

vagant, and I doubt not that when a deputation comes over to visit us some time, it will be seen that what I now state is the reasonable and right course to be taken.

You have now the whole subject, with facts, figures, and reasons before you, so far as I can put it in writing. May I ask for an early decision and answer? If I am permitted to go on and acquire property I ought to do so soon. If possible I should get into our house by next fall, or the early part of winter. As I know your hearty sympathy toward this mission I feel confident you will do the best you can, and as soon as you can.

If you have not sent us the promised box of school requisites you need not at present: but instead, if you will send by post a couple of dozen each of the No. 1 and 2 Catechisms, and a dozen or two copies of the "Rules of Society," it will be a great obligation

just now. We need them to put into the hands of natives who know a little English, and are willing to make use of them. Some time ago I sent copies of the translation of Luke's Gospel to the Mission Rooms and to other places. I hope they have been duly received. There seems to be a sad fatality attending the conveyance of newspapers and periodicals to us by post.

I am thinking of making a visit to Dr. McDonald next month. If I do so I will be able to give in my next some account of the work there, though no report from me is needed, as I suppose the doctor keeps you well posted up.

We have had an uncommonly severe winter here. The people say the like of it has not been known in twenty years. The snow was sometimes a foot deep in the city of Yedo, and the cold very severe.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From the Rev. THOS. CROSBY, dated Fort Simpson, Feb. 16th, 1876.

As the time has come when we begin to look for our mail-boat, the "Otter," after three months' absence, I must try and find time to write you in reference to our work here. Although we have been shut out from the outside world so long (and have had a very severe winter), yet, the time seems to pass very rapidly, and upon the whole we have had a happy, as well as a very busy time.

You are aware that our school teacher left us last fall; this, with the sickness of Kate Doudoward, left us entirely alone. The work of attending to all the religious meetings, and visiting the sick, and attention to all the various difficulties among the people in their present state, is enough for any one man to attend to. However, we could not think of giving up the schools, looking upon it as one of the most important parts of mission work to instruct the young; so under very great difficulties we have kept up

the two schools the most of the time; my wife has taken the afternoon as she did last winter, but it has been very much more trying this year than last, on account of the very cold weather which has continued for an unusual length of time. We have had three months of very cold, stormy weather; indeed, it was so cold at one time, that for a few days I thought it not safe to have school in an old building which lets the snow-drifts through its huge cracks, till it lies in great heaps on the floor and seats.

As you are aware, we spent all our time at the church last summer, and still, for want of lumber, had to leave it unfinished—this left us in this old Indian house for the Sabbath services also. I do hope we may get some kind of a school-house for next winter. The attendance at school is very good, although the grown people do not attend in such large numbers as when we first commenced.