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NA-NA-KWA

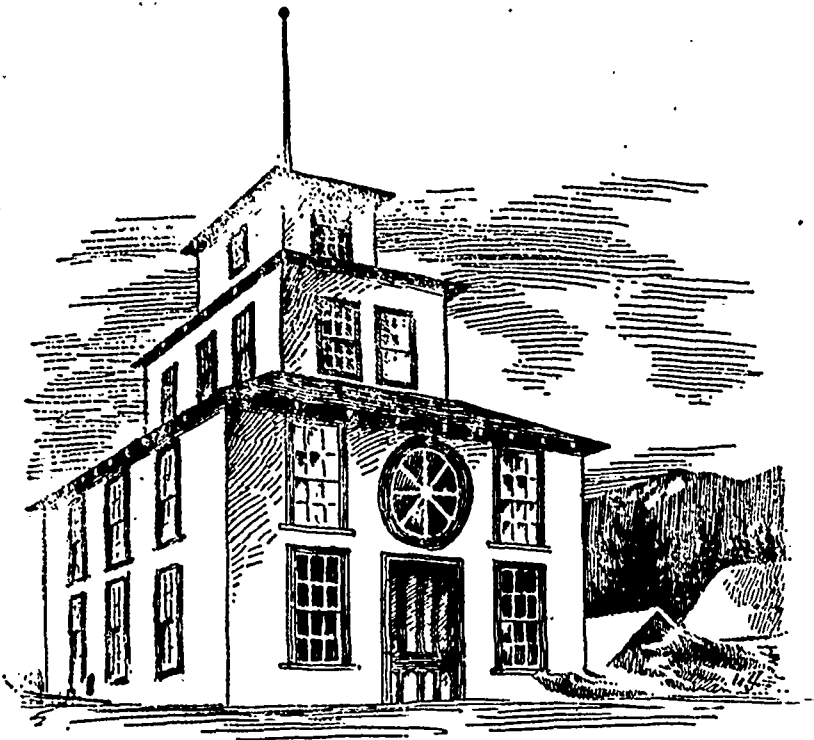
OR

DAWN OF THE NORTHWEST COAST.

. 12.

KITAMAAT B. C.

October 1900.



THE FIRE COMPANY'S HALL KITAMAAT.—(Engraved for Nanakwa).

Eastern people would be somewhat astonished to see a building of the above type, in Indian villages of the Northwest Coast, but such is the case. This structure at Kitamaat indicates two facts,— that the people are trying industriously to help themselves,

and they are keeping pace with the advancing civilization of the North land. The hall was built by the Kitamaat soldiers five years ago, and is now the property of the Fire Company. A grand view of the Inlet is obtained from its watch-tower.

THE RAVEN.

When our Lord, who has a intense love for bird-life, wishes us to learn a most important lesson of life, He takes us to school to the birds, that ravens may teach us.—"Consider the raven."

As the raven is peculiarly the bird of this country and is to be seen in vast numbers all along the rugged shore line of the North-West Coast, far up into Alaska; it has occurred to me that the readers of Nunukwa in the Homeland and parts of Canada, where this bird is a stranger, will find it of interest to turn attention for a short time, to its peculiar habits and customs.

At Kitamat we have a good opportunity of observing his characteristics, he is with us the year round, on the warmest day in summer he flaps about contentedly, and when the mercury drops to zero he grumbles a good deal about the cold, but nevertheless stays with us.

Our ravens measure when fully grown 20 to 25 inches from the point of beak to the tip of the tail; across the wings 3 to 4 feet is not unusual. The young while little more than fledgelings dress as the adult bird whose garb has a royal appearance of black glossy feathers resplendent with changing tints of bright purple and blue, which in sunlight glitter like coats of burnished armour. The head is noticeably large, the sight quick and penetrating and the bill owing to the nature of the food is a strong sharp-pointed stabbing instrument, every thrust of which draws blood.

He is not dainty in regard to his diet, in fact he is omnivorous: flesh, fish snails, shell-fish, mice, birds, in all sorts of conditions; fresh, stale or very high contribute to his larder. Often he prefers food ready killed and prepared, but can when occasion demands be his own hunter. With commendable resignation he adapts himself to

circumstances, for when food is scarce he can endure a long fast with her fortitude, so in like manner; when food is plentiful he fails not to indulge himself to an extent only limited by capacity, oftentimes being scarcely able to rise from the ground.

Like as the gull on the ocean follows the ships for the refuse of food thrown overboard, and the eagle when hunting the timid of the haunts of man, searches the mountain fastnesses, eager to pick the bones of the decrepit mountain-goat, sustain himself upon the flesh of animals which have died a natural death, so the raven haunts the beach and scavours whatever surplus food is thrown from native houses. We approach him while he endeavors to pick some sand bones, the right to which is disputed several native dogs, with a sharp buke to the dogs for their presumption and scolding us angrily, the haughty bird with a defiant toss of his head, informs us we are unwelcome visitors.

It is an interesting sight to watch the canny fellow in search of food, he will overturn rocks, and peep under stones until he obtains a mussel or a clam. When the shell is too strong for him to break without damaging the beak; with the mussel in his bill he flies upwards to a considerable height above some flat stone, and, with wonderful intuition allowing for the deviating force of the wind, drops it, thus cracking it on the stone to his great satisfaction; lowering himself almost simultaneously and devouring the tender contents before any other member of the feathered community can challenge his ownership.

The raven is a great mimic; he can chuckle, cough, cry, laugh, talk, sing, whistle, and can imitate wild and domestic sounds with wonderful facility. He is chief of all mammalia, so the bird is at the top of the family of birds, "he is the great subrational chief of the whole kingdom of birds, he has the largest brain and the most wit and wisdom

A NEW WORKER'S LETTER.

Through the kindness of friends I have been acquainted with Nanakwa for sometime as a reader. And since coming to the Home I have become acquainted more particularly, with one branch of its usefulness, that is letting the friends at home know of some of the needs of this, the youngest Home, for Indian girls which the W. M. S. has, in charge, and giving them the pleasure of contributing to our need. If the friends at home could see how nicely the girls look in their gingham aprons, and what a comfort it is to have nice warm underclothing and stockings for these girls when they come into the Home, and a great many other things I could mention they would be thankful to Nanakwa for letting them know.

For the first time I am to make my acquaintance as one of its contributors, although I do not pretend to write, yet at Mr. Raley's request I am pleased to let the home friends, who may be readers of Nanakwa, know of my safe arrival, just five weeks from the time I left home. I enjoyed the trip out very much although I did not prove as good a traveller as I had hoped, but the pleasant stop overs with friends at Winnipeg, Morley, Banff and Vancouver, were enjoyable breaks in the journey and my necessary delays at Victoria and Rivers Inlet, were not without a pleasure to meet the missionaries Miss Morgan, and Mrs. Snyder, and learn something of that part of our mission work. At Rivers Inlet, I saw something of the life at salmon canneries of which I had read so often; it was all so new and novel to me, yet not without its sad side too because of the evils practised there. Here I met Miss Long and Miss Markland for the first time, also Mr. and Mrs. Raley whom I had met in Toronto, and after a week's delay waiting for a boat, we all started for

our home at Kitamaat. On our arrival we were welcomed in a hearty way, the band turned out in full force and played several selections in good style.

I was very pleasantly impressed with the village as I caught sight of it from the boat, I think it is one of the prettiest villages that I have seen up the coast. On landing the first thing I noticed was a large board with the word,—"NOTICE!"—written in large letters, I thought it would be safest for me to read it for fear I might transgress some of their laws ignorantly and it was to this effect,—“Any person found guilty of smoking on the sidewalk of this village will be fined \$2.50” —I thought some of the Eastern towns and villages could take a leaf out of the Kitamaat code of laws.

I was delighted with the appearance of the Home it was so much better than I expected in an isolated place like Kitamaat where building material and labour is so expensive, this means that a great deal has been done by Mr. Raley himself and through his influence with the people in getting them to contribute to it as well.

From what I have seen since I came I think that the Home has had a great influence on the people of this place for good. It is remarkable what Miss Long has done in teaching and training the girls, I find them in advance on all lines of those with whom I have worked previously, and altogether the prospect of work in the Home among the girls is very pleasing to me. I believe more firmly than ever in the Home influence in helping the people to a higher mode of living.

They are great imitators and there is no greater force of teaching than example. I fear I will exceed my space, at some future time I may have the privilege of writing more fully of the work here as I become better acquainted.

A. JACKSON.

KITAMAAT DAY-SCHOOL.

I know that the readers of Nanakwa will regret not seeing another of Mrs. Raley's bright cheery letters in this autumn number. But owing to the illness of little Emsley, she cannot find time to write. You will have one of her sparkling newsy ones in the Christmas issue, (we always have the best things at X-mas time in the natural order of events).

In this number I am to write on the subject in which I am most interested, my little school-room just a few yards down the path from here. It is a low small, white, cottage-roofed building, with three windows facing the sea, and three to the mountain side which rises almost abruptly.

When I first entered Kitamaat school, my heart sank at the dingy cheerless appearance that met my expectant eyes. But the outcome of a brave resolve to make it better, and through the liberal contributions of many kind friends, it has been quite transformed into a very pleasant room. Thanks to assistance from Mr. Raley and Jasper the ceiling is now painted a pretty blue, the walls pink, the base a dark red; this with a new table for myself, and pictures to break the dreary monotony of the walls has made it an exceptionally bright cheerful school-room—at least I try to make it so throughout, for these children like all others are more easily ruled by kindness than will-power, though either is indispensable in facilitating their moral training and in developing a sense of right and duty.

The attendance at present is the largest had here, the roll numbering seventy, with an average daily attendance of about fifty, twenty of whom knew not a word of English upon entering in September. I thoroughly enjoy these little ones and find them exceedingly interesting and bright. I conduct this my kindergarten class, in the native

language substituting English equivalents, this is of mutual benefit as it never let opportunity pass of correcting my jumbled Kitamaat, repeating after me with a merry laugh to show how much better they know it than I. It is only those attempting to teach this language that can understand how difficult it is. In fact they have peculiar 'k' and 'h' sounds that I despair my tongue and throat ever utter properly, if it were not evident that Raley has done so, I would deem it impossible for English tongues, and be trying.

One thing of note being so strikingly uncommon, is, that the boys advance much more rapidly than the girls. Exactly with reference to their English for in it their advantages are not equal, the girls having the strong influence of the Home, where they are allowed to talk only in our language. They write neatly and in a far more rapid and distinct hand than the boys but work requiring reason and thought power the boys are noticeably more advanced.

Their especial talent is imitating. In drawing and writing is exemplified their power of close imitation. Some instances specially praise-worthy as yet they are under the disadvantage of having no desks except the rare cedar benches that they use as substitutes by sitting or kneeling on the floor beside them. But in the near future it is sincerely hoped that our Kitamaat school room may be better equipped for thorough earnest work, I can assure you the effort put forth to do so is not sown on unfruitful ground.

N. Marklat

The first team of horses was imported to the Kitamaat valley early in the year by Mr. Anderson for logging purposes. It is needless to say they were curious in the sight of the people especially the children many of whom had never seen horses before.

THE KITAMAATS GO SOUTH.

The Str. Edith left Kitamaat the 19th June, with a heavy tow of 39 large boats, containing nearly the entire Kitamaat tribe, her destination being River's Inlet Head, where the people of the past four years have obtained employment during the canning season. On the 20th. at early morning a heavy squall was encountered, the canoes were forced to leave the tow and seek shelter around Separation Point. The fury of the storm threw the water upwards in sheets, and in King shore much food was lost and several canoes were badly damaged. They camped until the following morning, when the Edith towed them into Bella Bella. The weather cleared and the 22nd. we reached Bella Bella, where the Bella Bella and Kitamaat boats rendered very excellent service. The following day we made the Head of the Inlet in safety.

RIVERS' INLET NOTES.

During our stay at River's Inlet the weather was unfavorable for the fishing season, being cold, wet and dull. The 1st. of July was celebrated by a feast on a very extensive scale, given at the Bella Bellas to the Kitamaats, in the house of Chief Poutlass, about 500 Indians of the several tribes being present. The bands of the Kitamaat and Bella Bella tribes contributed selections of music throughout the feast. Dr. Spencer opened the Hospital at Annuuk this season with three patients and remained until Dr. Large arrived to take charge. The Doctor and his assistants had a very busy season. A large number of patients were treated in the various canneries in the Inlet, not only Indians but also Chinese, Japs, and Whites. Dr. Large made many improvements in the building and hopes to have it completed next season.

Services were held at various Canneries whenever opportunity afforded.

Capt. Walbran of the steamer D. G. S. Quadra made an official visit to the Inlet on July 6th.

The Victoria cannery wharf has been extended and is now supposed to have a frontage of about 700 feet,

Mr. Wadham in a most praiseworthy manner has constructed and furnished at his own expense a beautiful church, seating capacity 300.

The season, so far as the Kitamaats were concerned, was a comparative failure; several of them hardly catching sufficient salmon to pay for their supplies at the cannery stores.

It is remarked that Mr. Wadham's cannery is a model. The equipment is of most approved character; the conveniences afforded for the children of the employees are deservedly creditable.

The employees of the River's Inlet Canneries were composed of members of Port Rupert, Alert Bay, Oweekino, Mmamillaquilla, Bella Bella, Kimsquit, Bella Coota, Tsimpshuan, Masset, and Kitamaat Indian tribes, together with a few white men and hundreds of Japanese and Chinese.

The enjoyment of our work at Rivers Inlet was much detracted from, owing to the illness of Mrs. Raley who had to spend several weeks at the hospital. By the end of the season we are thankful to say we were able to bring her to Kitamaat by steamer "Queen City" where she continued to improve rapidly.

The remnants of past tribal greatness are still to be seen at Rivers Inlet:— In the house of Chief Poutlass is an elaborately carved throne of an Indian Chief, and in the house of Chief Jouskin is an immense wooden food dish in the shape of a trough 18ft. long and about 2ft. wide, this dish is used only on special occasions such as tribal feasts.



C. A. G. ROBINSON,

The above is a good cut of the Hartley Bay young man, which reached us too late for insertion with his letter in our April number.

KITAMAAT NEW COUNCIL.

CHIEF COUNCILLOR
Chief John Bolton.

COUNCILLORS
Chief William Walker.
" Benjamin Stewart.
" Sam Amos.

Phillip McKay. Henry Nice.
Thomas Stewart. Thomas Amos.
Jacob Duncan.

HEAD WATCHMAN
Chief Jonah Howard.

WATCHMEN
Chief Moses Duncan.
Charlie Adams.
Joseph Wilson.

We are glad we have excellent by-laws in our village, and a strong council sworn to do duty like good men.

Wise councillors enforce good laws and gain good citizens.

VISITS THE MISSIONS.

The Superintendent of Missions British Columbia, the Rev. I. W. Winton B. A., B. Sc. made a preliminary tour of Indian missions in August. While freight was being landed at Kitamaat he was able to spend a couple of hours ashore. We are confident that his visits will be productive of the best results. And not only will he be welcomed by the missionaries but also by the people who are always glad to see the "Chiefs of the church."

WINGHAM DISTRICT.

Mr Raley has been very happy to receive several most interesting and cheering letters from some points of the Wingham District during the quarter. These he will be glad to answer in a short time when the pressure of work is not so great. In the meantime kindly let Nanakwa fill the place of a personal letter.

A SERIOUS PROBLEM!

We are face to face with an important question—

What are we to do with the boys this winter? Hitherto these lads have been taken into the Home, but now it being conducted by the Woman's Missionary Society is open only to girls. We were granted permission last year to retain boys not over 13 years of age with the understanding that girls only would be received afterward. What are we to do with the boys? They sorely need our care during the winter season for various reasons. We cannot shelter them as we have done for the past six years, what shall we do with these bright boys who so touching appeal to us in many ways? They want to stay at school but cannot and thus will be deprived of consecutive education and training, for they will have to go with their parents to the camps.

NEW MAIL ROUTE.

We believe that the best interests of the people around Hazelton, and that section of country obtaining mail here, might be better served by having it conveyed over the Kitamaat trail, which is supposed to be shorter and easier than the present one of the Skeena Naas. If we obtain a monthly mail service at Kitamaat, which in the very near future we hope to do, the Skeena mails could be dropped at Kitamaat, and a monthly outfit hatched without delay to Hazelton by the new trail recently constructed by the Provincial Government to Kitamaat, thence following the old trail on the right hand side of the Skeena River to Hazelton. By a service of this kind a number of remote settlers could be reached on the way; and the route would be near the proposed new hatch on the Lakelse River. As we believe Kitamaat is the key to that extent of country North and West, and it is the wish of the Government to develop such country; would not be well if the work was speedily done by something of this nature?

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of Nanakwa.
Dear Sir,

Having spent the past summer working on our claims and prospecting in the Kitamaat country we think it would be interesting for you to know something of our undertaking. Work on the properties has been eloquent. The ledges show up steeper and steeper looking as development proceeds leading us to believe that we have a well defined ledge highly mineral. After getting through our work on the claims, we started up the Kitamaat River reaching about 15 miles above tide-water, when our canoe got caught in a jam and then sunk imme-

diately with our baggage.

We nearly lost the man in the stern of the canoe. This ended our trip for the present, but we intend to give the Kitamaat River another trial as we like the appearance of the country.

Yours very truly,
John Dunn.

LOCAL.

The native food is very plentiful this year.

The Bella Bella's contemplate building a new church this fall.

The Kitamaat Band has been improved this summer owing to the addition of several very fine new instruments.

Too late for insertion in the July number of Nanakwa was received a letter from Mr. McKinnon, teacher at Bella Bella, descriptive of the loyal celebration of the Queen's Birthday by the Norwegian Colony; eloquent addresses were delivered, an excellent dinner provided, sports were indulged in by both young and old, and after three cheers for her Majesty the company dispersed.

WEDDED.

An event took place at the Chinese Home, Victoria, which will be of interest to the readers of "Nanakwa", it being the marriage of Mr. George L. Anderson to Miss Walker both of whom have been connected with the Kitamaat Mission in the capacity of teachers. Rev. Mr. Knox performed the ceremony. Mrs. Snider and Miss Morgan provided the wedding supper after which the happy couple left per. Str. Boscowitz for Khowthpigah Pioneer Ranch in the Kitamaat Valley, which is to be their future home.

This affair will be a matter of history. Mrs. Anderson being the first white woman to settle in Kitamaat Valley.

NANAKWA

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. KALEY.

THIRD YEAR. No. 12. OCTOBER 1900.

BAPTISMS.

"One LORD, One Faith, One Baptism."

- Aug. 4th. — Catherino, daughter of James and Emma Clarkson.
 Sept. 23rd. — Bertha, daughter, of Frank and Betsy Wilson.
 " " — Florence Mabel, daughter of John and Grace Amos,

MARRIAGES.

"Those whom GOD hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

"Husbands, love your wives, even as CHRIST also loved the Church."

- July 10th. — Martha J. Walker to George L. Anderson.

BURIALS.

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

- June 24th. — Elizabeth Cross at River's Inlet, aged 7 years.
 July 4th. — Louisa Wood, aged 10 years.
 " — Adam's sister Yathinalioux.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH MANY THANKS, THE FOLLOWING KIND GIFTS WHICH HAVE REACHED US DURING THE QUARTER:—

- Periodicals, Miss Hardy, Eng.
 " " C. C. James Esq., Toronto.
 Books Messrs Steele and Dunn.
 S. S. Papers Per Miss Giles Brockville.

NOTICES!

We wish to make the next number of Nanakwa of special interest to our W. M. S. friends.

PERSONAL.

Miss Jackson the associate matron of the Kitamaat Home arrived here 13th. August.

Miss Long enjoyed a trip South of the "Queen City" the 1st week in August.

Mr. Edward Nicholas and his wife who for some time have been labouring at River's Inlet, have left for the new mission at Nanaimo.

Messrs Steele and Dunn left by Steamer "Queen City" 13th. August and being steadily engaged developing the mineral claims around Kitamaat.

Dr. Wrench and his wife passed the Coast en route for their district field of labour near the head waters of the Skeena River, during the 2nd. week of August.

Mr. George Warren arrived here from Cape Mulgeon, Tuesday 28th. August. He is prospecting in the mountains around Kitamaat and the looks of the place so much that probably he will make his winter quarters somewhere in the valley.

NANAKWA FUND!

THE FUND IS NOT ONLY TO DEFRAY THE COST OF THIS QUARTERLY LETTER, BUT ALSO TO AMOUNT TO THE RUNNING EXPENSES PERTAINING TO THE PRINTING OF THE MISSION WEEK AFTER WEEK MEETINGS WITH THE TEXT OR A PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE IN BOTH THE KITAMAAT AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES ARE PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED WHAT IS CALLED "SCHOOLUM TEXI" WHICH IS HELD AT THE CLOSE OF THE MORNING SERVICE WHEN THE TEXT IS TAUGHT IN BOTH LANGUAGES QUESTIONS BEARING ON THE SUBJECT ARE ANSWERED BY THE PEOPLE. HYMNS HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED IN THE VERNACULAR. AND AS TIME PERMITS MORE WILL BE PRODUCED

WITH MANY THANKS, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING, RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER:

DATE	NUMBER	\$
July 10	60	5
" 28	61	2
Aug. 2	62	2
" 8	63	1
" 8	64	1
Sept 14	65	80
" 14	66	1
" 20	67	4

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