

open in and not out, and the things which swim by seem curious to know what is inside. Some of these gay places hold struggling captives; others are full of the relics of the dead. Now, that is a little parable to you. Let the little green sacs stand for places where strong drink is sold. Those who enter such places form the drinking habit, and then they cannot get free from it. Persons, yet free, look into these dens for drinking. They see in them people all ragged, dirty, poor, unhappy, bloated, crazy, sick, wrecked, and ruined victims of the habit. They see yet others who mourn that they are enslaved, who have a sense of shame and danger, and struggle to get rid of the appetite that makes prisoners of them, and will destroy them. In this little plant, when the little animals get into the sacs, the plant melts up their bodies, and seems to suck up their juice, and feed on it until nothing is left but the fine bony parts. So the unhappy person who goes into a grog-shop finds that the dealer feeds on him until his health and happiness, and money and respectability are all gone, and perhaps nothing is left of him but the poor body that is ready for the potter's field. Is it not strange that when we see how many persons are utterly ruined by drink, and will even venture into places where drink is sold, and will even begin to taste the fatal liquor? Whenever you see a place for selling whiskey, I want you to think of the little water-bears and other water creatures which enter the snares of the bladder-plant."—From "The Captain's Bargain," by Mrs. Wright.

## Along the Line.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Letter from REV. J. CALVERT, dated LADNER'S  
LANDING, Feb. 3rd, 1890.

IN my last report I stated the hope we had of erecting, at an early date, a church at this appointment (Ladner's). It is with gratitude I inform you that energetic steps have been taken towards that end. A site secured, plans and specifications drawn, and a tender accepted, work to be commenced as soon as the snow clears away and the weather is favorable. The work of the Methodist Church here has ever been hindered through lack of accommodation—no church; no parsonage—but this state of affairs is soon to be improved; a few weeks more and I trust our church will be up, and I am hopeful of a parsonage during the coming summer.

Spiritually our growth is very slow, but we have some encouragement in the thought of receiving two persons into full connexion with us at our next Quarterly Meeting. I think there is every encouragement to labor on, for I do not believe the day far distant when Methodism may be a strong branch of the Church here. We are endeavoring by faithful and regular preaching and teaching, by improved song services, by prayer and by example to increase the interest in spiritual things, relying momentarily upon the strong arm of Him who alone is able to save to the uttermost all them that come unto Him by faith.

### THE INDIAN WORK.

**Parry Island.**—You may be glad to learn that there is no debt now on the comfortable little church on Parry Island. The little belfry and the organ was the last paid for, and we feel much relieved.

Our meetings of late have been encouraging. Divine service held on last Christmas-day was well attended. The preparation for the public feast interfered very little. In the afternoon all partook of the things provided, in their comfortable school-house, and afterwards religious addresses were delivered by our principal Indians.

The attendance on watch-night meeting was good. The New Year's feast, consisting of various sorts of wild game, was also very orderly. Addresses were given for further temporal improvement. The feasts kept the young Indians from rambling to other places.

On the evening of the 22nd Jan., our Christmas-tree was held in the Church, which was so crowded that some had to stand. Some of our brethren gave short speeches, and our Indian choir did their part well. The adults, as well as the children, enjoyed the proceedings of the Christmas-tree very much.

On the 28th Jan. we held our Missionary Meeting. ex-Chief P. Megis occupied the chair. The Rev. J. A. Chapman, of the Parry Sound Sound District, gave a very instructive address to our Indian people, through my interpretation. The figurative speeches of our Indian exhorters were well received. The Indian choir gave several choice pieces of music alternately, which enhanced the interest of the meeting. The collections and subscriptions amounted to \$59.33, which is in advance of last year. The Rev. Chairman appeared much pleased, and said to the Indian people: "I am glad to see that you are able to carry on your Missionary Meeting yourselves."

On the 2nd Feb. we held our Quarterly services. The Lord be praised, it was a season of refreshing to our souls. Some wept for joy. A stout Indian who used to drink and shout six years ago, got up to speak in the love-feast, the tears rolling down his cheeks. His deep emotion would not permit him to go on speaking, but I caught these words: "The Lord Jesus has been very merciful to me. My love to Him is getting stronger. My mind is fixed to follow Him." There has been an evident change in this Indian. "God is no respecter of persons." He renews the hearts of Indians also. This day will not soon be forgotten. We received three young Indians on trial for membership. In the afternoon, I visited a young Indian woman who said, "Though I am not able to walk, yet my mind is the same, as I used to say when I attended public worship; I never grieve about my crippled state. I trust in Jesus." After she partook of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, I urged her pagan parents to embrace Christ, but they made no reply.

Our congregation for the two last Sabbaths has been small, owing to the general epidemic now prevalent. I am thankful to see that our people are getting over it.

It has been reported that at Henry Inlet and Swanaga Reserves, scarlet fever is afflicting the Indians. May God be merciful to us, is the prayer of your humble missionary.

ALLEN SALT.