

while no small proportion identified themselves with no faith, many being puffed up with an idea of independence, as foolish as it is often boastful, of being indifferent to all creeds. A few owned subjection to the power of Rome, and were headed by a priest who from his kind and affable bearing, acted toward all as though the genius of that religion were replete with the spirit of liberality and goodwill.

We had also a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church from New York, who had a charge in view in some part of the state of California, and was taking out his family to the new scene of his labours. Of three brothers who were recently licensed and ordained by the O. S. Presbyterian Church, New Jersey, two were on their way to Oregon as missionary ministers, both sent and to be supported by that Church.

An opportunity was afforded in this *sailing village* to put forth some evangelistic effort, and which I have reason to believe was appreciated. On Sabbath morning last we had services on the cabin deck in the forenoon, and on the steerage in the afternoon, the former of which was conducted by myself, and the latter by one of the brethren from New Jersey.

On this morning too, we first since the day we sailed sighted land. This was one of the Bahama Islands, near to which we were joined by a gunboat under whose convoy we continued our journey towards the Isthmus. Following in our wake a short distance from us, was our escort with deck as crowded as our own as we congregated together to hear the Word and to celebrate the praise of Jehovah. The pen fails to describe that peculiar interest which one incident and another according to its received importance causes to arise where the means of enjoyment are so limited. I may here say with regard to those amongst whom my lot has been cast on this journey, that I have never before been so long in the midst of such a crowd with so much order and decorum. The presence of a goodly number of ladies had no doubt something to do with this.

We are drawing near to the bridge of land over which we cross to the broad waters of the Pacific, and where I expect to post this note. The weather is very warm, and every cooling and refreshing expedient is resorted to. So far in safety has the good hand of God led and protected us, and abundantly grateful ought we to be to the Preserver of life and health when so many elements are at hand fitted to destroy both.

I may mention that at New York I was kindly received by the Rev. Mr. McGlashan, who insisted on giving five dollars as a contribution to our missionary scheme.

With kindest regards to yourself and family, I remain with kind esteem,
Yours very truly,

DANIEL DUFF.

LETTER FROM REV. JAMES NISBET.

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT, April 13, 1864.

REV. R. F. BURNS, CON. F. M. COM.

MY DEAR BROTHER.—Although my work is so intimately connected with the congregations here, that the returns from them might also serve as my report, yet as I am here at the charges of the Church something in the form of a report from myself may be expected prior to the meeting of Synod. You need not expect, however, to find much in this communication of which you have not already been informed.

With the reasons for my visit to Canada, and my attendance at last Synod the Committee and the Church are already familiar. I am sorry that the object has not been attained, but I hope yet to see a mission to the Indians *exclusively* established by our Church. In this hope my brother Mr. Black fully partici-