

in the midst of breakfast, only an evasive answer was given. But when our meal was over, and we got into the open air again, the missionary informed me. It illustrates the filthy habits of these savages, but out of consideration for the nerves of my readers, I withhold it.

The day I found was somewhat unfortunate for seeing the regular Sunday work of the mission. The Minister for Indian Affairs, from Ottawa, had notified his intention of visiting the tribe that day, to hold a great "pow-wow," or palaver, and the Indians were in a state of great excitement. The choice of Sunday for such a function was an unusual circumstance, and contrary to the general custom of the Government, whose desire it is to train the Indians to regard Sunday with something of the respect shown to it by the white people. The exigency of circumstances, as the Minister himself explained, caused, in this instance, a departure from the general rule. The result was that the whole tribe was in a great state of commotion. Men and boys and women on horseback, galloped wildly about, and the "braves" of the tribe were dressed up in all the glory of paint and feathers. One whom I particularly noticed had an enormous pair of wings flapping about on his back as he rode his horse, and had grotesquely ornamented his head to represent that of a cock with a great red comb along the top. Mission work was rendered impossible by this interruption, except in an individual sort of way, and I did not see the usual Sunday service held among them.

But to resume my story after this digression. I accompanied the missionary to the mission-house, determined to lose nothing of his whole day's proceedings. The mission-house is a low, one-storeyed building, built of trunks of trees smoothed on two sides, and jointed together at the corners. Inside there is a lining of planed deal boards, tongued and grooved, but not painted. Entering the house from the back there is a room which serves for the reception of the Indians. Leading out of it is the kitchen, in which is a well covered by a trap door, with a pulley arrangement for drawing water in one corner. Next is the study, occupied by one