

Island. I had begun to write down by snatches a few Indian words as I could get hold of them, and to commit them to memory. To my surprise and joy, I found in a preserved file of the Royal Gazette of the Island, the outlines of an Indian Grammar, published a good many years before. This was of incalculable service to me. There too I met a Frenchman, residing among the Indians, and speaking their tongue, who spoke good English, and who had been converted from popery by reading the Bible. I found that he *could* and *would* assist me. When God calls to any kind of work he takes care to provide the means. Money was another desideratum, and there too I found a number of Naval Officers, godly men, who cheerfully aided the incipient work, with their counsel and their gold.

#### MY FIRST ATTEMPT.

The first verse of Scripture that I succeeded in translating and reading to the Indians, was John iii. 16. I will here transcribe it. "Mūdū Nīkskam tēlīksātkup oosītkūmoo, wējeigūnūmoo-ēdōgūbunn nāooktoobistājūl Ookwistūl, koolaman 'mēt wēn tan kēdlāmsitkūl ootenīnk, moo ūkstūgawīs kadoo ooscōs apche-memajooōkūn."

I can never forget the thrill of emotion that filled my soul and body at the completion of this task—for *task* it was, taxing all my powers of mind and body. But it seemed an omen and an earnest of success. To succeed in writing down the language, and with the assistance of an Indian to do the translating, in obtaining something like a correct translation of some portions of the Divine Word, and to be able to read it so as to be understood, was at that time, and for a long time after, the utmost I hoped to attain to. Nobody seemed to believe that even this could be done. And then as the Indians could not read, it seemed absurd to prepare books for them, especially the Scriptures, since they were all Roman Catholics, and would not be allowed to receive them, much less to learn to read them. Humanly speaking and reasoning the prospect was dark enough. But though faith and hope were weak indeed, we were enabled to persevere.

#### THE RESULTS SO FAR.

Contrary to all expectations and prognostications, the language of the Micmacs has been so far mastered that divine truth can be communicated through that medium, and hundreds of immortal beings