

enter into broader service in the regions beyond, whose inhabitants as yet know nothing of the sweet story of redemptive grace?

Are there none of our young people qualifying as school-teachers who, with a consecration so complete that it will stop nothing short of the giving of *themselves* to this work, will go as seed sowers in the untilled soil of heathendom's vast fields?

Lydia Trimble, a missionary in China, sent out by the American Board of Missionaries writes: "I am asking the Lord to speedily send us more workers, six at least, and every mail I look for news of their coming. Oh, if only the young women of American Methodism could have the urgent needs of this field press and rest on their hearts for a time, you could not keep them at home, they would be anxious and eager to come! Praise God I'm here, rare blessed privilege it is! I am well and happy."

We have crossed the threshold of 1894, may we not hope that it will be forever known in missionary history as the year when the young women of our church cheerfully, gladly came forward and dedicated themselves to this work!

Time is so short, Eternity so long that we cannot afford to do other than give of our best to the service of Him who for our sakes left a throne of glory and had not where to lay his head

Will you not, dear young girls of our mission circles and bands, think over, pray over this question, freighted with such solemn import, and if God confers the high honor upon you of calling you to this work, will you not respond as He would have you, even though the response may lead you to the open tomb of buried hopes and cherished life-plans of your own formulating but "Even Christ pleased not himself."

S. K. WRIGHT.

A Christmas in Port Simpson.

(CONCLUDED.)

Christmas morning about ten o'clock many of the villagers, accompanied by the bands and marching to music come to the mission house to shake hands with the missionaries, and wish them a Happy Christmas. Indians find the word "merry" very hard to pronounce, so instead of that they use the word "happy."

At 11.30 a. m. the church bell rings to call

all to the morning service. The large church is always crowded on that day, many extra seats usually having to be carried in. All the people come who possibly can and all who can afford it have new outfits for this grand occasion. Those too poor for this get on all they can, to make themselves look "dressed up."

And the church—transformed it is indeed. From the centre of the ceiling is hung a circular wreath made of cedar; from that long thick wreaths are carried to reach the four corners, then again to the middle posts and along the sides in graceful waves; but at each end of the building forming high arches, one over the pulpit, the other over the front door. Over the pulpit and underneath the arch were placed the painted figures of two lifesized angels, one playing on a harp, the other on the trumpet. The words "Peace on earth, good will to men" in large white letters on black thread were carried out as if the words came from the trumpet. Over the front door was another painting also done by Indians. Along the middle aisle at equal distances were placed four evergreen arches. The platform—temporarily enlarged—was also very prettily decorated, light airy paper chains relieved the heavy green decorations. The organ and choir have been elevated; the pulpit stand moved to the front of the large platform, has made room for the choir behind the minister.

The members of the brass band, in uniform, occupy the front seats. As we enter they are playing "Joy to the world the Lord has come." Then the usual service is held. The choir have two anthems, one in English, the other in their own language. At the close of the service the bands again play, while all the people greet one another.

During the afternoon the people enjoy themselves in various ways. The children from the "Home," whose parents reside in the village, spend the afternoon at their own homes. The number left in the "Home" is large enough for them not to be at all lonesome.

But the day after Christmas is the great day for the children, when the boys from the boy's home and all the missionaries gather in the large dining room in the girl's home, which has been tastefully decorated. But the crowning piece is the large Christmas Tree, and the hearts of the children are made happy by simple gifts and a real good time.

S. L. H.