

is exclusively a fishing one; its prairie is the ocean, and its plough is the keel. The whisper of the tide is the lullaby of the fisherman's babe, and the moan of the surge his requiem when his toilsome life has come to its close. Our people live on the sea, and many of them are buried beneath its bosom. Year in, year out, they ply their dangerous calling, and are subject to the privations incident to a means of livelihood peculiarly uncertain and precarious. One year there may be fish in plenty; the next, a man may not only toil all night and catch nothing, but, alas, he may toil all the days and nights of the fishing season, and find himself at the close without the means of providing for his family in the long and unproductive days of winter. A portion of our fishermen ply their calling in small craft within row and sail of their homes; a proportion brave the fogs and storms off the banks, while a further proportion sail away northwards to the bleak and storm-smitten shores of Labrador. In every case, however, the rule holds good, the mode of earning is terribly uncertain, and the effort of the people being confined to the one industry, failure in that means penury or pauperism. During the past few years there has been a succession of bad fisheries, hence the universal depression of trade throughout the country; hence, too, the tales of famine in your newspapers, some, I am bound to say, grossly exaggerated, which have horrified many a kindly heart in these more favored lands.

To these sparsely-settled communities of fishermen, widely apart, remote and isolated, the Methodist missionaries have been preaching the Gospel of the Christ for more than a century. Indeed, Newfoundland claims to be virtually the first mission-ground of Methodism, for our Church was founded there in 1765 by Laurence Coughlan, who, though a Church of England clergyman, was an avowed and enthusiastic Methodist, and originated, within a year of his arrival, the first Methodist Class-Meeting on this side of the Atlantic. Another little known fact I mention with pride. From my native city of St. John's was sent the first contribution to the great Wesleyan Missionary Fund outside of Britain, Ireland itself coming after Newfoundland.

(Conclusion next month.)

WHEN Ko-chet-thing, the Karen convert, was in America, he was urged on one occasion to speak to the people on their duty to send out and support more missionaries. After a few moments, he asked, with emotion, "Has not Jesus Christ told them to do it?" "Certainly," was the reply, "but we wish to remind them of their duty." "O, no!" said he, "if they will not obey Jesus Christ, they will not obey me."—*Exchange.*

Woman's Missionary Society

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"Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."—DEUT. xi. 18, 19.

WE are pleased to note that so many Bands and Auxiliaries have already fallen into line with the design of the Literature Committee, in adopting for their meetings the programmes furnished.

From several letters received expressing gratification with the experiment, we extract the following:

Mrs. Rev. John Gee, Aylesford, King's County, N.S., writes: "I felt so thankful to organize a Mission Band here last November, 'Oak and Ivy,' acting as President, Secretary, Treasurer and all, for this year. And I did rejoice when I read the first of the series of Responsive Exercises in the OUTLOOK. The Programme charmed me greatly. We held our first quarterly meeting, which was a 'Sabbath evening missionary service for the young.' We took the Responsive Service without map for the first part, and for the second, one of the recently printed and deeply interesting dialogues on 'Our Indians.' Our service was a grand success—pronounced a *rich treat*. Such a gracious influence pervaded the whole service. We were requested to state our opinion of these exercises. For the use of Mission Bands in the country, I consider that their help will be invaluable. If it were only for two of the four objects named in the OUTLOOK, viz., 'the connection of the Bible prophecies,' etc., and the bringing into more frequent use by the young of the soul-inspiring hymns of our own hymn-book. If it were only for these two objects, they are weighted with a spiritual value that will long outlive the time of using. We have been requested to give our service again, and we are going to give it in different places,