



MISS SMITH AND TWO JAPANESE FRIENDS.

they consult me about their cases is most amusing. Imagine a doctor in Canada consulting a nurse! At present, three of the nurses are out taking care of the superintendent of the hospital and his son, both of whom have typhoid fever. One goes in the day, and the other two take the night work, while I go twice a day to inspect and take further orders. We have already nursed many patients in the same way, and I think in every case our efforts have been appreciated. When able, our patients pay 30 sen a day; but to the poor our services are free. The nurses are not allowed to take presents. I was so pleased lately when my interpreter came to me and said that the nurses wished to form a guild to do embroidery, knitting, etc., when not on duty, so as to earn a little money to buy medicines, wine, etc., for our charity cases. I learn from the bishop that we are not likely to get any help from the S.P.C.K., as I hoped, for they say that they are not prepared to give it, and that the Canadian Church should support the work. It was such encouragement to us all when your letter came saying that help would be sent us from Canada.

"Mr. Kakuzen brought us a welcome box of hospital supplies, for which we are most grateful."

The Bishop of Mackenzie River, in his report to the C.M.S., speaks in the highest terms of the earnestness and devotion of Messrs. Marsh and Stringer, Canadian missionaries laboring among the Indians in the far north. Mr. Stringer is at the mouth of the Mackenzie River, ministering to the Esquimaux, probably the nearest missionary to the North pole.

THE ESKIMO.

BY THE RT. REV. W. D. KEEFE, D.D., BISHOP OF MACKENZIE RIVER.

THESE interesting people are found in Greenland; all along the northern coast line of this continent, from Labrador on the east to Behring Straits on the west; amongst the islands of the Arctic Ocean; and under another name on the coast of Siberia. Their number is unknown. It has been estimated at thirty-five thousand, but that is probably somewhat over the mark. It is difficult to compute it with any degree of accuracy, as they extend half-way round the world, and no census has ever been taken of them.

Being so widely scattered, they naturally differ somewhat in their character, habits, language, and appearance; so that what is said of one tribe may not apply altogether to another.

The name (Esquimaux) means eaters of raw flesh, and was given them by others. They call themselves Innuits, which signifies The People! They have a tradition that none of the different types of people made by the Creator suited Him until He made the Innuits. With them He was so satisfied that He made no more; hence the name.

In their heathen state (and the great majority of them are still heathens), they are not only ignorant, degraded, and superstitious; they are also thievish, addicted to lying, gluttonous, unchaste, easily offended, and murderous. It is said that wives are not infrequently exchanged or borrowed, as circumstances or