

LIGHTS IN THE DARKNESS.

Great as is the amount of good work that is being done among the adult Indians, it is admitted on all hands that the hope of our work is among the young. One looks therefore to see how the young people who pass from the schools, carry out the lessons they have learned when they go back to the reserves. There are among Indian educators not a few who claim that it is not fair to send back to the reserve an Indian who has been trained in an industrial school. The dead weight of influences he must struggle against, added to his own hereditary weakness in the same direction, put the balance too heavily against him, and there is little hope that he will succeed. Against this it is to be said in the present instances that the man is under the friendly eye of agent, farm instructor and missionary, so that although it is true that the influences against him are many, there is no place when the active influences in his favor will be more numerous, and besides he is in the sphere where a righteous and steadfast decision on his part will tell most decisively for the benefit of his neighbors. In view of the critical nature of their cases and the value on one side or the other of the influence they choose to wield, it is of importance to note that two young couples are this spring going out from Mr. Moore's school to make their own way in the world. One young man and woman are already married and have settled on Muscowpetung's reserve; two other young people are about to be united and will settle on Pasquah's. Three out of the four, Mr. Moore says, are decided Christians, and the fourth too is quite under Christian influences. The writer, in company with Mr. Moore, visited one of these young men last week. He talked freely in English, showed us with evident pride the house he is building,—a good sized log structure with an upstairs above and a porch in front, and pointed out his little farm which includes some half-a-dozen acres of breaking, half of which had already been sown in wheat. It is true these young people may not have the push and aggressiveness of white settlers (indeed, is it not possible to have too much of that same?) but what a distance they are in advance of their fathers, and how important it is to secure them as allies of the missionary to be living epistles in commendation of industry and right living! We are sure our readers will unite with us in praying that these young people, James Kapenes and Alex. Matoney, with their wives, be upheld in their endeavor to exhibit the graces of a christian walk and conversation, amid difficult and distracting surroundings.

The Synod passed a strong resolution urging the establishment of a mission among the Chinese in British Columbia.