

There are many children in the poorly settled districts who cannot go to church or school for want of clothing. In a home in Algoma is a poor old widow, crippled with rheumatism, and almost blind from cataract on her eyes, yet she is a sister in Christ and does all she can to cheer and encourage her neighbors, who are little better off than she is. A little granddaughter said to her one day, "Grandma, if I had a dress and a hat I could go to school with the other children." When the old lady said, "I would buy you them if I were not so poor," the child looked at her earnestly for a few minutes and then said, "Well, grandma, 'Blessed are the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'" Compensation there for all the sorrows of earth.

To one of our missions were sent a number of broadcloth coats and vests, donated by a niece of the first missionary's wife at Muncey. In acknowledging these gifts our correspondent said, "We would like you to have seen our local preachers when they were dressed up in the nice clothes you sent us. If you have never seen happy Indians you would have seen some then." She also specially mentioned some children's furs that were sent by a little girl. One of the little bright-eyed girls of the Sunday School was made very happy by them. She had never seen such nice warm things before. In fact, every article sent gave joy and pleasure to poor dear hearts who have very little to comfort them in this world.

From another part of the country comes this message: "I wish I could give you some idea of the poverty of the people in the vicinity where the clothing has gone. There are some large families—seven, eight, or twelve children—who are almost destitute; these children are all quite small, and go about half naked. I have seen them out in the snow in their bare feet carrying in wood. Previous to receiving this clothing they could not go to Sunday School, but since then they come regularly."

Presents for a Christmas-tree were sent to another place; they helped to make up a splendid tree. The missionary wrote: "I wish you could have seen the children's faces beaming with inexpressible pleasure; we could hardly keep them quiet until the programme was ended, so anxious were they to get their presents. We wish the children who sent those nice dolls could have seen the happy faces of our children; they were in ecstasies of joy."

One bitter cold evening, in another district, an invitation to go to the parsonage was received by two poor women who are laboring hard to provide for large families of small children. Imagine their glad surprise when they were presented with warm quilts and clothing. The next day some of their children were in the Sunday School, and in the evening the parents were out to service for the first time for many weeks. Each wore some article sent by some of our Mission Bands.

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