

service, which we held on the seashore. We trust the seed sown will take root, and bring forth fruit unto eternal life. Baptized an Indian baby during the service.

We have some interesting things to tell about the Indians in their great potlatch at Cape Mudge, and also our visits to the logging camps, but will leave this for another letter, as we have a chance to mail this on the steamer "Comox," which is anchored close by.

THE INDIAN WORK.

Letter from REV. W. H. PIERCE, dated NEW KITZEGUCLA, B.C., Sept. 15th, 1892.

WE left Inverness, our summer station, the last week of July by canoe. We called at Essington to say good-bye to our friends, but owing to some unexpected trouble caused by one of the party, we had to change our plans and wait for the steamer *Caledonia*. In two days we were off, and expected to reach our mission on Saturday, but when we got up to the canyon the water had risen considerably. The captain said that it was impossible to go through, so we had to wait, and we spent Sunday at Kit-se-lash village, and had three services. Bro. Becker, who was on his way to take charge of the Hay-mill-gete Mission, took charge of the afternoon service, after which I had the pleasure of baptizing the daughter of the young chief there. The next day the water was still rising, so the following morning it was decided to go down to the coast again, and bring any Indians who might want to come from the canneries. On our return again, the water was at the right stage, and we went through splendidly. We had quite a number of Indians on board, and they were greatly surprised and delighted to see the great wisdom of the white man in using fire and water to make the big boat plough through the strong current of Skeena river. We arrived home the following Saturday, and found a few people at home. Those that had been working at the canneries got here three weeks afterwards. Several of them are off now to the mountains, and others are at their fishing-camps preparing food for the winter. We hold services in their camps as often as possible. A few weeks ago the news reached us that Louis and his wife had both died on their way up the river, and a few days afterwards his sister died also. The man and his wife both joined the Mission when this village was first laid out, but went back to heathenism shortly afterwards. When the heathen people knew what had happened, they were so much afraid that they said, "God's anger is upon us." They thought that the smallpox had broken out amongst them, and they fled to the mountains. We trust and pray that God's power will shake their proud hearts and that they may be obedient to the gospel call. I am now building an additional room to the mission-house; it will be used for medicine and to hold meetings, etc., and will be comfortable when finished.

CORNWALL ISLAND.

Letter from REV. E. TENNANT, dated CORNWALL ISLAND, September 22, 1892.

I WAS appointed at the last Conference to take charge of the Indian Mission on Cornwall Island. I find the work more interesting and important than I had expected. We will give a few facts which may be interesting to the friends of missions.

The Island is situated in the St. Lawrence, opposite the town of Cornwall, and is about five miles long and one mile wide in the centre. The greater part of the land is fertile. Some fields are beautiful. There are about sixty families living on the Island. About twenty families attend the services of the Methodist Church. Originally all were

Roman Catholics. It is now nearly twenty years since the first converts to Protestantism were enrolled. I have had returned to me the names of forty-one persons as members of the Church. There are others who occasionally attend our services. One thing which impressed me greatly in looking over the membership register was the fact that quite a number give the date of their conversion and reception into the Methodist Church. Our church is a frame building situated about the centre of the Island. It is also used for a school room. There is no other service held on the Island. The school is taught by Mr. Louis Benedict, who is also my interpreter. The attendance at school is fairly good considering the circumstances. There is a separate school about one-eighth of a mile distant. There are two services held every Sabbath, a prayer-meeting at 10.30, and preaching service at 2.30, with testimony meeting afterwards, and prayer-meeting every Thursday evening. I have been delighted with the spirit of the meetings. The singing is good, and testimony meetings are cheerful and lively. I look upon the Mission as important and worthy of our best efforts to do the people good and promote the glory of God. It shall be our object and aim to lead precious souls to Christ.

THE HOME WORK.

Musselboro' Mission, Manitoba.—At the first meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, held on the 20th August, at which Rev. I. C. McClung, Chairman of the Morden District, presided, it was decided that this field become a self-supporting circuit for a young man. This mission embraces settlements from Swan Lake in the West, to Deerwood Station, on the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railroad, in the East. The people are principally from the Province of Ontario, but a large number are French-Canadians from Quebec and elsewhere. The Indians on the Swan Lake reserve are visited by Roman Catholic priests. The French have a church and priest at St. Leon, and a church and priest at St. Alphonse. Two Presbyterian missionaries and an English Church clergyman also labor in these settlements. On one Sunday we drive to Somerset, and preach in the morning in the school house, then drive to Swan Lake school house and preach there in the afternoon; then drive to the Pembina River, tie our horse to a tree, cross the river in a boat, walk two miles to a school-house, preach there in the evening, returning after service to the river, and home for supper and rest. On the other Sabbath, having driven twenty miles on Saturday to Alta, or as it was formerly known, Musselboro', we are conveyed by the foreman of the railroad section on his hand-car to Deerwood, five and a half miles, and preach at 11 a.m. to a small congregation in a small private house. After service we return to Alta and in the afternoon preach in the school house. This country is a mixture of bush and prairie and swamp; in dry weather the roads or trails are passable, in wet weather almost impassable. Casting our bread upon the waters, by words of warning and words of encouragement, by distribution of Sunday School literature and selected tracts, by preaching the Word, and by fervent prayer, we tearfully sow and joyfully reap. To God be all praise.

E. W. WOOD.

THE Pope, it is said, has accumulated an immense private fortune, and the funds of the Church at his command are still enormous, as may be judged from the facts that the Pontiff has so far refused to take the annual income of 3,200,000*l.* voted by the Italian Parliament to the Church, and that there has been no diminution in the state and ceremony with which the Pontifical Court is maintained. The annual income of the Vatican is estimated at over 13,000,000*l.*