

## MISSION WORK ON QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS.



THE Queen Charlotte Islands form the western extremity of the Dominion. They comprise a group of two principal and numerous smaller islands, something over two hundred miles in length and seventy in width at the base. They are a continuation of

the partly submerged range, some of the heights of which form Vancouver Island, again breaking out in the Queen Charlotte group, continuing northerly in the Alaskan islands, and finally reaching their greatest altitudes in the peaks of Mt. Fairweather and Mt. St. Elias. So, though somewhat humble, our highest peaks on these islands being only about 5,000 feet, yet we claim prominent relations.

Graham Island, to the north, forming the base of the triangle, is the largest of the group. The chain of mountains forming the backbone of the islands rises higher as the triangle narrows, till the southern part of Moresby Island becomes a mere range of peaks starting abruptly from the sea-level, a sheer wall of green and rock, indented by few harbours on the western coast, but on the eastern side breaking away into a great

number of smaller islands, and pierced by innumerable delightful inlets.

Except a few tide flats at the north, and a small strip of a sandy spit opposite our mission, the whole surface is covered with a dense growth of hemlock and spruce, fir, cedar, cypress, crab-apple, and yew; while an undergrowth of ferns and shrubs, almost tropical in its luxuriance, makes travelling through the interior extremely difficult.

Considering the high latitude, that of Labrador, the climate is remarkably mild. We are far enough westward to avoid the cold influence of the Cascade range, being separated from the mainland by from fifty to one hundred miles of the boisterous waters of Hecate



MR. B. C. FREEMAN,  
Missionary at Queen Charlotte Islands.