

Rev. Wm. Swann, summarizes some interesting information respecting the Conference session and the state of the work generally. Referring to the official visit of the General Superintendent, he says:—

“The services of Dr. Williams, both at Conference and in the Churches, have been very much appreciated, both by the ministers and the people. His visit will be long remembered, and many of his utterances treasured up. I have heard but one opinion expressed concerning him, and that of the most favorable kind.”

THE missionary on Christian Island (Indian Mission) writes cheerily:—

“We are getting along nicely on this mission; there seems to be a growing interest in everything pertaining to spiritual things; drunkenness and drinking are greatly on the decrease. At Penetang, I am told, they scarcely ever see the Indians the worse of liquor. I have organized a Temperance Society. We meet once a month. We have most enthusiastic meetings. There are sixty-five names now enrolled on the temperance pledge. Some of the worst cases have signed the pledge, and are holding out well. We have a Band of Hope in connection with the day school, which is in a flourishing state.”

AT a recent meeting of the official Board of the Morden Circuit, Manitoba Conference (Rev. Thomas Lawson, pastor) the following resolution—to which we say, well done!—was unanimously adopted:—

“Resolved,—That we, the Official Board of the Morden Circuit, in the first Quarterly Meeting assembled, having to-day advanced from the status of a Mission to that of a Circuit, desire to express our deep thankfulness to the General Board of the Missionary Society for the help afforded us in promoting and maintaining the work of God in the territory formerly known as the Nelson Mission, and latterly as the Morden Mission. And further, we have great pleasure in assuring the Board of our cheerful and loyal support in all its efforts to promote the interests of Christ's kingdom in this or other lands.”

THE September *Missionary Review* was on our table before the middle of August, brimming over as usual with the cream of missionary literature and intelligence. Some publications are mere luxuries which we can dispense with and not suffer; but to any one who desires to keep fully abreast of the great missionary movement, the *Review* is a necessity. Each number consists of 80 large 8vo pages, closely printed. Per annum, \$2; in clubs of ten, \$1.50. New York: Funk & Wagnalls.

THE talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well, without the thought of fame.—*Longfellow.*

PRAYER is the outlet of the saints' sorrow, and the inlet of their supports and comforts.—*Flavel.*

Editorial and Contributed.

THE TROUBLES ON THE SKEENA.

FOR some time past the papers have contained numerous references to a reported outbreak among the Indians on the Upper Skeena. As now appears, these reports were greatly exaggerated, and it begins to look as if the whole thing was a “put-up job” to turn attention away from the blundering, or worse, of Government officials. Divested of sensational surroundings, the bare facts seem to be these:—An Indian, “Kit-wan-cool Jim” by name, had killed another Indian, and constables were sent to arrest him. He came to the place where the constables were, undoubtedly with the design of giving himself up, but they were afraid to touch him. He then walked out of the house, not attempting to run away, when one of the constables, an American, it is said, shot him in the back, killing him instantly. A more cowardly and deliberate murder it would be impossible to conceive. Naturally, the Indians were very much excited by the occurrence, and it is quite likely threats were uttered. Sensational reports were sent to Victoria, troops were called out, but the latest reports make it probable their services will not be required.

In this connection we may refer briefly to another matter. Recently a Government Commission was appointed to investigate the complaints of the Indians on the Pacific coast. The whole of their proceedings appear to have been conducted in a very one-sided manner, and inspired by men hostile to our missions; they have thrown out damaging insinuations against some of our missionaries, accusing them of stirring up the Indians to resist the Government and revolt against constituted authority. With those who know such men as Crosby and Green, the charge will refute itself. At the session of the British Columbia Conference, the matter was brought up by a resolution offered by the Rev. J. E. Starr, and thoroughly discussed. The following report appeared at the time in the *British Columbian*, but did not reach us till recently:—

“For several days the British Columbia Conference has been discussing the following resolution, which was moved by Rev. J. E. Starr:

“Whereas a commission was lately appointed by the Dominion and Provincial Governments to make enquiry into the state and condition of the Indians of the north coast of British Columbia; and whereas the report of the said commission, just published, together with other sensational papers and blue-books, contain just reflections and insinuations regarding the missionaries of the Methodist Church in charge of the missions among the Indians of the north-west coast of British Columbia; Resolved, therefore: (1) That this Conference strongly disapproves of the policy pursued by the Governments towards the Indians of the