

the fact that these two brothers were inclined to follow two ways if possible. Not unlike some white people, eh?

I then appealed to all, individually, to know what their desire was. Turning to one who had been very quiet during all the services, I asked what he intended doing. He replied that he had understood all that I had said in all the services, and it was his determination to go on as he had set out. When he gave in his name it was with the full understanding that he would follow every rule of the Church, and had come to this service to join us in partaking of the sacrament.

All but the two brothers referred to expressed a desire to join us around the Lord's table. After talking to them a while on the solemnity of the occasion, and the order and attention to be observed, we sang the hymn and knelt together. Several for the first time partook of the Lord's Supper.

The interruption was unexpected, but as the chief afterwards remarked, "What can be expected of such people? With them it is as if the first streaks of morning were breaking in the horizon; they are yet in great darkness." May the full dawn of day soon reveal to them the glorious things of the Gospel!

On Monday we took our departure. The evening previous and that morning many expressed their regrets at having to part with us. "Thank you, thank you, for coming to teach us and our children the good things of the white man's religion," and such like were the expressions. The counsellor said his heart was very sad, "And when I shall see the missionary rounding that point (pointing into the lake) my heart will sink within me. If it were my father I should not think more, for he was but a poor pagan. Yes; the minister is more to me than my father was. Ah, I wish we could have one with us all the time."

I have been greatly pleased with the spirit of these Indians. Never before did they so fully appear to enjoy the preached Word. They now require regular teaching, and they will advance rapidly. They of course, like many other bands, are away from their reserve most of the year; even in summer time only short and irregular opportunities could be obtained of gathering all of them for school or other services. Still considerable could be done if one could spend the summer among them.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Letter from the REV. A. E. GREEN, dated GREENVILLE, NAAS RIVER, B.C., January 10th, 1887.

YOUR kind letter is just to hand with the welcome news that we may proceed to build our church. This gave great joy to the Indians, for they are so anxious to see it up; in fact, they had already got out the foundation timbers, and the lumber is being cut, so that with the first appearing of spring we shall be able to build.

We have had plenty of music the past six weeks. The Indians hired an Indian, who came from the coast to teach them to play the band. He was not very proficient himself, and in three weeks one of our Indians—George Palmer—was a better musician than the master, so that they did not keep their teacher so long as they otherwise would have done. The first

three weeks they found the instruments hard to play, and they would keep coming and asking for alum because their mouths were sore, but, notwithstanding, they persevered, and we were all astonished at the progress they made. For thirty days they had three sessions every day. The instruments are proving to be good ones. The Indians can now play the "German Hymn," "The Fisherman's Prayer," "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow," "God Save the Queen," "The Dead March from Saul," "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and "Around the Throne of God in Heaven." The whole village and the visiting Indians are all wonderfully pleased with the band, and we hope it may influence many for good.

CHRISTMAS WAS A VERY HAPPY TIME.

On Christmas Eve we had a "tree" with little presents for the children, and warm underclothing for the old and infirm, and at the same time I presented to our chieftess "Long-Arm" (Victoria) a beautiful shawl and a very handsome looking-glass, both the gift of a friend in London, England, and sent specially for the chieftess. I never saw her so pleased before, and a murmur of surprise and admiration came from all when they saw the beautiful and valuable presents. Victoria spoke very nicely, saying God had answered her prayers, and sent her a sign that the white Christians remembered her and her people, and that morning and evening, every day, she would pray God's blessing to rest upon the sender and all her white sisters. At midnight the people came around the mission-house singing their Christmas hymns. The following evening we had a good service in the school house, and throughout the week the people greatly enjoyed themselves, but yet did not have such great feasts as they formerly had at Christmas time. I exhorted them against going into debt for food for a feast, for this has been one of their weaknesses. They would borrow food to give a great feast, and then would have to work half the summer to pay off the feast debt; so I think we won a real victory in getting them to give up this pernicious practice.

OUR WATCH-NIGHT SERVICE

was a heart-searching one—a blessed season—and New Year's Day a joyful one. The following day Martha Wesley died, and this cast a gloom over the happy village; but her end was peace. She partook of the Lord's Supper the night before and was very happy, saying "Yes; the blood, the blood, the precious blood of Jesus—this washes all my sins away; I am saved by Jesus' blood." She asked us to continue to care for Moses till he should be a man (we have had this boy in our Orphanage for three years), and quietly breathed out her soul in prayer to God.

Then old Jacob, father of the late James McLellan, our native teacher, passed away, simply trusting in Jesus. Brother Gibson is working faithfully at our school. We were fortunate in securing him. He takes great interest in the Indians, and loves to preach the Gospel to them; and, with a little more experience, he will be a good man for one of the outposts on the District, if you can find us a lady teacher, one who can sing and play the organ.