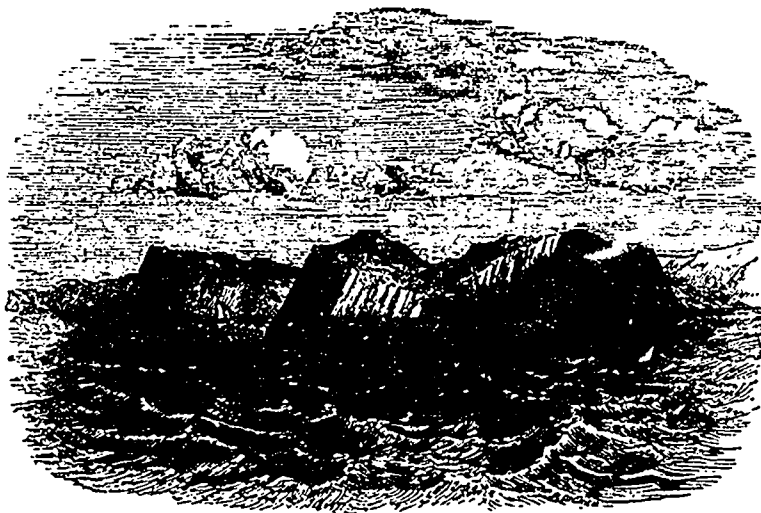


Young People's Department.



ON THE COAST OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

A NEWFOUNDLAND MISSIONARY.

OVER forty years ago a clergyman of the Church of England left his comfortable home in his own native country, in order to do hard missionary work in Newfoundland. Newfoundland has a wild, rugged coast, and the ocean waves are constantly beating against it, and the missionaries, as a rule, have to move about from place to place in open boats or fisherman's vessels, as they may get the chance. The clergyman's name was Jacob George Mountain, and he worked a great many years, chiefly among fishermen, as they were scattered about from place to place. He lived a very hard, rough life among these people. He was like St. Paul, often in "weariness and painfulness," "watchings and fastings," "hunger and thirst;" but he thought it was not for him to spare the body when there was work for Christ to be done.

Although he met with many discouragements and drawbacks in his work, sometimes things occurred to make him feel hopeful and happy. The following is an incident of that kind, given in his own words:—

"At Pushthro', I shall never forget the kindly eagerness with which I was received by one of the chief inhabitants, who in simple faith had ever opened his house to all who came in the name of Christ, and felt himself honoured by their sojourn under his roof. He stood at his stage head when I landed, and received me with open heart and arms. The whole time of my stay his one thought seemed to be how he might most promote my comfort, and minister to my wants. Nor was he unmindful of the better

part; his ear was open to hear what Christ might teach him by me. What his ear received, his heart pondered—a heart as tender and as true as any I have known in any rank of life, and in which I am glad to claim the place of a brother in affection, as well as of a minister in respect. This man was one of four brothers, each of them of the same sterling character as himself, and having great influence for good in their respective spheres. Two of them lived in the same settlement, composed of their own and two other families of the same worth. Here, too, I was from the first well received; and I found so much simplicity, earnestness, and willingness to be instructed more perfectly in the way of God, that I was enabled, before a very long period, to administer the Holy Communion to some of the more advanced among them. The number steadily increased, and before my departure every adult in the place had become a communicant, although even here they had previously entertained a firm persuasion that that holy feast was not intended for 'such as them,' and in other places it had not so much as been heard of. After a time, they began, at my instigation, to meet together on Sundays for Divine Service, the two brothers leading the rest of the congregation, and reading sermons supplied by me; the rest of the day was spent in catechising and instructing the children. Daily family prayer, private devotions in the morning as well as evening, became the rule in every family; books were eagerly sought and read, the children and parents rapidly progressed. At each succeeding visit I had a class of children quite as intelligent as their equals in a good school at home. I look back on those happy