

The roar of the river is the voice of God's power. The ripple of the brook speaks of his love and his providence, for my refreshment. And now and again, as I have journeyed in the clear northern night, the swish of the Aurora Borealis has drawn my eyes to the northern heavens, and there, yes surely, there, I saw the hand of God, in light, above this land.

For meditation, for prayer, for solving problems, for communion with God, for realizing one's own insufficiencies, for driving a man to the Antipodes of Atheism,—this is the land, and this—of mine,—the life. It is hard, on the physical side, but on every other side it is easier than Home Mission work anywhere else, except at outposts such as this.

About the sick. All but two of them are in the hospital, twenty yards from me. I have family worship with them at night when I am here, and a song in the afternoon. It does them good. They suffer little and the songs of Zion make them think of God, home, and the love of both.

Mail will be in, in a few days. If it bring instructions such as I expect, my next letter will be from Atlin, or possibly from some point along the trail. There will be at least 20,000 people there this summer. Nine-tenths of those in this district have gone, or are going.

Excuse this queer letter. I am sometimes in the mood, sometimes not. To-day not. But I felt that a word or two, however put together, would be welcome to our people, if it told of work done.

I shall do my best, wherever you send me, to think it no sacrifice, but an honor, to be chosen to go to the front in this great war between right and wrong, Christ and his foes.

JOHN PRINGLE.

MORMONS, ETC., IN THE NORTH-WEST.

LETTER FROM REV. GAVIN HAMILTON.

Cardston, 18th Feb., 1899.

This field is the most difficult of all settlements. During summer there is so constant a stream of apostles, elders, Sunday school organizers, etc., coming over from Utah, that Mormonism is kept at a continual fever heat. This section is continually over run by the Mormon priesthood, who are jealously guarding every point.

We will have to wait for the common school to do its work here.

Quarantine laws are vigorously enforced now.

The town, too, has been proclaimed a village (Dec., '98), and subject to sanitary regulations.

It would not be very difficult to incite a burst of religious fanaticism among the people here. They mostly belong to the "strictest sect" of Mormonism.

Polygamy, though (said—Ed.) not practised, is approved by the elders, and even justified in public as well as in private.

An emigration agent from Medicine Hat was here last summer with a man to inquire whether it would conduce to the public advantage to take a strip 16 miles long and 6 miles wide from the Southern boundary of the Blood reservation, and alienate it, giving the Mormons exceptional privileges with regard to settlement.

MOUNTAIN VIEW.

The Sabbath attendance there has increased, partly owing to renewed interest, and partly because the congregation has enlarged, owing to immigration from Utah. One hundred and seventy-one Mormons came into this field in 1898.

The people of Mountain View who avail themselves of the services of the Church are about 69 Protestants, including children, and 21 ex-Mormons; making a total of 90 persons.

BOUNDARY CREEK.

Is about 14 miles from Cardstone. Regular fortnightly services were held until February, when they were interrupted by severe snow storms, rendering travelling almost impossible. Our Church has now a grant of 40 acres of land there. There was a very strong interest shown in our services, and it is probable that a church building must be erected at an early date.

The people there are eager for the Gospel. Some drive 8 or 10 miles in severe weather. They welcome me gladly, and listen most attentively. Many of them never heard the Gospel before, and seem to appreciate it. "Come to our place next time" "When will you preach again?" are not feigned words or personal compliments, but a strongly developed interest in Gospel truth.

ST. MARY'S.

There is a good attendance here and a deep interest. Men will ride or drive 3 to 12 miles, coming in vehicles or on horseback to church.

This place is always asking for more preaching, although I conduct services regularly every fortnight. A good many would leave and go to Milk River Ridge, and found new homes, away from the Mormons, but they say, "We cannot leave the Church and school again."