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Toronto Ont.

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On Board Steamship <sup>Marine Success</sup> 746  
Venture B. B. Grant  
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Dear Bro - Manning

Complying with your request to write a few notes on my trip on the "Thomas Crosley", I send the following. Along with Dr White, I went on board the "Thomas Crosley" on Saturday afternoon July 2<sup>nd</sup> & was introduced to Captain Oliver & his crew - & at 2/30 o'clock the lines were hauled in, & we started for Nanimo, which place we reached about 6. P. M., where we stayed over Sunday.

Dr White & myself each, preached four times - & the Japanese Cook, who is a splendid Missionary held services amongst his people. I counted it a great privilege to minister to the Indian congregation which I understand was the first to be ministered to, & organized by the late much beloved, Dr Thomas Crosley.

We left Nanimo at 6/30 Monday morning, made three calls upon Lighthouse keepers during the day - read, conversed, & prayed with the people who seemed to appreciate very much our ministrations.

At night we reached Cape Mudge, where there is an Indian Village, & at this time there were hundreds of Indians gathered from all along the coast, many come for miles in gasoline launches, dories, canoes etc - to attend a great celebration called a "Potlatch".

The Crosley anchored a little way from the shore. Dr White & I took a rowboat & ashore & met our Missionary Teacher Mr. Randall. We there then found the Chief of the Village & asked permission to give a lantern lecture in the schoolroom. Permission was given & in the school house we presented lantern views on the opening & development of work on the prairies. A number of the younger Indians attended.

We then had a look at this Indian celebration which began about 7/30 o'clock.

This was held in a great log building - A great bonfire blazed in the centre of it & furnished light, & heat. The smoke & sparks going out through a wide space in the roof.

There must have been a thousand Indians - men, women & children seated all around the building - their varied coloured blankets, dresses



I heard gear furnishing in the glow of the fire a strange weird picture -

At one end of the building there was what constituted a "Band". The music seemed to me to be moans, & groans, & founding of stetho, & old yams -

Then a "Wild Man" was brought in, & began to perform all kinds of antics, & contortions in what was supposed to be a dance - We left after about half an hour - but I understand this was kept on until about 3 o'clock in the morning -

After seeing a thing of this kind, one can easily see why the missionaries all condemn the "Gottack". Its influence can only be demoralizing. It seems to me that we should still have these heathen practices in operation in a Christian country -

Next morning we visited a Mr Walker who at one time was a missionary in our Church. He now lives in a lonely place along with his daughter - the wife & mother having died. They seemed to appreciate our calling very much, & the regentables, & gathered fruit which they presented to the leaders of the Crosby, was a demonstration of their gratefulness tangible form -

The night was spent at Alert Bay - although it was evening when we reached this place - news soon spread that the "Crosby" was in, & a meeting would be held in the church. By eight o'clock the church was filled & we gave the lantern articles & took a collection which helped the funds of the General Missionary Society. Mrs & Miss Cook who are stationed here, were cheered by our visit, & the people expressed their pleasure -

From here we visited more lighthouses calling at Namu, & Lathup. We had on board a lady, & little boy, the wife & son of a lovely lighthouse keeper who had been away a month & were just returning to Egg Island. The first day we came to the island - but it was too stormy to make a landing. So we ran on to a place called Lathup where we stayed for the night. We rounded around the bay in a Passboat, informing the few scattered settlers that we would hold a meeting on the Crosby, & invited them to come; but before the hour of meeting a storm of wind & rain came on & prayed so furiously that it was impossible to come out -

The next morning we went back to the Egg Island lighthouse to try & land the mail & keepers wife -

Dr White made the remark to Captain Blair, "that the keeper would be on the look out for us this morning the Captain said" I hope he gets what is coming to him" meaning of course his wife.



Stewart still very strong & before undertaking to allow this lady & little boy to get into the boat to go ashore - two of the men were sent with the mail & to ask the keeper of the lighthouse - "if he thought it safe to try & land his wife & boy?" They brought the word back, "yes," he said "if they could not land her in the row boat he would have to swim out after her". The two got into the boat & several attempts had to be made before they were able to reach in to shore on the crest of a great wave, We who were watching - ~~and rejoicing~~ from the Crutchy <sup>& praying</sup> were greatly relieved when we saw that the poor lonely fellow had got what was coming to him".

From here, we went to Bella Coola, & had a very interesting time with Mr Gibson & family who are in charge of the mission here - We gave the Santum news here to a fine congregation made up of Whites - Indians & every body -

I was pleased to see the well kept Mission premises at this place, indicating leadership on the part of the Missionary & progress amongst the Indians -

Our next appointment was "Ocean falls", where a gentleman remarked, it was called Ocean falls because an Ocean of rain fell every day". It only rained a little while we were there -

Millions of dollars have been invested here in harnessing a magnificent water fall & installing machinery for the manufacture of paper - Rev Mr Lancaster is also ministering here - I had the privilege of preaching to a very attentive audience, & after the preaching service, showing the Santum news -

They have a fine Orchestra here & a splendid Choir which led the service of praise -

The people are laying plans for the erection of a church at this point in the near future -

On Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> we visited Bella Bella, saw Dr & Mrs Darby, visited the hospital & saw the new building which is now in the course of construction & when completed will be a credit to Dr Darby & the community - We gave at night a lantern talk in a Cannery placed at our disposal by Captain Ross to a mixed crowd of people who seemed deeply interested -

Tuesday we called at small places & at night were at a large Sunday camp at a place called Swaneau Bay - where we held our meeting in the great dining hall, or mess room -



From here we started on calling at places where opportunity offered  
for a visit & reached Jallett Bay where we stayed for the night & gave  
the Sanitarium views to the Indian Congregation. Mr J. Gibson, the Nursing  
in Charge - Captain Oliver, & Dr White all spoke to the Indians in Chinese  
those who understood seemed to greatly appreciate what was being  
said.

In this way we kept on visiting Lighthouses, Lumber Camps,  
& other places, & reached Prince Rupert ~~at last~~ Great City (which is  
to be) Friday the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Here I stayed with Bro Crut, a former companion in Prance pioneer  
life now Pastor in Charge at this point.

Dr White & the Crosby left Saturday morning for Bayot - but after  
leaving the harbour, encountered a bad storm & had to return to Rupert,  
where they stayed over Sunday.

I preached Morning & Evening. Dr White spoke to the Sunday  
School in the afternoon, & we put on the Sanitarium views after the  
evening service.

Dr White left for Vancouver Monday morning & I went on with the  
Crosby to Port Simpson.

On reaching Simpson - we were met by Drs Large, & Spencer, & spent  
a very pleasant time in this place fragrant with the memory of the  
late Dr Thomas Crosby & his devoted wife; visiting the hospital,  
& the Crosby Girls Home - found a splendid band of workers  
all interested in their work, & doing splendid service for  
humanity - Ministry to the physical, mental & spiritual needs  
of the Community -

I gave an illustrated address in the Church at night - which was  
well attended & I believe was appreciated.

Now I bid good bye to Captain Oliver, the Crosby & her crew - They proceeding  
on their mission of helpfulness, & I returning to Vancouver.

Summary up - This trip to me has been one of great personal pleasure  
& delight - This marvelous coast with its inlets, & coves, & bays, its  
wooded peaks, & snow capped mountains - presenting an ever-  
changing picture of grandeur, & profusion indiscrutable.

The fellowship with Dr White, & this great man Captain Oliver whom I  
have come to love - because of his splendid nursing effort & his great  
interest in the work will ever remain a precious memory & an inspiration  
to greater service.



I have as a result of this trip obtained an enlarged view  
of the ~~business~~ <sup>working</sup> operation of our Church, & a greater appreciation of  
the complex problems of the work as presented by this Court, & ~~also~~  
appreciations of the work <sup>the Church</sup> is doing, & ~~which~~ I think may be feasible  
for her to do. She deserves the best support of both departments  
of our Church, whose interests she serves - as well as the  
prayers, sympathies & gifts of the Methodist people.  
All of which is submitted for whatever purpose you may  
choose to make of it.

With kindest regards I am sincerely yours

J. D. Garrison

P.S. We go to Victoria Saturday. Then I am to go to the  
I. Kanagawa & out by way of Nelson expecting to reach  
home about the 2nd week in March.

J. D.