

## SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF REV. T. CROSBY.

1. I was the first resident Methodist Missionary on the north-west coast of British Columbia. I first went to Fort Simpson in June, 1874, where I have since resided; and as Chairman of the Fort Simpson District of Methodist Missions, which embraces the north-west coast above Queen Charlotte Sound, also the Naas and Skeena Rivers, and Queen Charlotte Islands, I have from time to time visited the Indians of that District during that period.

2. The Bella Coola, Hiletsuck, Hydah and Tsimpshean Indians who occupy that district, and who are set down in the Report of the Department of Indian Affairs for 1888 (p. 317), at 10,000, do not really number more than 7,000. Of these, about 1,000 are under the instruction of the missionaries of the Church of England, and the remainder (with few exceptions), about 6,000, under the instruction of the Methodist missionaries.

3. In that district the number of resident whites—men, women and children—is only about 150. About one half of these are missionaries, teachers and members of their families; the other half being composed of Government and Hudson Bay officials, traders and cannery men, and members of their families.

4. As to the charges against our missionaries of disloyalty and inciting their people against the Government officials, and against the Indian Act, and receiving an Indian agent, so freely made in various official documents, I am able to give these a most unqualified denial. I am firmly convinced that it has been only through the loyal teaching and active exertions and peaceful influence of our missionaries that the Indians have been kept quiet under the indignities and unfair treatment to which they have been subjected; so that our Indians have never been guilty of any violence or disturbance, or occasioned any trouble to either Government, but on the contrary have given them their assistance, which cannot be said of other Indians in that district who are unduly favored by the officials, and lauded by them at the expense of our Indians.

5. The prejudice on the part of a number of our Indians against coming under the Indian Act or an Indian agent, is due in part to their having observed that numbers of Indians who, are under an agent, are much worse off than themselves, and continue their heathen practices; and in part to the offensive and imperious manner in which they have been treated by most of the Government officials who have come in contact with them, and also to the fact that their appeals and requests have, as a rule, met with no response, even when answers have been promised them.

T. CROSBY.