

## The Children's Record.

A MONTHLY MISSIONARY MAGAZINE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE

Presbyterian Church in Canada.

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Some of our young readers know what it is to go out to the pastures to gather the cows and bring them home when they are wanted. That is to some extent the way that the children have to be gathered for school in some of our mission fields. Mr. Gibson, our Missionary in Demarara, tells us that they have a "driver" to go out every morning to gather the children for school.

Here is what he says of their school work in a recent letter. "Our school has not been so large as I should like to see. There are reasons which will account for this. The estate is putting up a new factory. Tearing down the old buildings and clearing away the rubbish has furnished work for a large number of children. The old brick are used for making roads. The children break the bricks and carry the pieces in small baskets on their heads. Some days over a hundred children are employed.

The driver, (who gathered the children for school) complained one morning of having eight of those she had collected for school, kidnapped by the driver of the working children and taken to work. Even the driver herself has sometimes been drawn off from her regular work of gathering the children for school, and of course the group of scholars was" made much smaller. Such is one of the many difficulties that our missionaries have in their work.

That way of gathering the children reminds one of Christ's command to go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in.

## LABRADOR.

Let us now go from the far West of our Dominion to the far East, and pay a visit to the cold, rocky, barren coast of Labrador.

Here we find people who seek for treasure not from the deep mines, but from the deep, deep, sea. But this year they are seeking in vain, and the poverty and suffering are very great.

Mr. Wm. J. McKenzie, a young student missionary who has been sent there this summer by the students Missionary Society of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, writes as follows:

"The coast fisheries have completely failed. Some families of 6 or 7 have not caught a fish this season, and the time is nearly past for doing anything. They came from Newfoundland with one barrel of flour, expecting to get some fish, but now they must return without any."

"It is something awful to see the poverty that prevails, and what makes it worse is that they have no prospect of bettering themselves. When fish fails, all fails."

"Mr. Fraser, the colporteur, who was on this coast last summer, and I, have rented a boat for the summer and have come up here (along the coast) some 150 miles visiting all the Protestant families and some Catholics."

"We came 1000 miles below that in a vessel, and as we had to pass by many families, we, although it meant more danger and hardship, got a boat of our own."

"We nearly had a serious accident one windy day among the ice when a cake pierced her side."

"I have resolved to stay on the coast all winter. I will have no abiding place but will keep continually on the move, staying a fortnight or so where there are a few families."

This young missionary then tells how much these poor people prize the gospel, how the little children are growing up in ignorance, how much some teachers are needed in settlements along the coast.

Here are mission fields in our own do-