

dogs were able to draw only one child at a time, in addition to the bedding—viz: a few blankets, fish for the dogs themselves, and food, etc., for the party. Two nights were spent in the woods, and the children were very weary when they reached the school. This is truly seeking education under difficulties. We hope to say more about these journeys in our next issue. Meanwhile we ask our readers to do what they can to help and encourage those engaged in this work of rescuing and saving the Indians. We are trying in the name of the Church of Christ to do work for the Great Head in these lands, and we confidently look to the members of that Church for sympathy and help. It will be the aim of the editor of this Department to present to our readers the work of our missionaries amongst Indians in every part of Canada, in the belief that the one thing we need, next to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, is full and reliable information regarding the work and its needs.

A LETTER dated 12th of December is just to hand from our old friend the Rev. J. G. Brick. We are sorry to learn that we were in error in stating some time ago that his crops had been fairly successful. Such is not the case, as he, like so many others, has suffered from the drought of last summer. This was at the mission itself, but at another point his son, like Mr. Scott at Vermilion, had good crops, so that by God's blessing they hope to have enough to carry them through the winter and provide seed for this year. Spite of these and other discouragements Mr. Brick, with characteristic energy and hopefulness, is preparing for future work. He writes "It is a little unreasonable to expect to turn the wilderness into a fruitful field in one year. We have our buildings pretty well along, we have a good house, large stable, store and milk-house pretty well finished. We shall get the building for school and church purposes out this winter, and to show that we have not altogether lost courage we are getting out this winter a 60 x 28 foot barn. . . . I am glad to say Mrs. Brick is in excellent health." We trust the interest which Mr. Brick aroused during his visit east two years ago may follow him in his arduous and trying task on the upper Peace River. We earnestly commend his work to our readers. He needs our sympathy, our help, and our prayers.

THE following extract from the Report of the Church Missionary Society, England, for 1888-9, is worth quoting, if only for the sake of the beautiful and touching lines with which it ends, from the pen of Bishop Bompas:

"The Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, the area of which probably exceeds that of the Chinese Empire, is divided into seven dioceses, viz: Rupert's Land, Moosonee, Mackenzie River, Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Calgary and Qu'Appelle. For the present Saskatchewan and Calgary are united under one diocesan. In all these dioceses

the Society's agents labor, and three of the six bishops are on the list of its missionaries. Under circumstances of danger, hardship, and privation of no ordinary degree, their life is cheerfully spent in behalf of the simple inhabitants of these vast wilds whose immortal souls are precious before God. One of these missionaries, who has been home only once in twenty-four years, and that to be consecrated spiritual leader in the largest, the most desolate, the most sterile, and the most frigid of the diocesan divisions of the country, has written:

'Neath skies with stars that never set,
But round the pole still circle yet;
Where streamers of magnetic light
Enliven winter's lengthening night;
Where niggard suns must stint their ray
To spend on climates far away;
There Christian brethren bend their knees
In shelter of the forest trees.
Hearts that with heavenly fervour glow
Are found amid the Arctic snow;
And in the dreadful day of doom,
When all the dead to judgment come;
When, worldly sentence all reversed,
The first are last and last are first,
What if these tribes of sallow face
Hindermost now of human race,
Their want and poverty lay by
For robes of immortality?"

"THE American Church," says *Our Messenger*, the magazine of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, "has appointed a new bishop to superintend their missions in Japan. Bishop Williams, who has resigned, was the pioneer of missionary work in Japan, having landed in the country in 1859. He was consecrated Bishop in 1866, since which time the progress of the Church in Japan has been very rapid. The bishops of the English and American Churches work side by side, having a joint presidency of what is called by the native Christians 'The Japan Church.' Speaking of Bishop Williams, an American merchant once said, 'I know of nothing in the life of Xavier, to exceed the zeal and devotion, as yet unrecorded in song or story, of the Missionary Bishop of Yeddo.' His successor is to be the Rev. Edward Abbott, an ex-Congregationalist minister, who became a convert to the Church in 1878."

AMONGST the many discoveries of Stanley in Africa, the most noticeable is the divine illumination he has found in the dark continent. He went in search of Livingstone as an unbeliever, but in finding the object of his search he found a Christian example which won his heart. And it would appear that the endurances and anxieties and responsibilities of his recent tour have greatly deepened his spiritual life, for he is neither afraid nor forgetful to make repeated public acknowledgment in a marked way, of the guidance and care of Almighty God in his journeyings and discoveries.

HUMAN knowledge is the parent of doubt.