

expect many more the coming summer.

Feb. 14th.—I have just returned from my Naas visit; had a crew of eighteen; we made the run up in one day. Next day we called the chiefs and principal men together, and wished to hear what they had to say. J. J. Robertson, J. P., was present. Some very interesting speeches were made: one and all wishing to give up the old way and have a Mission School among them. One said, "we are very bad—dark, dark; we just see a little light now since you came to visit us; we think we see the stars. It has been a long night of darkness; now, do let us have the great light as the people at Fort Simpson have it. We do wish to have a white Missionary. Our people are very dark, very bad. Do not expect to change everything in one day. You see that mountain all covered with snow and ice—hard, very hard; but by-and-bye the sun comes, and slowly the snow melts away, and so it will be with our people, only give us the warm sun. I promised the people that I would write you about them, and that I

hoped the Church would send them a Missionary.

I know the Society has had hard struggling, but no people need one more than the Naas people. It is supposed that there are 1,200 or 1,500 people up there perishing for the bread of life, and not as they were two years ago, when I first visited them, opposed to the truth; but they are begging for it. I must send a native teacher up there at once, and do let us have a Missionary. I cannot go back to see those people in a few weeks and tell them there are thousands of people in old Canada and other parts of the world who pray for them and who long to hear of their salvation, but there are no funds, or there are not men enough who are willing to teach them the way of life. No, no, never. I would be ashamed to say that, when I know there are friends at home who could support a teacher there over and above their ordinary subscriptions and feel none the worse for it, but a thousand times happier.

Then, in the name of the God of Missions, we will enter these open doors!

RED RIVER DISTRICT.

From the Rev. WM. HALSTEAD, dated Portage la Prairie, Dec. 28th, 1876.

SINCE I last wrote you I have attended our Missionary services in Winnipeg. I had a long cold journey. I was much pleased with what I could see of the state of our cause in Winnipeg. There is a confidence, and also a liberality, which must be very encouraging to Bro. German.

We had for Chairman at the Missionary Meeting, Mr. Sifton, from the Crossing. He is a warm friend to our cause. If he should have more contracts on the C. P. R. R., he will be staying at the Crossing, and will help to commence our cause there. Bro. German intended to visit the Crossing and neighbourhood the week I went to Winnipeg, but it was

thought unadvisable, on account of the small-pox about the head of Lake Winnipeg.

Last week I visited Palestine to see Bro. Lawson and assist him in two Missionary Meetings. A drive of eighteen miles across the prairie, brought me to Westborne, and about sixteen more, to Bro. Lawson. Found him well and prospering. Had a good little meeting in the evening. People seemed anxious to do what they could for the cause, and would have done more but they contemplate building a new church. Next day we baptized some children and came, *via* Pine Creek, to Squirrel Creek neighbourhood, fourteen miles.