

We are but little children,
And earth a broken toy ;
We do not know the treasures
In our Father's House of joy. F. R. H.

FIELD STUDY FOR FEBRUARY.

The Indians of the Dominion, and the Newfoundland Orphanage.

The worst enemies the Indians ever had have been those who have given them the "Fire water," which steals away their brains and makes them ready for any vice. Many of the white men who have lived among them have given them this, instead of what God meant us to give them, the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. But, on the other hand, missionaries have gone among them, both men and women, and wherever they have gone their teaching and the influence of Christian lives in the midst of heathenism, have made a great change. Our Methodist Church has done and is still doing a good work for them, and it has been aided by the Government whose interest it is to promote the cause of missions, for it has been found that an educated, converted Indian makes a good Canadian citizen! But much is still to be done and it is to be hoped that the Government will see it in that light.

The total amount given by our W. M. S. to Indian work last year was \$7,257.50. The Coqualectza Institute in Chilliwack, whose expenses we help to pay, reports good progress. Children last year, 107. The Indians had come to the hop-fields near by to pick hops, which had given them five more, Two had run away but were glad to come back and one little sick girl had gone home expecting to return when better, but had died while away. Her parents said she talked nearly all the time about the children and the school.

Miss M. Smith, whose letters you have sometimes seen in PALM BRANCH, has charge of the senior department and has 73 pupils. She writes us that the past year has been full of work and encouragement. There are several children of Roman Catholic parentage. The children are getting more and more interested. They use the vertical system of writing, (straight up and down) and have now taken up drawing. Their copy-books and drawing-books are models of neatness. They use the British Columbia course of study which takes in Anatomy, English and Canadian history. Visitors are surprised to hear them speak English so fluently.

The Kindergarten and Primary school, under Miss Seroggie, has from 35 to 40 pupils. The children are delighted with their work. Ten have been promoted into the Senior department and eight more are ready. The girls are taught gardening, cooking, sewing, housework, laundry work and soap making. The larger girls assist Miss Burpee who takes orders for dress-making. The little ones have pieced a quilt for the jail. The boys are taught good trades and farming

and to keep their own rooms clean. The other missionary here is Miss Alton.

The Crosby Girl's Home, Port Simpson, B. C., also reports a year of more work and better work. No special revival during the year, but evidences of renewed hearts in the consistent life of many of the girls.

In the sewing department Miss Clark has given the children careful training in knitting, darning, patching, dress-making and fancy work. The school-work has gone on steadily and good progress has been made, especially by the younger children. Four of the girls take music lessons. Mrs. Redner and Miss Paul are our other missionaries here.

Great help has been given Dr. Bolton in his hospital by the nurses sent out by our W. M. S. Their faithful service has been much appreciated. Miss Stevenson and Miss Lawrence are still there but Miss Spence is home on furlough.

The Home for Indian children at Kitamaat also receives a grant from our Woman's Missionary Society. There are thirty children there and appeals to take more than they can accommodate.

Grants are made to the McDougal Orphanage and other stations. So you see our Society is helping largely to do a good work among the Indians which we hope will continue to result in happier homes and good Christian lives.

We hear little about the Newfoundland Orphanage. We know that some, perhaps all, of the children there are the orphans of the fishermen who lose their lives in this dangerous occupation. In 1896, there was an interesting sketch written for PALM BRANCH by a young lady living in Newfoundland, and who had visited the Orphanage. She told us there were twenty girls there then, from 15 to 17 years old. There was no real orphanage, only a small rented-house. We would be very glad to receive another letter containing latest news of this distant field.

QUESTIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

- Who are the worst enemies the Indians ever had? Why?
- What should white men have given them?
- What is said of the missionaries who have gone among them?
- Has the Methodist Church done much for them?
- Why should the Government aid in the good work?
- What amount did our W. M. S. give to the Indian work last year?
- What can you tell us about the Home in Chilliwack?
- About the children there?
- What can you tell us about Miss Smith's part of the school?
- How do they write? And what else have they taken up?
- What is said of their copy and drawing-books?
- What course of study do they take and what does it include?
- What progress have they made in our language?
- What is said of the Kindergarten and Primary schools?
- What are the girls taught? What are the boys taught?
- Who are our Missionaries at Chilliwack?
- What is said of the Crosby Girl's Home, Port Simpson?
- What does Miss Clark teach the children?
- What of the school work? Who are the Missionaries here?
- What can you tell of our nurses in Dr. Bolton's Hospital?
- What do you know of the Home for Indian children at Kitamaat?
- Do you think our Society is helping largely in the work for Indians? What is it all for?
- How much do we know about the Newfoundland Orphanage?