

new fields just after taking notice of an old one unoccupied ; but, strongly believing a Missionary Society's vitality depends in a great measure on its aggressiveness, we cannot close without mentioning some. First, there is Fort McLeod, to the south. This is a centre, being the headquarters of the Mounted Police. It is also the depot of trade and transport from Montana and the east. A large number of Indians are constantly coming and going ; quite a variety of enterprises are already represented at this place ; but, as yet, no Missionary. Then there is the Blackfoot nation, consisting of differ-

ent tribes—Blackfeet, Bloods, Peigans, Sarcees—all speaking the same language. These, also, have no Missionary. On the other hand, away in the north, some 300 miles from Edmonton, there is a large band of Wood Crees, still in their primitive pagan state. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few." In conclusion we would again direct the friends of these Missions to our Saviour's words, where He says, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

WHITE FISH LAKE.

*From the Rev. HENRY STEINHAUER, dated White Fish Lake,
February 6th, 1877.*

Though I cannot send you any flattering account of the saving work of the grace of God at this station, yet, taking all things into consideration, I think there is abundant cause for which to thank God as a matter of encouragement to go on in the good work. As usual, there are many difficulties and opposing influences yet to be encountered in our work here, nor is it peculiarly so at this station, but is the common experience of all who are endeavouring to inculcate into the minds of any people the pure and vital principles of our holy religion ; not peculiar only to those who have lately come out from heathenism, as to be partially enlightened by the light and benign influences of Christianity, even better enlightened may be led away from the right path by outward and untoward influences, for the fallen and depraved nature of man is common wherever he is found, and much more so in this benighted land. We have a few who have edged in among our people here, formerly from Winnipeg ; they are English half-breeds, who have had the privilege of Christian instruction from the Church of England Missionaries, — who exceedingly trouble our people here, because

they are constantly reiterating the faults they seem to find in our system and manner of Christianizing and civilizing the Indian. You know that one of the worst traits of the Indian character is to live as easy as possible, yet his expectations are very high. This is a general characteristic of the Indian race—there are, however, redeeming exceptions. From every white man who comes and goes through his country—especially if he be above the common herd—he expects something as a token of kindness to him because he is poor. Now, in this manner he fully expects to be treated by the Christian Missionary—who comes and talks to him of God's mercy and great love, wherewith He loves all mankind. One who talks to him in this manner is the man for him, and then he considers himself a made man. Now, this is something similar to the character of those who live among us, and are constantly trying to dis-affect the minds of our Christian Indians here. They tell our people that their former missionaries did everything for them. Their missionaries did not require them to do aught either for church or school. All that was required of them was to go to church and send their chil-