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# NA-NA-KWA

OR

Dawn on the North-West Coast

9.

KITAMAAT, B. C.

Jan. 1900



The Kitamaat Home

OUR cut for this quarter is from a photograph of the new Home for Indian Children at Kitamaat. Many of our readers already know its origin, but for the sake of those who are not familiar with its history, let me briefly relate a few facts. In the year 1883, when I was first appointed to the Kitamaat mission, the needs of the children immediately aroused my sympathies. Their condition was deplorable. I found it requiring help of a very practical character, in order that they might be saved physically and morally. It seemed this help could not be given in a satisfactory manner without first gathering them into a home, and the General Society at that time was not in a position to give financial aid, a stone wall of difficulty appeared to rise. However, in many similar circumstances, the old adage, "Where there's a will there's a way," proved good, and notwithstanding seemingly insurmountable barriers, with prayer and thoughtful consideration, the thing

was settled, and two weeks after the New Year we had the children under our care in a temporary shelter made of rough boards. The school-house was used for the boys and general dining room, the rough building as girls' dormitory, and the cooking was done in the mission house. Of course, in this I had the hearty co-operation of Mrs. Raley and Miss Shelvey, the teacher, without which I could have done nothing. The furnishings were most meagre and there was neither poetry nor romance about the work. It was all prose and heavy at that.

God strengthened his laborers, who took "JEHOVAH JIREH" as their motto.

In March the Rev. T. Crosby visited us, commended our work, and urged us to go on.

In the fall a new mission house was erected and as soon as it was all habitable we moved in, taking the boys and smaller girls. In the meantime, Miss Shelvey had left Kitamaat and Mr. Anderson had been sent as teacher. He and his family occupied the old house and

sheltered the older girls. By this time we had received donations from the W. M. S. and other friends, also supplies of bedding, clothing, etc., from auxiliaries. Never were gifts more suited to our needs.

Let me say in regard to Mrs. Anderson, who had two small children of her own, that no woman could have done more for those Indian children than she, and intense was our grief when she was suddenly called away by death.

In the fall of 1896, Miss Long, of Toronto, really became the first matron, being supported by the W. M. S. A year later the present building was begun, and is now occupied by 32 children, Miss Long and Miss Walker, the day school teacher, who very kindly assists the work by all means in her power.

A few statements regarding the dimensions and value of the new Home will be interesting.

The building has 70 ft. frontage to the sea, the depth is 30 ft. and height 22 feet. The rooms down stairs facing the front are boys sitting room, hall, staff's sitting room, girls' sewing and sitting room; those in the rear are boys' lavatory, store rooms for staff and home, dining room and kitchen, a side entrance opens into a small hall between the kitchen and girls' room, here is the stairs, leading into the girls' dormitories.

The rooms in the front up stairs are boys' dormitory, which runs the depth of the building, teacher's room, sick room, girls' lavatory, store room and matron's room; at the back are hall, two dormitories for girls. There are two large attics and a cellar. The building is entirely of wood, with the exception of four chimneys which are terra cotta pipes. There are 34 windows and two fire escapes and four entrance doors on the ground floor. The greatest economy has been exercised in its construction. In style, it is quite unpretentious, we have had a single eye to strength, warmth and usefulness. The value at a low estimate is between \$2,000 and \$2,500. Its cost has been provided for by the Woman's Missionary Society which now owns the building. It is insured for \$2000.

The str. "Neel", called at Kitamaat early in December with the winter's food supply for the Home and lumber for the people. Mail was sent out by her.

Forty girls are being cared for in the Crosby Girls' Home, (Miss Clarke, matron), many of whom would be unprotected and utterly homeless were it not for this institution of the W.M.S.



MRS. RALEY AND EMSLEY

The above is a cut of Mrs. Raley and Emsley. Mrs. Raley is a native of Ontario, daughter of Dr. Giles of Athens. As many of our readers are already familiar with her, through her regular contributions to "Na-na-kwa," we think some might wish to see what she looks like.

## Pleasant Memories.

BY MRS. RALEY.

It fell to my lot to represent the British Columbia Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society at the meeting of the Board of Managers held in Hamilton, October, 1899.

Scarcely had I received the appointment, when the responsibility of it all rushed on me with such force that the honor and pleasure quite sank into the back ground.

I am not ashamed to admit that I was a trifle nervous as I entered Centenary church, for my efforts to get there had been somewhat trying.

In September we arranged with a steamer to call for us at Kitamaat on a certain date and accordingly packed our trunks and valises and were in perfect readiness, even to the point of having the luggage on the beach, lest the boat should arrive at night; but the vessel failed to appear. Some days later, we learned she had met

with an accident. After two weeks of anxious waiting, the Indian Agent arrived and kindly took us on his small steamer to Lowe Inlet, to await the regular mail boat. We reached there on Saturday evening and were told that the "Louise" had gone north that day and would return on Tuesday; but such was not the case, for Friday morning still found us sharing the hospitality of our bachelor host. Hope failing us, we decided to flag the first steamer that might come in sight, and were so fortunate as to get one that afternoon. We made the run to Victoria in two days and a half, as the boat called at no port; in fact, was anxious to reach the dry dock, for a short distance from Skagway she had hung upon a rock for nine hours.

There was a necessary delay in Victoria of two or three days, then the hurried crossing of the country by rail, and at midnight, the 16th of October, we found ourselves in Toronto. The next morning I went to Hamilton, received a very cordial welcome from my hostess, and was pleased indeed to find that a former friend was enjoying the same gracious hospitality.

It was not until I had attended a session that I realized what it was to be the only delegate from a branch. Probably the one from Manitoba had similar feelings. However, turn where I would I was met with expressions of warmest sympathy and love, and had I been a missionary of the Society, instead of the wife of a missionary of the General Society, I could not have had a kinder welcome.

It still amazes me, when my thoughts wander backwards, what intense interest there was manifested in the Indian work from Manitoba to the Maritime Provinces.

The gifted President, to whose countenance sorrow had lent an added charm; the sweet-faced Field Secretary, beloved by all missionaries who have met or corresponded with her; the capable Home Secretary, who is

untiring in her best efforts for the good of everyone; the Recording Secretary, whose clear, concise minutes assisted wonderfully in the despatch of business, were in their places

The absence of the Vice-President through illness, was much regretted, for her sound judgment and wise counsel have ever been relied on. The very efficient Treasurer was also absent through bereavement.

The Associate Editor of the "Outlook," whose written words have so often come to tired souls like restful music, lacking only the cadence of her voice, was present, as was also the devoted Manager of Room 20.

As the hours went by and I became familiar with the faces and voices of the delegates, I was constantly impressed with the thought that they were women chosen from their Branches because the evangelizing of the world was to them a burning question.

The five returned Missionaries added greatly to the interest of the meetings. I felt it a privilege to meet them and would have enjoyed more conversation with them had time permitted.

Another pleasing feature was the greetings from Sister Societies, extended in the cleverest little speeches possible.

There is one thing certain, a Board Meeting leaves scant time for aught save business; but there were half-hours set apart for the devotional exercises, and in these seasons we felt that the great Master himself set our hearts in tune.

The Convention was especially noted for the harmony which prevailed.

I may never again attend a Board Meeting, but there will often come to me happy recollections of the one in Hamilton.

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The Port Simpson Hospital has been filled with patients the last three months.



MISS LONG.

The above is a picture of Miss Long, who for over three years has held the responsible position of matron of the Kitamaat Home. She is a native of London, England, but resided for some years in Toronto, where her parents still reside.

She had never thought of being a missionary until asked to go to Kitamaat, and then had only two days to prepare; but no one could have filled the position more admirably in every way. She has endeared herself not only to the children but to the people generally. They say they never want her to leave Kitamaat, but, considering how she has labored, they may be persuaded to permit her to take a furlough after a time.

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### Correspondence.

Miss Long writes that she is extremely busy, having the extra work of drilling the choir for Christmas and assisting Miss Walker in the school practices for the entertainment. The choir has learned several anthems, one Gounod's "Praise ye the Father."

The boys and girls are much disappointed because Mr. and Mrs. Raley and Emsley are not to be at Kitamaat for Christmas.

The girls' shawls and handkerchiefs have given place to coats and caps this winter.

The children are improving greatly in English. Two little ones afford much amusement in their attempts to speak it.

Miss Long says she has received some excellent bales of goods, for which she is very grateful.

She hailed with delight the news that an associate matron had been appointed to the Kitamaat Home.

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Miss Walker writes that she has been able, with the help of Mr. Robinson and Mr. Anderson, to keep up the church services and they have been well attended.

There has been a good deal of sickness, which has kept her running about out of school hours. Chief Jessea and Moses have done all they can to help her and Miss Long.

The young men and boys have undertaken to decorate the church with evergreens this Christmas.

There was no mail for two weeks and when it did arrive, though late at night, several of the people were up before the bag was opened, anxious to hear news of the missionary and his family.

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### Local Notes.

Our Sabbath services have been largely attended this year. Any white men when in the neighborhood prospecting or surveying have always been present.

The fall was exceptionally mild. A slight flurry of snow fell on the 30th of November.

Henry Fawcett of Fort Chester Alaska, gathered up the Kitamaat mails at Lowe Inlet and Hartley Bay when on his way to visit Kitamaat. When he arrived we had then been ten weeks without mail or any communication with or from the outside world.

## Kitamaat a Post Office.

Through the favor of Dr. Coulter, the missionary obtained an interview with the Hon. Wm Mulock, Post Master General, at Ottawa, and laid before him the difficulties under which we labor in regard to mail at Kitamaat, there being no mail service. Our mails have been dropped by the C.P.N. boats at either Lowe Inlet or Hartley Bay, from which places we have obtained them sometimes by canoes which have chanced to call, other times by canoes sent especially at great expense. Our canoe men are always careful in transporting, but at times the mail has unavoidably gotten wet and letters, papers and books been badly damaged.

The Honorable Minister, after carefully considering the matter in detail, shewed his practical sympathy with our situation, and, in keeping with the progressive attitude of the Government, placed Kitamaat on the list of Post Offices, made provision for bi-monthly mail service, and provided water-proof bags, lettered "Kitamaat P. O."

This much we can say, we have received the greatest consideration and kindness from P. O. Inspector Fletcher and Postmaster Shakespeare at Victoria, who have carefully forwarded our mails and taken such precautions to prevent its being lost or delayed in their power.

## Changed Hands.

Hitherto the Kitamaat Home has been under the management of Mr. Raley, but through the recommendations of the British Columbia Branch of the Women's Missionary Society, the same was brought prominently before the Board of Managers at Hamilton in October. After carefully considering the matter in all its bearings, the W. M. S. decided to take over the Home and thus relieve Mr. Raley of

much responsibility. This does not mean that he withdraws any of his sympathy or interest, as the ladies have especially requested him to continue the same and to counsel with them and the staff and use his influence with the parents and children as in the past.

## Notices.

The missionary and family expect to return to Kitamaat, if all is well, at the end of the month.

Henceforth, if auxiliaries and friends sending bales, etc., to Kitamaat will obtain duplicate receipts for freight charges and forward such to the missionary, together with a complete list of the contents with their value noted, he will endeavor to have the amount of freight refunded.

By request, I state the pressing needs of the Kitamaat Mission: A DEACONESS and a safe BOAT in which the missionary can visit his appointments.

I have received, too late for this issue, an account of a wonderful operation successfully performed by Dr. Bolton at his hospital. The account is written by the patient himself, a Kitkah-tah man, and it will appear in the next issue.

"Dawn at Kitamaat," crowded out this quarter, will continue in our next.

The potato crop was not so heavy as last year. Turnips were good—one in the Mission-house garden grew to 34 inches in circumference and was presented to the head chief, Jessea.

We understand Messrs. C. H. Emerine & Co. have taken the contract to cut a 5 ft. pack trail from Kitamaat to Kitselas canyon on the Skeena river, a distance of 45 miles, work to commence early this spring. Without a doubt, this will be the easiest and safest route to Hazelton and the wide extent of country to the east and north of Kitamaat.

## Flora of Kitamaat Valley.

BY EDWARD S. WILKINSON, D.E.

The south end of this interesting valley, where the Kitamaat river enters the Inlet, forming a delta, is occupied by extensive tide flats which are occasionally overflowed when the river in flood time meets the high tides. Owing to the large percentage of fresh water, the vegetation is not injured by the overflow and the flats are covered with a luxuriant growth of wild flowers, tall grasses, etc. The common blue lupin occurs all over the flats and the Pea-vine climbs up the shrubs to a height of from six to ten feet. Reed-like grasses, often four feet high, make walking very tedious.

Numerous sloughs and old channels of the river intersect the flats, and the river itself is constantly changing its course, cutting through in one place, silting up in another, and bringing down large trunks of trees which form into log jams or are carried out into the Inlet. I measured one large spruce tree that was stranded on a gravel bar. It was more than two hundred feet long and seven feet in diameter near the butt. When we leave the flats we plunge at once into a dense forest, fringed with groves of crab apple trees and composed of Spruce, Hemlock, Red Cedar, Balsam, Cottonwood, Alder, Maple, Yew, etc. and Yellow Cedar on the higher levels. Among the smaller shrubs are the high and low bush Cranberries, various indloms and vacciniums. Several fine varieties of ferns, some from four to ten feet high, abound in the rich black swamps together with Skunk Cabbage, and Devil's Club. Swampy flats occur in openings in the timber, often surrounded with groves of Alder, and in them a variety of wild flowers bloom. A species of Sun Dew and a plant with a snowy, cotton-like tuft grow here and there among spongy beds of sphagnum

together with small cranberries. This is a favorite haunt of the Black and Grizzly bears, which wander through the woods and swamps along the river side. Near one small stream I found a species of minute with beautiful pale pink flowers. Near the side of the valley, on the granite rocks, a small Spirea with long pendant white flowers grows in the crevices together with masses of maiden-hair ferns. I must not forget to mention the beautiful mosses and lichens that spread over the rocks and trunks of fallen trees in every shade of green, grey and brown forming a soft and charming carpet to walk on. On travelling up the valley thirty miles and reaching the higher plateau, a gradual change takes place in the vegetation. Graceful Birch trees scattered through large swampy plains, also Black Pines and Hemlock of smaller growth, denote a change from the flora of the coast and an approach to the forms of life peculiar to the climate of the interior of the province.

A trip through this fine valley destined to be one of the future highways to the interior, can be taken in three days and will amply repay any lover of nature both in its wild and richest aspects.

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About 20 boys are in residence at the Boys' Home, Port Simpson, under the able management of Mr. C. V. Richards. The building has been enlarged during the year. More could be accommodated, if only a grant sufficient for their support could be obtained. A matron is much needed.

Our council of Chiefs have been very active. The side-walk has been extended, the grounds about the church cleared up, and a road built up the hillside to the burying ground. Kitamaat now takes its place as one of the neatest and most picturesque villages on the Pacific coast.

## Nohlugh

### A KITAMAAT STORY.

Near the source of the sluggish Nohlugh, a tributary of the Kitamaat River, stands a high mountain, with a perpendicular face of rock, polished bright and smooth by the storms of ages. Several hundred feet from the base is a cleft in the rock, shaped like a doorway. This is the entrance leading to a cavern, supposed to be the dwelling of a giant, half demon and half bird, named Nohlugh. He is reported to have the head of a devil with flames emitting fire; his body is that of a huge beast, while he has the wings and claws of an immense eagle. So powerful is this monster that he seizes the unwary grizzly bears, cariboo, and goats as wander too near his haunt and, flying off with them to his cavern, devours the flesh and thrusts the bones out the doorway where they lie in a heap, so that now there lies the foot of the rock a small hill of unshelved bones.

When in the past the Indians camped near this weird spot, they invariably cast a portion of the best food they had into their camp fires as an offering to Nohlugh, to appease his anger and thereby prevent him doing mischief to the chief to the offerer. Woe to the man who neglected this sacrifice!—he could hear the giant groan with sepulchral tones and then shriek with a long, low, unearthly noise, as from the under-world. Either the negligent wanderer would mysteriously disappear, or die from illness produced by the shock,

canoes full of enthusiastic Christians a tour of 150 miles, visiting especially the village of China Hat and some fishing camps. Much good is expected by Christian Endeavor work of this nature when wisely directed. This trip was one of mutual help, strengthening the bond of brotherhood between the members of the league. It certainly was fraught with blessing to the China Hat Indians, of whom the young chief reports: "Some of the Christians were leaving the path of God, but now they have returned. The Lord was our help."

### A Familiar Letter.

MY DEAR FRIENDS, I am only two years old, little more than an infant, or, as a lady in Room 20 has kindly styled me, "one of our younger children." However, I am not too young to heartily thank you for the moral and financial support, which have always encouraged me and caused me to thrive.

You, my dear friends, have spared my feelings by passing only the kindest criticisms. My publisher has sometimes had to look sadly and almost reproachfully at me, because of a lack of careful arrangement and trimness in my appearance. The truth is, his supply of type has been so meagre that it was impossible for me to appear before you in smart attire. But thanks to a donation of type just received, and acknowledged elsewhere, I hope to be more presentable.

Now, with gratitude to God for his blessing upon this modest enterprise, let me express the sincere hope that my usefulness may increase; and allow me to wish you all A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Yours, as Ever,  
NA-NA-KWA.

Excellent coal has been discovered in the Omenica country. The seam is sixteen feet in thickness.

### St-Kah-lah Epworth League.

(HARTLEY BAY)

The methods of our native leagues, though unique, are thoroughly evangelistic. A progressive one exists at St-Kah-lah, under the presidency of Mr. Clifton, a young and influential man. In November he took three



## Personals.

George Robinson, Esq., J. P., went to Victoria in December.

Mr. John S. Bolton, brother of Dr. Bolton, has returned to his home in Ontario.

The Rev. W. H. Pierce of Kishpiax, who is now in Ontario, is much in demand as a speaker.

Mr. Anderson of Khowthpigah was away in November, hunting mountain goat with some success.

Fritz Brenson of Port Simpson, with his family, has spent two months in the village, instructing the Kitamaat band. The members can now handle their new instruments very creditably.

Chief Silas Bolton's daughter, together with her husband and child, who belong to Mr. Duncan's mission at Metlah Kahtla, have been visiting in the village.

Dr. Bolton and family of Port Simpson are now occupying their new house, opposite the hospital. Hitherto they have resided in the hospital.

Andrew Clifton, an Indian chief of Hartley Bay, has been blind for ten years, yet is a wonderful hunter. In the fall he made, baited and set out his own traps and caught both bear and martin.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Raley and Emsley are in Ontario. Mr. Raley, having been ill, was forced to take a change and rest. As we go to press, he is feeling much better and anticipates an early return to his mission station. While in Ontario they are the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Giles of Athens.

Mrs. B. C. Freeman and four children, accompanied by her sister, Miss Lawson, have gone East. Mrs. Freeman more than merits this holiday. She will be joined in the spring by her husband, the Rev. B. C. Freeman, who will then have labored successfully and unremittingly for seven years at Skidegate, Queen Charlotte Islands.

## Acknowledgments.

We acknowledge with many thanks, the following kind donations, which are reported during the quarter, some of which have been received—others on the way.

Drum of paint oil, Mrs. Kirkland.  
Furnishings for girls' lavatory, Miss Long.  
Large stove and drum, Miss Walker.  
Crokinole board, Miss Walker.  
Case of type, Dr. Briggs.

Per Mrs. (Dr.) Briggs, Toronto :  
Bales and parcels—Fergus, Orillia.  
Waterloo, Que. ; Varna, Courtice,  
Elgin.

Bales and parcels, sent direct—Athens,  
Switzerville, Peterboro, Kaslo, Napanee.  
Photographs and toys—Mrs. Emsley.

## N.N.K.W.H.

Of Dawn on the North-West Coast

### A QUARTERLY LETTER

EXPLANATORY OF SOME PHASES OF MISSION  
WORK AMONGST THE NATIVE TRIBES  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED AT

KITAMAAT, B. C., BY  
REV. G. H. RALEY

THIRD YEAR—No. 9. JANUARY,

## Nanakwa Fund

The Fund is not only to defray the cost of this Quarterly Letter, but also to assist in running expenses pertaining to the progress of the Mission. Week after week, over sheets with the text of a passage of Scripture in both the Kitamaat and English languages are printed and distributed at what is called "SCHOOLUM TEXT," which is held at the beginning of the morning service, when the text is taught in both languages; questions bearing on the subject are also asked by the pastor. Hymns have been printed in the vernacular and as time is found more will be produced.

With many thanks, we acknowledge the following, received during the quarter:

DATE	NUMBER
Oct. 2.....	35 .....
" ".....	36 .....
" 17.....	37 .....
" 19.....	38 .....
" ".....	39 .....
" ".....	40 .....
" ".....	41 .....
" ".....	42 .....
Nov. 13.....	43 .....

Names are not published. The number corresponds to a name.

Several missionary periodicals find their way to the mission house. All are interesting but none more so than the **MISSION OUTLOOK**, published in the interests of the Methodist Church of Canada, by Dr. Selkirk, Toronto, Ont.

## Burials.

"Concerning them which are asleep, . . . sorrow not."

Aug. 16th.—Lewis Wood, aged 10 years.  
Aug. 24th.—Solomon Wilson, aged 5 years.  
Sept. 30th.—Patrick's wife, aged 65 years.  
Oct. 13th.—Joe Starr, aged 46 years.  
Oct. 20th.—Sarah Anos, aged 6 years.  
Nov. 16th.—Samuel, aged 78 years.