



UP AND DOWN THE
NORTH PACIFIC COAST

REV. THOMAS CROSBY, D.D.

"They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever."

INTRODUCTION

THE story of missionary effort and enterprise among the people of this or any other land is one of the most thrilling and interesting that its history can reveal. What deeds of heroism! What struggles and loneliness! What sacrifice of personal comfort and ambition! What inspiring faith and sublime hope! What determination, in spite of fearful odds! Enough here to make a romance that would stir the heroic heart of a nation with pride in its noble sons and daughters, willing to brave the hardships of isolation, and the dangers among savage tribes, that to those in darkness they may bring the Light of Life and raise the less favored of the earth to the higher planes of Christian civilization! Every story of true missionary zeal and effort enriches the historic annals of a people; and yet the whole missionary story of this land of ours will never be told. Many a beam of revealing light has flashed upon the dark corners of earth; later generations knew it not, for its pathway was not recorded in their histories. To have known it would have been to understand better than we do the heroisms of the past and to be nerved for a nobler future.

There is but one native race in Canada, now rapidly passing away, the North American Indian; and the history of the early years of our Canadian life cannot be written without giving to the Red Man a large place therein. At times he was the trusty friend, at other times the treacherous foe, of the settlers in the East and along the Great Lakes. In the West he is gradually yet sullenly retreating

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before the progress of the White Man and his civilization, and the day seems not far distant when he must be absorbed by that advancing progressive life or be pushed into the Western Sea. The contact of the White Man with the Indian has been closest and most intense where it has been due to the desire of the White Man to Christianize his dusky brother. No more uplifting and transforming results of such contact can be found than are to be seen on the North Pacific Coast, from the borders of Washington to the heart of Alaska.

The author should not be expected to make any apology for giving this story to the public, since he has spent the past fifty years in mission work on this western coast of Canada. Beginning when paganism was rampant and when but little had been done for the heathen Indian, he has seen the work advance and darkness recede before the dawning light, until to-day churches and schools under Christian control are to be found in almost every Indian village and white settlement on the Coast. To-day this Province, that fifty years ago had scarcely a beginning in religious development, has a population quite as well provided for in religious and moral influence as any in the Dominion. This has not been accomplished without heroic effort on the part of many, and it is with the hope that the story here told may lead others to devoted service to the Master and may deepen the interest of the Church in the Indian race that this book is given to the public.

W. J. SIPPPELL.

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

To My Friends,—

For many years I have been listening to the requests of lovers of missions that I would give in book form a record of missionary work among the Indian tribes of the Northern Pacific Coast of our country and of the wonderful transformation in character and conditions which the introduction of the blessed Gospel has brought about. Believing that such a record will have the effect of encouraging the missionary spirit and the missionary hope in the Church, I feel that I can but accede to these solicitations of my friends.

The following annals are from sparse notes and from memory, supplemented by various missionary records; and although I feel free to claim them to be correct, yet I am sure that if any defect be observed, my readers will readily overlook it. Not writing books but working for the spread of the Gospel among benighted peoples and striving to extend the influence of the Kingdom of Christ in the hearts of my fellow men have been my occupation and object.

THOMAS CROSBY.

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