

Except to the extent and for the purpose I have now stated, no trading is or has been done at the mission. This is the uniform testimony of all who know anything of the working of our mission from personal observation. One gentleman, who has lived near the mission since its foundation, and who has carefully noted the conduct of the missionaries in this matter, says, "No trading has ever been done by the missionary or by any of the people at the mission. They could not have traded without my knowledge."

III. The only other charge is in substance that, notwithstanding a vast outlay of money, no good has been done. "Not one Indian has been converted." "It seems also a little strange that a missionary should be among the heathen 5 or 6 years, and not be able to preach in their language." The Rev. J. Nesbit has been 6 years among the Indians. That he is not yet able to preach a sermon to the Indians in their own language is a fact, but a fact which is neither strange nor singular. There are gentlemen in the North West who have been there as missionaries twice as long as the Rev. Mr. Nesbit has been, who are in the same predicament. I am personally acquainted with gentlemen who have been in the N. West from 20 to 30 years. They have assured me that though they have mastered the language sufficiently for the purposes of trade, they would not like to undertake to compose a sermon or speech on a religious topic in the Cree.

Our missionary is now fifty years of age. He claims no special aptitude for mastering a foreign tongue. Neither he nor the committee expected that he would ever be able to dispense with the services of an interpreter when the appointment was made. We may ask, why did such a gentleman offer, or why was such an appointment made?

Our Church asked for volunteers. Years passed, but no one came forward saying, "Here am I, send me." At last, to wipe out the reproach of the Church, and hoping his example might rouse the spirit of younger men, Mr. Nesbit threw himself into the breach as the leader of a forlorn hope. The Church accepted his offer, and his devotion is bearing fruit to-day.

Your correspondent says (and he says it on the authority of a man who went to the mission at ten o'clock at night and left early next morning) "Not one Indian has been converted." It is conceivable that our efforts might not have been rewarded with a single instance of conversion, and yet it might have been true that there was nothing wrong in the method of our operations, or in the character of our agency employed.

But, thanks be to God, He has not left us without some tokens of His approbation. When Mr. Nesbit went to the Saskatchewan, the very foundations had to be laid, and bravely has he done the work. There is now a comfortable home for the reception of the missionaries, advantageously situated for the prosecution of our work in the regions beyond. He was met by prejudice and hostility. Prejudice has been conciliated; hostility has been disarmed and converted to friendship.

In six years there have been ten adults and 39 children baptised, all Indians of the purest blood.

The adults were all converts from heathenism. Some of them are now members of the Church, and some are dead of whom we have good reason to believe they died in the faith of the gospel. There are at this moment 12 Indians in full communion with the Church. Six of these were received by letter from other stations; the remaining six are converts from heathenism, the immediate fruit of our own labour. There are now at the mission at