

ALASKA,

AND

MISSIONS ON THE NORTH PACIFIC COAST.

BY

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FULLY ILLUSTRATED.

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“ FORT WRANGELL, ALASKA, March 16th, 1878.

“ DR. JACKSON.

“ DEAR BROTHER : There has been a great time among the natives here this week. It seems that the Tongas and Stickeens have been enemies for a number of years ; but this winter they have become friends. This week the Tongas came to visit the Stickeens and have a grand ‘ Hee-Hee.’ We all went down to the beach to see the Tongas come in. They had nine large canoes lashed together abreast. They were all dressed in their gayest colors, and made quite an imposing appearance. After landing they and the Stickeens had a sham battle, followed by a grand dance on the beach. They were all painted, and dressed in their native costumes. There were some 1500 of them present, besides all the whites in the settlement. It was a strange scene, and one long to be remembered. The dancing has been kept up all the week, day and night, and I suppose will be for some time to come.

“ The great importance of our work here was more than ever felt, as I looked upon this multitude of immortal souls who had never heard of a crucified Saviour. And my earnest prayer was that with the coming of Rev. Mr. Brady, these people, who have never heard the Gospel, might have their eyes opened to the truth.

“ Rev. Mr. Brady arrived by steamer on the 15th. It is a great encouragement to have him here. He went on to Sitka, but will return with the steamer.

Two weeks ago Rev. Bishop Bompas (Episco-

palian) came up on the Otter, but returned on the same boat.

“ He reported that he had come to look up mission stations, but had no desire to come in where other churches were already on the ground. He spent a day in my school, and spoke to some of our citizens, highly commending the management and success of the school. I told him of my great desire to establish a home for young girls, and also how my heart had ached at the utter destitution of all comfort among those that were sick.

“ He seemed to think that there should be a fund for the relief of the worthy suffering, and as for the ‘ Home,’ he was sure if Christians in the East could be made to see the importance of it, that I would soon have all the money needed to build and furnish the necessary quarters.

“ Before leaving he gave me \$2, one for the ‘ Home ’ and the other to relieve sick Indians. He said he was poor, but wished to do something, and advised me to write East that the fund was commenced, and that every dollar that was added to it would help on the great and glorious work. I wish so much that some one else could take the school and I be allowed to give my entire time to the women and girls. If we had only some rooms for a home I am sure that some Ladies’ Society would support it. The need is a most urgent one.

“ Yours truly,

“ A. R. McFARLAND.”