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A YEAR AMONGST THE INDIANS OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLAND; OR, AN OPEN FIELD FOR MISSIONARY LABOUR.

INTRODUCTION.

In an article in a former number of 'Mission Life' (vol. i, p. 222) an account was given of the work of Pastor Harms, a German clergyman, and of the manner in which he succeeded in infusing a Missionary spirit into the villagers under his charge, and how without any external aid he and his flock actually originated and supported a Mission on no insignificant scale. They trained their own Missionaries, selected from their own body colonists to accompany them; they built their own Mission vessel, and constantly recruiting their ranks from home, they founded one Mission after another, until their stations numbered no fewer than twenty-four in the land of their adoption.

There are not many men like Pastor Harms—at least, not in their power of influence and organisation. But many in our own beloved land do not come one whit behind him in their deep and all-absorbing love for souls and wish to extend their Redeemer's kingdom upon earth. And why should not some one, at least, be found to emulate the noble example thus set to them? A high aim is the secret of success in all things. The arrow which is not pointed high can never reach the distant mark. Why should not some English village or district or congregation plant its Missionary colony in some heathen land? Half the indifference to Missionary efforts which prevails around us may be attributed to a want of reality, almost inseparable from the want of concentrated interest in particular spheres of work. The bare knowledge that 10,000 people are dying of starvation in some before almost unheard-of district of a distant land, does not create half the feeling of sympathy naturally excited by an acquaintance with all the particulars of a single instance of the lingering horrors of such a death. So in the case of those who are starving for lack of the bread of life. It is all very well to say that people should act upon principle, and not from feeling; but who shall say that it is not better to act from feeling rather than not act at all, or that many who begin to act upon lower motives may not end in acting on the highest? Who is there whose experience of his own actions and motives will not lead him to acknowledge, and that with the deepest thankfulness, the manner in which God's Providence has often turned