

The Children's Record.

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All communications to be addressed to

REV. E. SCOTT, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

Our young readers have in this issue the last of Principal Grant's interesting letters. I know that you will all unite in giving him our hearty thanks for his kindness, and thanks also to a kind Providence that has kept him in his journeys and brought him safely home.

You have heard of our missions in Demarara, and our missionary Rev. John Gibson who labored there. It is little more than four years since he went to that field, and a few weeks since he was cut down by death, leaving a widow and a little child to mourn their loss. So much had his work been blessed that more than five hundred children had been gathered into schools and were learning to read the Bible. As the missionaries get old or die, new ones are wanted to fill their places, and these must come from the boys of to-day. Who of you, boys, will give yourselves to Christ to be ministers in the Home or Foreign Field.

LETTER FROM PRINCIPAL GRANT.

ILO-ILO, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS,
Oct. 20th, 1888.

My Dear Young Friends:—

Since writing to you last, I have seen a little of the Northern Territory of Australia and of the East India Islands that extend between it and China. I have seen also two Roman Catholic Missions, one with little fruit so far as outward results show, the other successful on a large scale. I will try and tell you a little about these two Missions in this letter.

Port Darwin is the terminus of the over-

land Telegraph of Australia. This line extends from the peopled part of Australia in the South, right across the Island Continent to the North. There a cable is laid, that extends by way of Java, Singapore, India, Aden, and the Mediterranean, to Britain, but the cost of sending news by it is half a guinea a word. Besides, between Australia and Java the line has to cross a volcanic belt and is often broken, probably by submarine volcanic upheavals; and therefore the people of Australia are anxious to have an alternative cable to Vancouver and across Canada to the mother country. I hope they will succeed, for Australia, Canada and Great Britain will then be bound together by a cord that will be an emblem of their moral and political unity, and cabling will be cheap.

While in Port Darwin, I saw a number of Australian blacks loafing about the town and living in great dirt and degradation. Inquiring whether any one was trying to do them good, I was told that the Jesuits had two Missions in the district, one near at hand and the other at a distance, but no one seemed to think that it was possible to elevate the poor creatures. I resolved to see for myself, so I drove out to the new Mission, which is at a place called Rapid Creek, about ten miles from Port Darwin, or Palmerston, as the town is called to distinguish it from the harbour. I found there two priests, Father McKillop and O'Brien. Their leader, Father Steele, is absent in Europe at present. I received a cordial and hospitable welcome, and the two missionaries showed and told me everything as frankly as Mr. Hagenaner at Ramahyuck. The mission was established nine years ago, and at first promised to be somewhat successful. A number of the blacks gathered round, and built little houses for themselves, though they like better to live in the open air, and sleep on a few leaves or branches on the ground, during the greater part of the year. A little church and school were also built, and the trees on part of the reserve were cut down and the ground cleared. Bananas, pine-apples and sweet potatoes were planted, as well as the