to that part; and his labours have not been in vain in the Lord, as the following statement from his written communication will shew:

"During the past year, fifty-two harbours and coves have been visited; in many of them the people are deeply sunk in ignorance, superstition and depravity. The Sabbath is awfully profaned—drunkenness abounds in several places, and many of the settlers on this part of the coast were never before visited by any minister in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Along the whole Western shore, comprising an extent of many miles, there is a lamentable destitution of religious instruction—not even a school of any description, except one at Hermitage Cove established by your Missionary during the past year. There are harbours where there is not a single individual that can read at all, and where a copy of the Sacred Scriptures cannot be found—and these are Protestants, chiefly the descendants of English parents. The people generally manifest a great desire to be favoured with religious instruction; they welcome the Missionary of the Cross among them, and count it an honour to receive him into their houses; and though we cannot boast of having seen sinners converted to Christ, there is abundant reason to thank God and take courage. Much prejudice has been removed, and if breathless attention and tear-washed cheeks under the Word, be any evidence of the work of the Spirit on the mind, with these we have been favoured, and in one or two instances the agonizing inquiry has been heard—"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" It is truly affecting to listen to the requests of the people for Missionaries; their general inquiry on our leaving them is,—Oh, when shall we see another Minister? They are crying from every place like the man of Macedonia—Come over and help us.

"Two visiting Missionaries might be very usefully employed on this shore; one for Hermitage Bay, where he could visit regularly thirty Harbours, containing a population of 1700 souls; the second for Burgeo and Westward. From Burgeo he could visit regularly from eighteen to twenty-one places, containing a population of near 1,000 souls; he might also during the summer visit Bay St. George, and Bay of Islands, where there is a loud call for Missionaries, and in every one of the places they would be gladly received." Respecting the School at Hermitage Cove, Mr. MARSHALL also writes:—"The School was commenced in January last: there are 33 children who attend every Sabbath, and also on the week-days, when the Missionary is in the harbour. The improvement they make in learning is very satisfactory; many of them who did not know a letter in the alphabet when the School was opened, are now