

## A Helping Hand for Men.

The Herald Street Mission, Victoria.

On entering the little Mission Hall on Herald street the presence of so many men, especially on the rear seats, the front ones are reserved for the workers, calls to mind the legend over the door of Jerry McCauley's old Water street Mission, New York: "A helping hand for men," for the workers in this city mission aim at the accomplishment of the same purpose, that of raising the fallen and giving a hand of loving sympathy and assistance to those who are struggling against the adverse and evil influences which predominate in this city.

The work was commenced in the fall of 1898 under the direction of the Rev. W. H. Barraclough, and the Epworth League and local preachers of the Centennial Methodist church. Since then interest has been awakened in many hearts and now there has been formed a strong "Band of Mission Workers," principally from the Metropolitan church, but representing every Methodist church in the city, with the addition of several from other churches who are known as the friends of the suffering and fallen.

The services, until the last few months have been confined to the Sunday evenings, at the close of the regular meetings in the churches, and took the form of an open air meeting, followed by an evangelistic service inside.

Of late, "Pleasant Saturday evening concerts" have been held, to counteract the influence of the saloon and that with encouraging success. The attendance is steadily increasing and though the work is indeed "bread cast upon the waters," there have been some cheering results.

No personal appeal having thus far been made on behalf of the work. But from time to time offerings have been handed in and the work has gone forward under the blessing of God.

The Workers are very desirous of enlarging the scope of the mission by establishing a reading room and providing a shelter. This cannot be done without assistance. The needs of the mission itself will appeal to any who are made acquainted with what is being done.

What are you willing to do to counteract the influence of the saloon? The Recorder will be pleased to open up a contribution list on behalf of this work. Offerings may be sent to the secretary, Mr. F. Lovick, Yates street, Victoria, or to Mr. W. T. Andrews, manager of the British American Paint Works, Victoria, or to Rev. W. H. Barraclough, 68 David street, Victoria.

On Mr. J. W. Bengough's visit to the city, November 25th, he came down on the Saturday evening and assisted in the programme, giving in addition to a very entertaining recital, some eleven sketches of the "Modern Prodigal Son." These pictures were in themselves object lessons, but the earnest words of exhortation and advice with which they were presented, will not soon be forgotten by those who were present. Prodigals there are, ay! so many of them on this coast and in this city, and yet not so far gone as to be unresponsive to the appeal of a loving heart. A number have been, we believe, savingly converted, and though in most cases, after having come to themselves they have gone back to the old home of boyhood "the

father's house," we have heard from some of them and it has brought joy to our hearts.

The work has been carried on upon "faith lines."

The following is a statement of the finances of the movement since its commencement:

### HERALD STREET METHODIST MISSION

Abstract of Accounts from Nov., 1898, to Nov., 1899.  
RECEIPTS.  
1898: Nov. 24.

Thanksgiving Collection ..... \$ 5 15  
Subscriptions ..... 12 00  
Mission Concert ..... 5 70  
1899 April to Nov. 30.  
Trave' Subscriptions and Donations 60 70  
1899 June 19.

Help Given refunded ..... 1 25  
\$90 80  
\$90 80

### PAYMENTS.

1898 Nov. 31.  
Given in Relief ..... \$16 00  
1898 Dec. 31.  
Gas and Fuel ..... 6 85  
1899 June 17.  
Sankey's Hymn Books Purchased... 9 00  
1899 June to October.  
Rent of Mission Hall, five months. 25 00  
Help Given in Cash and Goods..... 20 25  
\$77 10  
Cash in Treasurer's hands ..... 13 70  
\$90 80

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Heathenism has been so swept away in Fiji that the visitor cannot believe that these people, polite as Parisians and honest as Norwegians, were wild cannibals a generation ago. Now, out of 112,000 Fijians, over 100,000 attend Christian worship; how, where fifty years ago there was not one Christian, there is today not one avowed heathen; how there are over 1,200 places of Chris-

tian worship, and not one cannibal oven or heathen temple! And yet Christian missions are "a great failure"! Is it not rather those who decried missions? - Rev. Dr. Pierson.

### VANCOUVER.

(A pen picture by Rev. E. E. Scott.)

Vancouver is a very pretty place to live in. The mountains looking down like solemn sentinels upon the city with its bustle and life, the couchant lions smiling upon the peaceful harbor with its magnificent pageantry of shipping, where every kind of craft may be seen, from the long Indian canoe, the yacht, the launch, the barge, the side and end-wheel steamers, up to those majestic floating palaces the ocean liners; then the Bay with its splendid facilities for boating and bathing, the Park with its giant trees and weird forms of vegetation, crowded with cosmopolitan life and dressing, where can be seen the common sailor in his yellow tarpaulin, and the jolly tar from the gunboat in his wide blue breeches, the Chinaman in clogs and pig-tail with sleeves a foot too long, swinging as if his arm had been taken off at the elbow, the Syrian in his fez, the Jap with his coal black hair, the African, the half-breed, the siwash, dirty, greasy tobacco-grimed in nondescript apparel; every nation nearly, represented, all stations in life illustrated, surely the city with its internal life and surroundings is enough to quicken the pulse-beat in any man.

The purple haze upon the hills, the kaleidoscope changes of the clouds and vapors wreathing the summits of the mountains, the panoramic sunsets arching the whole northern Pacific with crimson and gold, the yellowish-white of the summer evenings, the flame-colored crest of Mount Baker in the distance, the thousands of white sails dotting the mouth of the Fraser and stretching away as far as the eye can see over the silvery sheen of the Gulf, these are pictures to tempt an artist and rouse the slumbering sense of beauty in the most sluggish spirit.

## Just to Hand.



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