

hearers the fact that he has sat at the feet of the Gamaliels of Scotland, and drunk deep at the wells which gave inspiration to such great orators as McLeod, Guthrie, Chalmers and Blair, but he has the happy faculty, lacking too often in the pulpit, of adapting himself to the spirit of the age and the mental calibre of his hearers, and, while in no degree sacrificing one letter of the truth to the trend of modern looseness in thought and custom, applying his teachings in such a manner as to prove himself a man of the people and period, and yet a strictly orthodox and Christian minister.

It is not only as a divine that Mr. Barclay is eminent. He is an athlete of no mean order and a great lover of all outdoor sports and pastimes. At cricket he has few equals, and he has been described as the best all round cricketer north of the Tweed. His bowling is a study, and he has by its means won victory after victory for the West of Scotland. For some years he was captain of the Glasgow University Cricket and Football clubs, and also captain of the "Gentlemen of Scotland," one of the most noted cricket teams in the Mother Country. In outdoor sports he has, as in other matters, according to one of his friends, "the courage of his convictions," and is, to some extent, decidedly a "muscular Christian." As a curler, Mr. Barclay's play is of a character to delight the hearts of all lovers of the "roaring game," and his exploits on the rink have inspired many younger than he to try their mettle with the "stones." The generous and gallant action of Mr. Barclay, who, leaving his church and home, for the time, underwent the hardships of the North-West campaign, will be remembered. Edinburgh's loss, keenly expressed at the time of his departure, has certainly been Montreal's gain.—*Montreal Star*.

MISSIONS TO OUR INDIANS.

DR. BRYCE has recently visited some of the Indian Reserves in the West. He writes:

"The great object of the Government is to turn the Indians of the prairie into farmers. Amidst many difficulties, it must be said from a survey of these reserves that the work is advancing. Oxen and implements are used by the Indians under the direction of the farm instructors. One Indian, whose farm was visited, had very nearly fifty acres of wheat. It was well put in and presented an excellent appearance. It will probably yield between 800 and 1,200

bushels of grain. If any one doubts the capability of the Indian, he has but to see this farm of a man who, ten years ago, lived by the chase, to be convinced. Fields of from ten to twenty acres of grain belonging to an Indian are quite common on these reserves. A special feature of the Indian farms is their freedom from gophers. Many of our readers may know that the gopher or ground squirrel is most abundant in the North-West Territories. At the present time much damage is being done the fields of the white settlers by this pest. On the north side of the Qu'Appelle river, opposite the reserve, was a field of ten acres of wheat, brown and useless through the ravages of the gopher. The explanation of the absence of the gopher from the Indian farms is that the Indian eats the gopher, and thus regales himself with his savoury dish and saves his crops. A hint to the white settler is sufficient! A careful computation shows that on these four reserves there are 600 acres of wheat, barley, oats and peas. One field of peas, especially, the writer never saw excelled. There were 800 bushels of potatoes planted on the reserves this year, and there are not less than fifteen acres of turnips. The gardens of the Indians are most interesting. Not only to raise vegetables but to learn their value and use indicates a civilizing process. Beets, carrots, onions, indian corn, etc., are in excellent condition. The gardens of the agent and several farm instructors are in excellent order. Probably, four or five acres of gardens in all are to be seen in the reserves."

The missionary, Hugh McKay, with the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, are doing good work among the Indians, Dr. Bryce says:

"Messrs. McKay and Jones fell to work with their own hands, and made an addition to their building a year ago, which enabled them to accommodate thirty-three pupils last winter. Encouraged by his success, Mr. McKay appealed to the Christian ladies of Ontario, and the result is that \$3,500 have been from different sources put at Mr. McKay's disposal for further addition. The addition will far exceed the original building. In two or three months from now will be completed a substantial pile of buildings in which fifty pupils can be trained, and the plans seem to promise a most admirable building. It is built on a deep stone foundation, will be heated by hot air, and be a model school in many respects. Mr. McKay began this work largely at his own expense, his salary being paid by the Church. Christian ladies in the Eastern Provinces have supplied clothing in large quantities. The