

BRANDON, MAN.—A Society of Christian Endeavor has lately been established among the young people. November 8th was the end of the second year of Mr. Mason's pastorate at Brandon.

REV. JOHN BROWN, formerly of Lanark, Ont., and more recently of Sourisford, Man., has removed to Tacoma, Wash. (102 Tacoma Ave.)

REV. W. H. ALLWORTH, late of Memphis, Mich., is now resident, without pastoral charge, at Lansing, the capital of the State.

REV. F. FLAWITH, late pastor at Sheffield, N. B., has removed to Berkely, California, where he is now laboring.

### A LETTER FROM MR. CURRIE.

(WRITTEN LAST JULY.)

A couple of years ago Mr. G. Hague sent me the following message: "Tell Mr. Currie not to lose his own Christianity in Africa." It then seemed to me a strange message. I did not like it. My pride was hurt. Was it an intentional reflection on the stability of my character? Is there any reflection of the danger of a missionary losing his own Christianity? There is; and there is no necessary reflection on one in the warning *not* to. Take a red-hot coal from the fire, and place it on the cold hearth, and a strong bellows will be needed to keep it red. Take a man from the warm healthful influence of Christian surroundings and place him amid the cold unhelpful influences of heathen associations, and nothing but the grace of God in generous increase can keep the heart aglow. Does anyone in Canada suppose that a man under appointment to the foreign field, has only to board a steamer at Boston, and sail straight to paradise with a first-class ticket? Such an idea could not possibly be further from the truth. I find it said in the INDEPENDENT, "Cramp our home-work and of course the foreign is more inviting." Why? Because the foreign is never cramped. What a revelation. Inviting to what? Years of great loneliness. Toil that wears one quickly to the weakness of old age. Dull cares that weigh heavily on the heart. Heavy strains upon muscles, nerve and brain. Cold indifference, or active opposition to the Gospel message. Hard experiences that tend to weaken all the graces of a Christian life. If to any man—who knows the facts—the foreign

field is more inviting than the home; it must surely be because—for him—the direct path of duty, to God and humanity, is in that field.

I have re-opened my school. The attendance is less than it was at the close of last term. Some of the scholars are away teaching. Others not liking the work these cold mornings have gone to their villages. No doubt the numbers will improve as the season advances.

For an untrained man, a large amount of medical work falls to my lot. Travellers tell me that my reputation as a "medicine man" has spread far into the interior. Would that it were built on the foundation of sound knowledge!

We have been forced by the cold lately to hold all the services in my kitchen. A goodly number attend with us each Sunday. Several of the head men are regular in the congregation. They seem to have "the hearing ear." It remains to be seen whether or no they have the receptive heart.

A new work has lately fallen to my lot. Seven times I have been called upon to arbitrate between full-blooded Biheans and half-breed Portuguese. Some of these cases have been very complicated. In each case my decision has given such satisfaction that a number of people want to submit their varied troubles to me for adjudication. I do not like the work. It is liable to injure my missionary efforts. I refuse to act, unless it seems expedient to do so, on the ground that I am neither chief nor white ruler, but simply a teacher of Christ.

Some of my boys have thus far resisted all efforts to induce them to indulge in heathen practices. Among the number is a son of the chief of Cipeta.

Sincerely yours,

W. T. CURRIE.

P.S.—I have just been out to chase a hyena. It seems to have carried away a large dog I brought up from the coast, and either it or the dogs carried away the whole carcase of a goat I killed yesterday, and I did not have a taste of the meat.

### Obituary.

MRS. ARCHIBALD DUFF, SR.

Died in Montreal, Oct. 23, 1891. Brave, strong soul, Christ-bearer among the children of men! The churches will suffer the thanksgiving of thy children to be written in their midst. Not the long story of that life be told; it was too full for that, and it was hidden by its very nature. This was its excellence: it was a womanly, entire and silent gift.

Let mothers think how they inspire children; for this mother's life tells it. Father inspired us