

The Indian is also learning the value of money very rapidly. One does not now see it spent so foolishly, and in such childish ways as formerly. They are also very handy with tools, and many of them are excellent carpenters. The consequence is that they are rapidly improving their homes, and at no great expense, by doing the work themselves. This money earning power puts them in the way of supplementing their former style of living by modern food, furniture and clothing in modern homes.

Social Conditions

On a coast steamer one Sunday in conversation with two very intelligent, gentlemen, one of them was very severe in his strictures on the Indians, and the futility of the work among them. The other, a strong supporter of missions, was unwilling to admit that the Indian work was as much of a failure as it was represented to be. Still he had his doubts. A little later we called at a cannery wharf and found it lined with Indians in their best clothes. They were Haidas, from our own mission at Skidegate. They would not work on Sunday. As they stood there, tall, powerful, fine looking men, I pointed them out to these two gentlemen as a product of missionary work. They noted everything, the polished footwear, the clean, well-brushed clothing, the manly bearing and dignity of the men. They turned their attention to the women and the children, just as clean and as well dressed. When we resumed our journey and our conversation, the latter of the two gentlemen declared that for him the argument was closed; that the comparison of what he had seen on that wharf with what he had seen in pagan villages was simply irresistible evidence of the great and good work that was being done, and that there could be no question for him hereafter of its great utility. He considered that he was most