

buried in the undergrowth. What do these chiefs gain by coming to us? Did we call them? Do we know from whence they are? Or did we see the way they have come? Yet they arrived to us; they have torn away the undergrowth; they have found us, and they have lifted our hands and eyes to God, and showed us the way to heaven.

"The magic lantern came after that. The Bella Bella chief was present, and declared the white man could conjure better than the Indian. All departed at a somewhat late hour, highly delighted with the Queen's birthday for 1866."

A few extracts from Mr. Duncan's letter to the Committee of this date will give a general idea of the state of the Mission colony at this time. On July 10, 1866, after referring to the pleasure which the Bishop's visit had given to the little community, he writes,—

"You will be happy to hear that our village trade prospers. I had hoped to have transferred this department to other hands, but have been disappointed. Had I done so I think I should now have had upwards of 1000*l.* surplus, which I had intended laying out in the village, and in building a new church, and thus raising a substantial monument of the industry of the village during the past four years of its existence. This result is the more encouraging alongside the fact that most of the other traders with the Indians are complaining of losses. Some have failed altogether, and now several of the liquor vendors have fled insolvent.

"1. As regards *the trade department*, I have instructed a white man, the only one in the village besides myself, who is married to a Metlahkatlah Indian, to keep the store, and he, with four Indians, manages the schooner. Now, instead of the savage altercation so common to Indian trading, the Metlahkatlah store demands and obtains quietness and courtesy. We have continued to supply the Indians with all goods answering the convenience of civilized life, and tending to elevate their tastes and improve their appearance.

"2. *Matters of law*.—All private, domestic, and civil troubles find their way to the Mission house, and now the Indians from surrounding tribes bring in their every trial of a serious nature. Thus my duties in this department are very trying, demanding much patience, energy and explana-