

received them, bore fruit, in their conversion from the errors of Rome to the truth as it is in Jesus. Four others, however, returned me their copies, saying, as they did so, that the priest had told them that good Catholics ought not to read the Gospel.

House to house visitation is our main element of success, and whatever the difficulties we meet with in this way, yet we must encounter them if we would succeed. After some losses by removal and otherwise of 17, I am thankful in being able to report an increase of 14. We have 7 on trial, and 34 full members, making in all 41.

During the year I have married two couples, buried four persons, and baptized eleven children. J. A. DORION.

LACOLLE.—(No Report.)

BOLTON, STUKELEY, &c.—(No Report.)

CANAAN.

In reviewing the past year I am thankful to Almighty God for the measure of success which has been given to my labours. And although it does not come up to what I have prayed and laboured for, yet that it is what it is, and that despite the many discouragements that meet us in this field of labour, and that we have made some progress, is reason for devout acknowledgment. During the year I have preached in both languages every Sabbath, save one, being then unavoidably absent, to a very fair attendance of the people. Through the week I have visited from house to house among the French-speaking, reading and praying with them as they would allow me. I have distributed about 2,500 tracts, 8 testaments, and 1 Bible, with Christian almanacs, &c. With these I distributed also 4 English Testaments, and that, singular to say, to French persons who could read in English but not in French. I have met a class in Canaan when practicable, and held prayer-meetings once each week. There is evidently an improved tone of piety among this people. There are many French families in Canaan, Adamsville, at East Farnham, and at L'Ange Guardian, who receive me and are very friendly. They make inquiry, occasionally, on religious matters. I hope that ere long they will break off the shackles of the Pope, and embrace, instead, the freedom of the Gospel of Christ. Although we had 4 removals in the year, yet we have an increase over the last year of 2; making 2 on trial, and 23 full members; in all, 25. M. SADLIER.

MISSIONARY DISTRICTS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

<i>Victoria</i>	Amos E. Russ, M.A.
<i>Maple Bay</i>	William V. Sexsmith.
<i>Wellington Mines</i>	One wanted.
<i>Nanaimo</i>	Cornelius Bryant.
<i>New Westminster</i>	William Pollard, <i>Chairman</i> .
<i>Maple Ridge</i>	One to be sent.
<i>Burrard Inlet</i>	Thomas Derrick.
<i>Sumas and Chilliwack</i>	Joseph Hall.
<i>Cariboo</i>	Christopher L. Thompson.
<i>Nicola Valley and Kamloops</i>	James Turner.

VICTORIA.

After an absence of four years as pastor from the Methodist Church of Victoria, we find, on returning, that the church has made considerable progress, especially in its material aspects, while under its popular superintendent, the Rev. Wm. Pollard.

In July last, 1875, I entered upon my second pastoral charge of this church, and that part of the year now under review up to March 1st, 1876, has greatly engrossed my time, and taxed my strength, and the more so as the congregation had, to a large extent, enjoyed the matured and joint pastorate of the Chairman and his colleague, the Rev. Thos. Derrick, for the previous year. Also, in consequence of protracted revival services, greatly increasing thereby the labours connected with special meetings and general visitations, though delightful in itself, and a matter of sincere thankfulness to God, whose we are, separated unto the Gospel of Christ.

As a result, the delightful harmony in the membership, and the increased spirituality of the Church, have given to it a *revival* power and influence of usefulness, while largely augmenting the financial income of the ordinary sources. Contrary to a general expectation, some important public works not having been proceeded with this spring, many persons have been obliged to seek employment elsewhere, remote from Vancouver Island; but, notwithstanding this, our people have shown a truly loyal interest in the general Mission fund by a donation of \$573.

On the membership of last year we lose 26 by alteration of boundaries, removals, and otherwise, while out of 83 persons received since last August, we lose 19, chiefly by removals, making the whole loss 45, leaving a net of 38, and a total membership of 171.

Prayer-meetings for the children, young ladies, and young men of the congregation have been formed, and are conducted separately each week with a promise of much spiritual good.

The Sabbath-school has grown with the prosperity of the congregation, and contributes to the Mission fund \$126. A. E. RUSS.

MAPLE BAY.

In closing our labours on this Mission, we desire to render our thanks to Almighty God for His continued mercies during the past three years. Our sojourn on this Mission has been one of constant toil and anxious care for the spiritual good of our fellow-men; and after all, we have accomplished but little when compared with what is yet to be done ere Cowichan is won for Jesus. Our associations have been both pleasant and profitable, and friendly attachments have been formed, which will not be easily forgotten. During the three years we have laboured here our efforts have been, to some extent, successful in winning a few souls to Jesus, and in placing this Mission in a state of external prosperity. The receipts from the Circuit this year are greater than any previous year; and the attendance on public worship has been gradually and steadily increasing. In membership we have not increased, the same number being dropped as we received on trial. Membership, 17.

W. V. SEXSMITH.

WELLINGTON MINES.

This is a place with a population wholly engaged in coal mining, and as spiritually destitute as Nanaimo was, ere our Mission was begun there, in 1859. It has no other religious services besides our own. Bro. Green, teacher of Nanaimo Indian day-school, has efficiently maintained a Sabbath-school, as reported in the schedule, and a Sabbath evening service which often fills the school-house. A church is to be built next summer, towards which an encouraging subscription has been started, and land, sufficient for a church and parsonage, has been cheerfully given by Dunsmuir, Diggle & Co., the proprietors of the mine.

The request of last year, for a resident Missionary, is repeated by our Official Board, and the need is increasingly felt. Members, 17.

C. BRYANT.

NANAIMO.

It is only seven and a half months since I removed from Sumas to this Mission. During that time the great Head of the Church has blessed us with an increased religious interest, so that our prayer-meetings are much larger and more lively; our class-meetings are better attended; and while we have not been visited with any general awakening, yet a few souls have been made happy in Christ, so that allowing for removals and names dropped, we gratefully record an increase of seventeen during the year.

The congregation, we found, was diminished soon after I came by the exodus of some Presbyterian friends, who went to form a church of their own, and whose regular contributions have been seriously missed. For, although our congregation has recovered its former numbers, yet it is not as settled in its character, nor con-

sequently as regular in its support. We are now, to a certain extent, farther removed than a year ago from the desirable position of an independent or self-sustaining circuit. Meanwhile, we shall strive to secure all possible relief to our Society's funds, and it is a hopeful sign, that while our Sabbath collections have suffered from the cause named, our increase of membership has resulted in a larger amount of quarter-age from the classes. It must be evident to our friends at home that an unsettled and migratory congregation, where no general revival of religion has ever been known, must be much longer than those pervaded by a strong moral and religious element in learning the scriptural art of sustaining Circuit and Connexional Funds. May He, "whose right it is to reign," soon bless us with an abundant measure of spiritual success, and then every kind of success, financial and otherwise, is sure to follow. Members, 47.

C. BRYANT.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

New Westminster has a population of eight or nine hundred, principally from Great Britain. These are about equally divided into four religious denominations, Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Roman Catholics, the last, perhaps, being the smallest. This is probably the most moral place in the Province, being comparatively free from the grosser vices which are prevalent on the Pacific Coast, and which are so corrupting to the youth of this country. There is scarcely a family which does not belong to some section of the Church or a child who does not attend one of the Sabbath-schools.

Should the Dominion and Local Governments come to some amicable settlement of the Canadian Pacific Railroad question, it would give an impetus to every kind of enterprise, and our churches would soon feel the benefit of the country's prosperity.

The erection of the church and parsonage which appeared to be absolutely necessary to the credit of Methodism, as well as to its advancement, has been a severe tax on the limited resources of the congregation. Our financial returns for the present year for local purposes are one thousand dollars; for Connexional funds one hundred and eighty. Our congregations are encouraging. The white Sabbath-school has sixty scholars, and the Indian school about thirty. We have forty-one members in the city, seven at Maple Ridge, and six at Langley. We have two interesting adult Bible-classes, one on the Sabbath in connection with the school, and the other is held at the close of the prayer-meeting on Thursday evening.

We have not been able to supply our people at Maple Ridge and Langley with religious services. Bro. Wellwood preached to them for a few weeks, but was obliged to desist on account of his health. It is impracticable for New Westminster to supply these places without deranging the services in town, which would be a spiritual and financial loss. The only way to reach them is by water, and the expense is too great to justify our undertaking it. About six months

ago a Missionary was sent by the Kirk of Scotland, who makes them an occasional visit. We hope that the Committee will soon be in a position to supply this part of the country with a Missionary.

WM. POLLARD.

MAPLE RIDGE.—(No Report.)

BURRARD INLET.

For the past eight months it has been my honour and comfort to labour on this Mission. In doing so, I have experienced the most courteous, cordial, and hearty welcome and support.

The Parsonage, so nobly commenced by my predecessor, we have been endeavouring to complete with all practicable speed.

A Sabbath-school of a most hopeful character has been started at the Hastings Mill, under the superintendence of Mr. Geo. C. Clarkson, who is ably assisted in this noble effort by a staff of earnest lady workers.

THOS. DERRICK.

SUMAS AND CHILLIWHACK.

The past year has been one of much physical toil, but one also of much happiness in the service of our Divine Master. Our regular work embraces four appointments. While the roads were good, your Missionary supplied the whole of them each Sabbath; preaching at ten o'clock, at twelve, at half-past one, and at three; and at the last appointment, leading class after preaching. The advisability of combining the two central appointments is being considered, and will, no doubt, be accomplished, which will effect a great saving of ministerial labour, and make one good congregation and society where at present there are two small ones.

The scattered condition of the population makes the work of pastoral visitation one which involves a very considerable portion of the minister's time. There are small communities outlying our circuit proper, which we would much like to visit, and upon whom we would fain bestow a part of our labour; but thus far, we have not been able, the field already occupied demanding the whole of our time and attention, so much so, that a single day in our study for pulpit preparation has come to be a rare treat. But we live and labour among a kind and noble-hearted people. The greater part are from Ontario, most of them have been accustomed to Methodism from childhood, but quite a number are the fruit of Missionary labour in this distant province. The weather, during the past winter, has proved very unfavourable for special religious effort; still, towards the latter part of the season, special services were held for eight weeks at two of the appointments, attended with a very encouraging degree of success. The first meetings were continued for five weeks, in Gillander's neigh-

bourhood, the most recently established appointment on the circuit, during which twelve persons formed the determination to live for God, most of whom were happily converted, and have united with us in church fellowship.

This appointment is one of great promise. We have now in that place a membership of thirty-four, where three years ago there was not a single settler. Being all on new farms, just beginning in the woods, they are not able to contribute much to the support of the Gospel, but appreciate the means which are attended with power and comfort to their hearts, and will, in a few years, do their share in supporting their minister, as well as in aiding your noble society to extend the blessings of salvation to the still outlying regions.

Fifteen have been received on trial during the year; ten received from other circuits; five have removed, and three have been dropped. Present membership: On trial, 11; full, 67. Total, 78; net increase, 20.

JOSEPH HALL.

CARIBOO.—(No Report.)

NICHOLA VALLEY AND KAMLOOPS.

In making a brief report concerning the state of the work of God on this field of labour, the writer desires first of all to make mention of the goodness of his Heavenly Father in watching over and preserving him in the discharge of his duties during the year, which sometimes tested all his physical as well as moral powers. In the order of God's providence, I have been appointed to lay the foundation of Methodism in a section of country which in many respects is as purely mission ground as any field occupied by our Church. Though feeling throughout the year the responsibilities of one laying the foundation resting upon me to such an extent as sometimes to lead to depression, I have been encouraged and upborne by evident tokens of ultimate success.

The heartiness with which the people have received me—the willingness, and in some instances anxiety, which they have evinced to attend on the preaching of the Word—and the struggles of some to give up their old sinful habits, are outward evidences that the efforts put forth have not been in vain.

While anxious to write hopefully of this Mission, and faithfully to record to God's glory "any tokens for good" that may have appeared, I feel it to be only just to myself and the Missionary Society as well, not to ignore or overlook the difficulties. The vastness of the field is one great drawback. The desire to reach as many settlements as possible has led me to extend my visits to the more remote parts of this section of country, so that I am now well acquainted with nearly every family scattered over an area of not less than ten thousand square miles. This may have some advantages, but it is not without


its disadvantages. It has necessitated travel averaging about 500 miles a month, and, as a natural consequence, prevented me from concentrating my labours on any particular locality. It, however, cannot be avoided in consequence of the sparseness of the population and the distance between small settlements. The exposure and hardships which so much travelling on horseback over all sorts of roads and mountain trails involves, are apparent to any person who knows the country. But, as it is foreign to my nature and the object in view to multiply my trials in the eyes of others, I shall say nothing about what I have had to endure on several occasions during the winter, riding 30 or 40 miles in a day, with the thermometer 30° below zero.

Magnificent distances, however, are not the only hindrance to the progress of religion in this land.

The habits and customs of the people, which prudence, and I may add modesty, forbid me to describe, have stood, and are still standing, terribly in the way. The many pressing claims of the white population have so completely occupied my time, that it has been beyond my power to pay that attention to the Indians I had hoped to do. I saw I must either abandon the idea of entering into so many open doors to preach to those of my own colour and language or else the Indian work, and hence the latter, through force of circumstances, has been held in abeyance. Not having some lay brethren, with tact and talent to take hold of this department, is a want any person appointed to labour here must sorely feel. May the Lord of the harvest raise up labourers!

A Sabbath-school, started chiefly for the Indians, has not yet been a success—partly in consequence of their migratory habits—and partly because of no person in my absence willing to take the lead and keep up the interest. But though there has not been any great material or spiritual prosperity hitherto, yet I think it was wise to establish a Mission here. It will require careful culture and much self-sacrificing Christian effort before this moral wilderness shall bud and blossom as the rose. There has been a long night of sin. Passion and lust have long been in the ascendancy and assumed the reins. But the Spirit can soften and subdue the hardest heart—and the blood of Jesus cleanse the foulest—and the grace of God conquer the deep-laid native propensities of the *most human among* them. With these thoughts fresh in our memory, we hope to “labour on at His command,” who has said through His servant, “In due time you shall reap if you faint not.” And though at present Methodism here is represented only by 9 in full membership and 4 on trial, we are not at all discouraged, but sow in faith, believing that though “one may sow and another reap,” the time will come when over the result of Missionary effort in Nichola Valley and Kamloops “the sower and reaper shall rejoice together.”

JAMES TURNER.



RED RIVER DISTRICT—MANITOBA.

Winnipeg.....	Geo. Young, <i>Chairman</i> ; Allan Bowerman, M.A.
Rockwood.....	James M. Harrison.
Poplar Point & Woodlands.	John Walton 2nd.
Portage la Prairie.....	Michael Fawcett.
Palestine.....	Charles Mearing.
Fort Pelly.....	William R. Morrison.
Bayne River and Pembina..	One wanted.

WINNIPEG.

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.” This inspired affirmation expresses what I believe and feel in relation to the eight years during which I have occupied this exceedingly interesting field of Christian effort. Whatever of faith, patience, firmness, zeal, or usefulness may have been possessed by me, or observed by others, during the whole or any portion of that term, all is to be traced directly to that one source, and the praise all belongs to Him whose helping hand has been upon me for good all the way through. As I look back to the time of my first arrival here, and think over the state of things as then found, and compare the past with the present in these respects, I feel that in guiding, and helping, and prospering, “The Lord hath done great things for us,” for which we do well to be glad, even with no ordinary gladness. Neither perfect satisfaction nor any thing approaching it is felt by us in relation to the way in which we have served and toiled in this field; but we do contemplate, with the most perfect satisfaction and gratitude, the fact of our appointment thereunto eight years ago, and the way the Lord hath led and dealt with us during the entire term. For the prayers and timely and liberal givings of large numbers of godly ones, and the kindly counsels and sympathy of the Society’s chief officers, I would return grateful acknowledgments, and at the same time bespeak a continuance thereof in behalf of my gifted and devoted successor. My retirement from the field, to which I feel bound by many ties, is the result of conviction. I am “fully persuaded” that our system of itinerancy will prove its adaptation and advisability here as elsewhere. In the Province of Manitoba, where we had no members, no interest, no name as a people at the time of my arrival, we have now “a goodly heritage.” There are within this small Province seven Missions, with seven evangelical and earnest toilers who are going to and fro that knowledge and godliness may be increased; there are also seven churches which have been erected for God’s glory, and more than three hundred in membership, with about 2,000 hearers. In the city of Winnipeg the Lord hath given us a good position, and honoured us with a considerable influence in the community. Our two beautiful little churches, with nearly 100 in membership, and two good Sabbath-schools, the parsonage and premises,