

with the success of the past year, and the tokens of encouragement in regard to the future.

A few days before my departure, I experienced a literal illustration of Matt. vii. 27. After a long drought the rain descended copiously, and a warm wind at the same time melting the snow on the adjacent mountains, Williams' Creek suddenly overflowed its channel, flooding the Mission Rooms, inside and out. As the bed of the creek was higher than the foundation of the rooms, and rapidly rising by the abundant descent of tailings from mining claims above, I saw at once that the Parsonage would soon be under ground if left where it was; so with the timely aid of some kind friends, I took it down and moved it, with contents, to a higher and safer position. With myself you have doubtless been cheered by hearing that Bro. Derrick's noble friends raised \$400 and presented him the deed of another and a better house (founded on a rock) within one week of his return home. This was done in a quiet and handsome manner, by special donations, without disturbing the regular Circuit income.

I have visited the New Westminster Mission twice since I last wrote you, and was present by special request of Bro. Browning, at his Quarterly Official Meeting last week. This Mission embraces a district of great resources, which I trust may at no distant period form several important Circuits. At present there are some local difficulties, which cause our excellent machinery to drag somewhat heavily, but I earnestly hope the Master will overrule or remove these hindrances to the praise of His own name.

INDIAN WORK.

Bro. Crosby, with restored health, is laboring with wonted zeal among the natives and settlers at Sumas and Chilliwack, amidst much opposition from the Romish priests, and some signs of success. He is in the new and commodious church, which was commenced (i.e. the subscription) about a year ago, and opened by Bro. Russ during the past quarter, free of debt. It is built in a central position, and, for the present, is used by both whites and Indians. As the natives and the colonists in those parts are so inter-

mixed that it is highly important that the whole should be worked together under one superintendence, the sooner the recommendation of our last District Meeting to divide the New Westminster Circuit, and make Chilliwack the head of a new Mission, is carried into effect the better. Much labor and money may be saved by this arrangement, and the whole of our work on the lower Fraser consolidated and managed with more harmony and success.

WORK IN VICTORIA, NANAIMO, AND INDIAN CLASSES.

On my way home I spent a few days at Victoria, and supplied for Bro. Russ last Sunday, and allowed him to accept of the hospitalities of Mr. Finch, the worthy Methodist Captain, who commands the splendid new steamer *Olympia*, and see and preach to our American friends on the other side of Puget Sound.

I was much pleased to find the Victoria Circuit in a healthy and progressive state. The membership and hearers have greatly increased since our District Camp-meeting, and there is a corresponding increase in the circuit and trust receipts, and a very considerable reduction off the old church debt. I was also delighted to find the work extending in o the country, and some effort being made to get hold of the Indians and Chinese who live in and near the city. On this circuit, which still includes Maple Bay Mission, we have been much encouraged during the past quarter. My young friend, Bro. Clarkson, who left a lucrative business and came to our aid just when it seemed impossible to sustain the work without a second preacher, has labored with much cordiality and usefulness, and is getting on well with his studies. We have had some additions among the whites since I last wrote; but it is in the Indian work that God has given us his richest blessings. The one class has become three, embracing over forty members, the greater part of whom are very hopeful. As the wild heathen dancing of the winter has now commenced, I shall not be surprised if the desperate effort to seduce professors is in some cases successful; but the days of pagan customs are nearly numbered in the Nanaimo camp.