

families, however, who had been formerly connected with the Methodist Church in England and in Canada. These families were glad to receive our ministrations, and since our first visit they have increased in numbers by accessions from outside, so that now we have a good congregation in this village. A very pretty site has been secured for a church, which is the gift of the C. P. R. Company.

Bros. Reed and Sargeant did good work for the Master in this field. To their earnest and faithful labours, under God, I largely attribute the success which has resulted in the formation of societies, and the subsequent erection of churches at Sturgeon Falls and Sudbury.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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Letter from REV. T. CROSBY, dated PORT SIMPSON, November 2nd, 1886.

I AM just back from a trip to Bella Bella, Rivers Inlet, Bella Coola, etc., and I think it right I should give you some account of it, though I am so busy.

We left home Friday, 15th October, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas on board. It was blowing a strong north wind, but this was fair down the coast, so that although it was a little rough yet it helped us on finely. It was a good clear day. We made Low's Inlet the first night, and we had intended to make Kit-a-maat next day for Sabbath, but found the wind was blowing down so strong out of the Inlet we did not think it best to face it, and went on down the coast to Chinaman Hat. Were there in good time; took on wood, and here we spent the Sabbath. There are two traders and a few Indians. Had a good day, three services; I trust the seed sown will bring fruit.

Monday, off early; made

BELLA BELLA

by 11 a.m., hoping to hear that dear Bro. Cuyler was some better; but by the boat that had just passed up from Victoria, Miss Reinhart had heard that Mr. C. was not likely to be back, as the doctor had advised him to go south.

It will be a sore trial to him, for no man loved his work more than he, and the poor Indians loved him in return. We had service ashore, and after prayer and consultation, it was decided that Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas (who had come to supply here in Bro. C.'s absence) should go to Bella Coola for the present. And our good Sister Reinhart said she would rather stay alone at Bella Bella and carry on the work till help came from the East, than let Bella Coola go longer without a teacher. Bro. and Sister Nicholas were ready to go.

So off we started next day early, taking in a visit to Rivers Inlet. Met some of our northern people coming home from the south, where they have been working for the summer. We tied their canoes to the steamer and preached to them, and then on we went. Arrived at Rivers Inlet about 5 p.m.; found our teacher not at home; visited the people, and had two services. There are two white families here for the winter as well as the few resident Indians. But

in the summer this is a lively place when the salmon canneries are running. Early next day we were on our way down the Inlet, and as we got outside we

HAD A LIVELY BREEZE,

so much so that the lumber we had on deck shifted, and the skylight of the cabin was broken, and one of our lanterns came to grief. But we made a good run up Bella Coola Inlet. In the afternoon we took up Chief Tom and a party of his people; took them on board, and canoe in tow; had service with them. Had to anchor early for the night, as it was stormy. Arrived at the mouth of Bella Coola River at 8 a.m. Next day Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas and I went up at once in the canoe, and they had their things carried up to the little mission house. The few people who are trying to be Christians were very much pleased to meet them. Bro. N. Philip, the native agent (who has been here for about ten months), and I spent all the early part of the day in visiting all the heathen village from house to house. We were treated kindly in most of the houses; but, oh, the people are so dark! And lately they have had whiskey from Victoria, which has made them worse. In one house

HEATHEN DANCING WAS GOING ON.

We were glad to have the privilege of speaking to so many about Jesus. It is sad to see so much disease and death among them, the effects of their wicked life; young people dying the most wretched deaths.

While we were at this work the man at the store was sending off potatoes on board the *Glad Tidings*, which gave us good freight, and will be of good service for our winter's use. These people have some good land, and have raised potatoes for many years, and they sell them to the trader at a low figure. We have to pay him cash for them.

At night we had a good meeting in Chief Tom's house, which was a good start for our friends, Bro. and Sister Nicholas. May God bless them.

Philip and I came down the river in a canoe to the steamer; very dark and dangerous; but our loving Father brought us down safely.

We had expected to leave in the night, but it blew half a gale of wind, so we did not get off till 8 a.m. Made Bella Bella in time to have service at night. As it was now Friday, we thought best to spend the Sabbath here in the absence of their missionary.

A number of our people were here also on their way home from where they had been working on Puget Sound.

WE HAD A GOOD DAY,

and here we had the privilege of pointing a poor sick and dying man to Jesus. He had just arrived from Victoria, and was staying at Bella Bella, as he was a Chief of another tribe. He said, "Oh, that I had listened to the words of the missionary long ago!" and he passed away. May God impress upon the living that they must die!

Monday we started off with two Tsimpsean canoes in tow; had a lively time crossing Milbank Sound. Called at Chinaman Hat, had a short service, and took on some wood, and put on to anchor at Swanson Bay