

*Letter from Rev. D. JENNINGS, dated PORT ESSINGTON, B.C.,
October 9th, 1894.*

SINCE our return from Ontario we have been on our Mission a little over two months, which has been a time of great joy to us, arising partly from the hundreds of kind words of welcome received on and after our arrival, and also from the great pleasure we have in leading these people in the way of truth and holiness.

During the past year Bro. Pierce did his best to keep up the Mission to a good standard and succeeded in his work. Dr. Bolton, too, spent his usual time in the spring, and spared no pains to make his medical work a grand success. His evangelical labors were highly appreciated by the people that crowd here in the spring and summer. All the time possible he gave to this department of our work.

Our services have been exceedingly interesting on the Sabbath day owing to the usually large attendance and the zealous manner in which the people took part. To hear the bright testimonies of our people, of their simple trust in Christ, and of their bright hopes of eternal blessedness through their now exalted Lord, would cause Hallelujahs to rise from the congregations throughout Ontario. As I heard such experiences a few weeks ago, I said to myself, it is worth coming from home, leaving the enlightenment there, in order to build up a civilization here, founded on the Rock of Ages.

Your Missionary preached the other Sabbath from "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: Whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him." As the people were learning the text they said: "How long we were in darkness, but now we see the light. We thank God for the light." On the same day the text "Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God," was used. Many longed to be born again that they might fully enter into the blessedness of true rest in Christ.

We have still much pleasure in the Bible Classes, though only few in attendance of late, owing to the people being scattered.

As point after point of the blessed Truth was obtained, the expressions of delight heard would give pleasure to the lovers of Missions anywhere.

Missionary Readings.

A Question Programme.

OUR society took comparatively little interest in missions. This lack troubled my missionary committee, and being compelled to lead the last meeting myself, I determined to remedy the matter, if possible, and was successful, I believe.

It was announced in church that the Missionary Committee would have charge of the prayer meeting, and that it would be a question meeting. The committee gave the following questions to different active members, and requested them to study the questions prayerfully, and be prepared with an honest answer, even if it was not very flattering to either themselves or the society. After the Scripture lesson and a prayer service these questions were asked and answered:

1. "What proves our interest in any cause? Does this apply to missions?"

2. "Would you advocate enthusiasm in mission work? If so, how may we obtain it?" This was answered by one of the elders in the church.

3. "How do you feel with regard to foreign missions?" The young man who responded to this acknowledged that he had never given the matter any thought until that day, but was convinced he should have an interest in that work, and wanted to know something of it.

4. This was asked of a young lady who always said, "I am not interested in missions." The question was, "Why are you not interested in missions?" Answer: "I know nothing of missions, and, what is more, do not know how to become interested or to study the subject."

5. "Why should we have an interest in this work?"

6. "What would cause you to become a missionary?" Answered by an earnest young man that many believe will one day be led to give his life to the ministry. His answer was, "Having the evidence within that my Master has called me for this work, and no other."

7. "What caused you to take an interest in mission work?" Responded to by the leader of the Boys' Mission Band.

8. "Are you interested in mission work? If so, what was the cause of your interest, and what worker do you most admire?" A young Christian was given this question, and in answer said, "I have been asked to answer my question honestly, and must say I am not interested, and do not see why I should be." She had read quite a while ago an article stating that the heathen would be saved anyway, and if they had the Gospel carried to them might not accept it and so would be lost. From the following passages read by the younger members she saw clearly it was not so much a question of whether *they* would be saved as of whether *we* should if we did not obey the command to "go": Ezek. iii. 17-19; Rom. x. 13-15; Matt. xxviii 18-20; Acts i. 8, and John xv. 14.

9. "Please tell us about *the* missionary to whom we are indebted for the spread of Christianity."

10. "Tell us, please, what you know about *home* mission work." The reply was, "I know nothing, and will be honest and say so, but believe it my duty to know something, and want to do my part."

11. "What books on mission work have you read, and what is your opinion of each?" The young man said that until that day he had never read anything on mission work except a little article now and then in the church paper—not enough to create an interest; but that afternoon he had devoted to reading, and he found himself interested before he knew it, and he had made up his mind that missionaries are made of different material from him, but that it was his privilege to be as earnest as they, if he desired, and he was going to be.

12. "Please give us a few ideas on foreign work." Again the confession, "I know nothing of the work, and have just found it out, and know I am not doing my whole duty."

13 and 14 were similar to No. 7, and were answered by the leaders of the Young Girls' Mission Band and the Ladies' Mission Society.

A beautiful poem "Our Call," was read, as also a short story of "How a jungle boy began work for Christ," and an account of "A little auxiliary meeting," with only one in attendance, yet not a failure.

When I asked those who believed they should hereafter take an interest in both foreign and home work, and were willing to make it a study and a subject of prayer, to rise, the entire society, both active and associate, rose to their feet. The committee were really encouraged when our pastor said, "I am surprised to see how little you know!" for now we know it is ignorance and not indifference we have to overcome. Now the question before us is, What is the best plan of study?

We have decided to study the lives of some of the most interesting missionaries of our present day, each member to read with a different idea in view—one, for instance, reading to find the keynote to the man's life, and another to discover what work he accomplished.—KITTEE DOAN, in *Golden Rule*.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD was an orator of transcendent power, the most wonderful preacher of his time; Charles Wesley was vehement and fiery in exhortation; John Wesley was the calmest preacher of all who were connected with the early years of the great revival, and yet no man of them all produced such immediate and indescribable effects upon the people. Why? We judge that it was because he was the most genuinely and profoundly earnest man of them all, and the people felt and yielded to the power of his unutterable conviction and love. And in the same way we account for the success of Thomas Maxfield, Sammy Hick, Billy Dawson, Wm. Carvosso, and many more. Genuine soul-earnestness is power.