

MINISTERIAL MINIATURE

Rev. Peter Wright, D.D. of Kitsilano, Vancouver

THE MAN AND HIS MESSAGE

By D. A. Chalmers

In beginning a series of articles on the Ministers of the West, the first difficulty that presents itself to the writer is not whom to write about, but whom to select from among men well worthy of place in our pages. And if that observation is true of British Columbia itself, it is still more pertinent when we consider our wider field, including the neighboring provinces that lean westward, and naturally look toward British Columbia in general, and Vancouver city in particular, as their outlets to the ocean and the greater world beyond.

Yet, with all our wealth of choice, not only in the West, but in our home centre of Vancouver city itself, we have had no trying task in choosing the subject of our first sketch, for we are not to be actuated by any inferior consideration as to whether a minister's position may fairly be termed "an east-windy, west-endy" kind of place. Rather, we shall ask,—Is he a man, not of sound and self-assertion, but a man with a mission in life, and a message to men? Does he, whatever his type and his method of exposition, proclaim the living, loving truth of the grand old Gospel of grace? Not, are the "pillars" of that church men of "pride or poverty,"—purse-proud poor, or poor pride-full? But rather,—Is it a Church standing for Service, Soundness, and the sane, soul-satisfying Christianity of Christ?

So far as these things can be ascertained by repeated opportunities of hearing a man, and by the verifying of facts and figures as to the past progress and present living work of the congregation, the writer of these articles hopes he may find this part of his work as congenial in future cases as it has proved to be for the opening sketch of the series.

"Fatherly" is the first and most fitting word that comes to one in contemplating the personality of Dr. Wright. Apparently his years are not short of the three score and ten, but age has not dim-