

woman who has great influence among her own people, and is much respected by the Naas people. As we sighted the mountain chief's village, which is a mile south of our Mission, they fired their big gun, flags were up and the Indians were dressed in their best. We had not intended to call there, as we wished to get to the Mission, but seeing they were all expecting us we went ashore, shook hands with all. Some were dressed in soldiers' uniform. We were invited to the chief's house. It was nicely decorated: bear-skins were laid as a carpet. The chief of the mountain spoke, saying how happy he was that he had lived to see that day, that for a long time they had been looking for a Missionary, and now I must be a father to them. Our stay was short there, but the Indians got out their canoes and went with us to the Mission, where, as we neared it, we counted sixteen flags. The guns were fired and they gave us a joyous welcome. They presented us with the following address:—

"We, the chiefs and people of the Naas, welcome you from our hearts on your safe arrival here, to begin in earnest the Mission work you promised us last Spring when you visited us. We have seen the Mission carried on about fifteen miles from us at the mouth of the river for many years, but cannot see much good it has done among our poor people; but as you say you do not come here to *trade* with us, but only to *teach* us, we think it will be very different under your instruction, and we tell you that we will do what we can to assist you in the good work. Our past life has been bad, very, very bad. We have been so long left in our darkness that we fear you will not be able to do much for our old people, but for our young we have great hopes. We wish from our hearts to have our young men, women, and children taught to read and write, so that they may understand the duties they owe to their Creator and to one another. You

will find great difficulties in the way of such work—but great changes cannot be expected in one day. We must not be discouraged by a little trouble, and we tell you again that we will all help you as much as we can. We believe this work to be of God, we have prayed as you told us, and now we think that God has heard our prayer and has sent you to us, and it seems to us like the day breaking in upon our darkness, and we think that before long the Great Sun will shine upon us and give us more light. We hope to see the white men that settle among us set us a good example. As they have had the light so long, they know what is right and what is wrong, we hope they will assist us to do good, that we may become better and better every day by following their example. We again welcome you from our hearts, and hope that the Mission here will be like a Great Rock never to be moved or washed away, and in order to this we will pray to the Great Spirit that His blessing may rest upon this Mission and upon us all."

One family, waiting our arrival, had brought their house with them to build at the Mission.

We held three services each day and the people attended, and the best of all was God was, and is still with us blessing His Word, so that the house was filled with the cries of penitents seeking for salvation, who now stand in class-meeting and say they are happy in Jesus, so that we have a class of twenty members as the first-fruits of what we have abundant cause to hope will be a great and glorious harvest.

Although a great number see the folly of their old superstitious practices and are ready to give them up, some oppose. Doctors, conjurers, and such as make blankets by their evil doings now they see their craft in danger. One old chief brought his bag of feathers to meeting (an old dance charm) to tell us he could not give that up, he would give all up but the old heathen dance.