

Opening of New School Building.

FROM MISS ARMSTRONG.

Aiberni, B.C., Nov. 5, 1895.

I was afraid that I should miss being present at the opening, but I was fortunate enough to get here one week before that event took place. The morning service, which was held—as were all the services connected with the opening—in the dining-room of the new Home, was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Winchester, of Victoria, who preached a most impressive and helpful sermon, and formally declared the Home dedicated to the work of the Lord. The dining-room and hall were well filled with both white and Indian friends of the mission. At three o'clock a service in Siwash was held by Mr. Swartout, who took for his subject "The Lord's Supper" and used a large coloured picture to illustrate his remarks. As the most of the Indian men had not returned from "sealing," Indian women and children formed the larger part of the congregation. Mr. Swartout spoke in the Chinook jargon, which he uses very fluently. But as you perhaps already know, it is difficult to express spiritual truths in the Chinook, so that Mr. Swartout is working and longing for the time when he can speak to these people from the Word of Life through their own language. My heart rose in thankfulness when I looked on so many attentive faces and when I heard so many voices join heartily in the singing, that so much had already been accomplished, and I prayed that I might in any way be able to do something to help these people into a knowledge of the love of God as it is in Jesus.

We met again at seven o'clock. Mr. Winchester preached to quite a good gathering of white people. At the close of the service the little band of Christians gathered around to commemorate the dying command of the dear Master. It was a very sweet hour of communion, though to me peculiarly touching, when I remembered that almost all were strangers to me and yet *not* strangers, for we all belonged to the family of God. O blessed tie, that binds our hearts in Christian love! I think the only regret was that there were no Indians sitting among us, and I know more than one prayer was breathed that very soon they too would be received into the number.

On Monday, in the afternoon, a large number of the Indians came to the feast prepared for them by Miss Johnston. Three tables were set in the dining-room of the old Home, and very pretty they looked, when I peeped in after school. The girls had gathered some bright leaves and wild flowers to decorate the tables. I was quite surprised at the effect of