

her away from her profession and simple trust in the cross of Christ, or from the humble home where she ekes out a living by making and selling baskets. Two day schools and a Sabbath school are conducted. The apathy of Indian parents, that for years has weighed heavily against acquiring English literature, is the greatest bar to a higher and profitable civilization. It is quite possible if the minister appointed and the teachers engaged will make the work a specialty, that they will produce in five or six years a congregation understanding the English tongue, and it is possible equally to let education drift through seventy-five years more before the centenary of the Anglo-Indian school shall be celebrated in plain English.

S. E. MAUDSLEY.

EXPERIENCE OF AN INDIAN WOMAN.

MICOUSE is an Indian woman, a widow, and a member of the Oka band. In conversation with the missionary she gave some items from her experience as follows:

"At the time of the Reformation, in 1870, and breaking away from Rome, I was up the Gatineau River with my husband. We came back in 1875, and joined the Protestants. My husband afterwards went back to Rome, and wanted me to do so, but I refused. He was nearly blind, and the priest gave him work to saw wood. My husband took sick and died about ten years ago. Before he died he said to me not to come back to Rome, but to stop where I was, and if he lived he would go again with me. All this time I was going along with the rest of the Protestants, but I used to pray to the Virgin too, and kept my beads—the beads belonging to my mother. These were strong ones, and I was told they came from the Pope, and that he had blessed them. But I did not feel happy. I heard other Protestant Indians say they were very happy, and not afraid to die. I considered how that was, for I was afraid. One night I began to think of the ten commandments, and it said we must not bow down to an image, and God said He was a gracious God; and then I think perhaps God is displeased with me for praying to the Virgin Mary, and I won't pray to her again for two weeks. I found peace at once like the rest, and have only prayed to Jesus since. A priest came and spoke to me to come to confession. I said, 'What shall I confess?' He said, 'Your sins, and I can forgive you.' But I said, 'Only God can forgive; the priest cannot forgive himself, and will have to go to judgment like the rest. I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins to pardon me, and I am not afraid.' The priest then said, 'If you come to our church we will take care of you and give you work; your clothes are all rags.' I said, 'Well, if they are rags, I shan't want them long; they belong to the world, and I shall leave them, and when I do, I shall be given a white robe.' The priest followed up his good things by asking me to come and live with the nuns, and they would take care of me; but I said, 'God takes care of me.' He then said, 'You have nothing; sometimes you have no bread.' I said, 'I have bread, and if sometimes there is none, it is not long; an hour or an hour and a half and God sends it. I am God's child; He helps me, and I ask Him all the time. If my clothes are poor, was not Jesus poor?

When I lie down I have a pillow for my head, and have a blanket to cover me; when I get up I have bread and I have water. Did not Jesus say, 'The foxes have holes, and I have no place?' When the priest was going away he said I must not tell what he had said. I said, 'I will tell it if I like.' He wanted me to take fifty cents and then twenty-five more. I suppose it was that I must not talk of him. I told him that I would not take his money. Two weeks ago Mrs. Decam came on the same message, and had her lesson like the priest's for me. I would be taken care of if I came to their church. I had no wood, but it would be brought me. I said, 'Summer is near, and I would not want wood, only some chips to cook the food, and I can pick them up myself.'"

MEETING OF THE GENERAL BOARD.

THE General Board of Missions met in Ottawa, September 27th, and continued in session till 10 p.m. of the 29th.

The chair was occupied the first day by the Rev. Dr. Carman, who was subsequently called to Toronto on other important business. During his absence the Rev. Dr. Douglas presided.

Those present at roll call were:—Revs. A. Carman, D.D., Belleville; A. Sutherland, D.D., Toronto; J. Shaw, D.D., Toronto; Geo. Douglas, D.D., and T. G. Williams, D.D., Montreal; S. F. Huestis, Halifax; John Potts, D.D., and Geo. Webber, Toronto; James Hannon, D.D., Guelph; J. S. Williamson, Oakville; J. F. German, M.A., Toronto; J. G. Scott, St. Thomas; D. G. Sutherland, D.D., Hamilton; John Scott, M.A., St. Mary's; W. S. Griffin, D.D., Galt; T. M. Campbell, Lindsay; James Kines, Carleton Place; W. H. Hertz, Yarmouth, N.S.; E. Evans, Hampton, N.B.; Joseph Hall, Vancouver, B.C.; J. Nurse, Newfoundland; J. Semmens, Winnipeg; J. Woodsworth, Brandon, Man. Messrs. J. J. Maclaren, Q.C., Toronto; Hon. J. C. Aikins, Toronto; W. M. Gray, Seaforth; W. F. Hall, Napanee; W. H. Lambly, Inverness, Que.; A. J. Donly, Simcoe; R. L. Black, River Philip; W. J. Parkhill, Midland; B. Hopkins, Brownsville; W. G. Smith, Guelph; R. Aylesworth, Desoronto; S. E. Mitchell, Pembroke; S. Finley, Montreal; M. D. Baskin, St. John, N.B.; Prof. E. Odlum, Vancouver, B.C.; J. E. Peters, Newfoundland.

Rev. T. G. Williams, D.D., was appointed Secretary; Rev. W. H. Hertz, Assistant Secretary, and A. J. Donly, Esq., Journal Secretary.

An abstract of the Sixty-eighth Annual Report of the work was read by Dr. Sutherland, and was very encouraging.

This report, as well as those of the Treasurer and Auditors, was adopted. These having been already published, need not be further referred to here.

From all directions comes the cheering news that the Indians are being greatly improved. Their ideas of life and responsibility to God and man are changing for the better.

Five sub-committees were appointed to examine into and report concerning the work and finances of Home and Foreign Missions, as follows:—Home Appropriations, Japan Affairs, Indian Affairs, China and Chinese Work in British Columbia, Miscellaneous Matters and Resolutions.

The General Secretary read the Minutes of the Committee on Consultation and Finance during the past year, for the information of the Board.

The Chairman appointed Revs. Dr. Williams, S. F. Huestis, W. F. Hall, Dr. Griffin and Jas. Woodsworth, as a Committee on Nominations.