

nearly all the lumber are on the ground. Mr. Bennett, the builder, has commenced the frame, and we hope by next October the temple will be ready for dedication. The Indians have done nobly in their contributions, and will probably do more when the church is completed. They are very anxious to see it up, and their expectation of the pleasure and blessings which will then be realized are almost without limit.

Mr. Crosby has been exceedingly busy in systematizing and putting the work in order. He has a congregation of six hundred persons, and the Sabbath-school has about the same number of scholars. The annual report shows twelve members, and one hundred or trial. He has been obliged to put these into three classes, not having a sufficient number of suitable men to take charge of them. But the Lord is raising up new agents, and three more classes are about to be formed. Four public services are held on the Sabbath. Prayer meeting at 8 A.M.; preaching at 10½ and at 6; and Sunday-school in the afternoon.

I preached to them on Friday afternoon and baptized the baby; she is called Jessie Aschekimka. The second name was chosen by the Indians, and signifies a sunbeam, or ray of the sun. The Indians were very much pleased that the child was called by the name they had selected. The boat having been delayed on her way from Fort Wrangel by a severe storm, she did not arrive at Fort Simpson till about 11 o'clock Sunday morning. This circumstance enabled me to remain over Sabbath. I preached morning and evening, and attended the Sabbath-school. I was surprised at the progress which they had made in the English language. I think there

were not fewer than forty who read the Bible with a good degree of ease and readiness. The reformation which has been effected in this people is the most marvellous we have ever witnessed either among Indians or white people. The change is so decided, and the improvement is so visible to all who come in contact with them, that it is the subject of remark all along the coast, and a cause of rejoicing even among the irreligious.

Mr. Crosby, however, has not been without difficulties. He has been much annoyed by parties from whom, considering the position they hold, and the profession they make in religion, he might have expected, at least neutrality, if not sympathy, instead of opposition. But even this has been overruled for good; the Indians have learned who are their true friends. The good work, by the blessing of God, has gone on, and it is still rapidly progressing. This work is yet only in its infancy. In order to raise them higher in civilization and refinement there must be a complete revolution in the style of their dwelling houses, and in their domestic arrangements. Their old houses, which are very large and have but one room, must be taken down and smaller houses built, with at least three rooms in each house. At present several families live and sleep in the same room, and when it happens, as it often does, that part of them are inclined to religion and part are not so inclined, it makes it unpleasant to conduct family worship, and is attended with other drawbacks.

A saw-mill is now being built within six miles of the Fort, which will be a very great advantage to all who wish to build, as they will be able to obtain lumber at a much lower rate than they can bring it from Victoria.

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