

**CHRISTMAS WEEK AT THE INDIAN
RESERVE, KAMLOOPS.**

VISIT OF RIGHT REV. BISHOP GROUARD
AND REV. FATHER FOUQUET.

This paper has to be prepared at least one month before date of publication. Overwork during the month of December, and on the occasion of the Christmas Celebrations at Kamloops, caused some delay in the issue of this number.

As early as December 21st, nearly 400 Indians were assembled at Kamloops for the Christmas Celebrations. About 100 more arrived during the week and more still were expected; but severe weather just before Christmas, and a blockade of snow in the mountains east of Kamloops, which delayed the trains, prevented a certain number from reaching Kamloops in time.

On December 22nd, we had a very welcome visit from the Right Rev. Bishop Grouard, O.M.I., from the Athabasca and Mackenzie, in the far north. His Lordship was accompanied by the Rev. Father Fouquet, O.M.I., of Edmonton. Both were delighted to spend one day with the Indians at Kamloops. They at once found themselves at home with our Shushwap Indians, who in their turn expressed themselves much pleased with the presence of our illustrious visitors.

The interview began by a general "Shake Hands," during which the song of welcome to the Bishop was sung.

" Good Father Bishop,
Representative of Christ,

We are happy
To see you to-day.

You bring us the good word of God;
You bring also the Holy Eucharist.
Father, Father, our hearts are glad.
Father, Father, be welcome among
us."

After a short greeting from Chief Louis, His Lordship began to tell us about the country far north, from which he comes.

Last summer he had a visit from the Very Rev. Father Antoine, Assistant General of the Congregation of the Oblats of Mary Immaculate. His Lordship accompanied the visitor as far as Edmonton. Rev. Father Antoine returned back in a short time to Montreal, and thence to Paris, France. But Bishop Grouard had more difficulty in returning to his Mission before the close of the winter. He failed to reach his destination, and had to retrace his steps to Edmonton. It is owing to this contretemps that his Lordship found leisure to make a short trip west to New Westminster and Victoria.

We were all very much interested to hear of the excursions of the Venerable Prelate and his Missionaries to the extreme north of his diocese. As one goes north in the summer, the days get longer and longer, until at one point there is no night, the sun setting at 10.00 p.m. and rising again at 2.00 a.m. Further on the sun is under the horizon only from 11.00 p.m. to 1.00 a.m.; and further still