

## BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT.

*From the Rev. C. Bryant, dated Sumas, B. C., July 21st, 1873.*

I ought to have acknowledged your very kind and useful letter before, but I assure you that its valuable and fatherly counsels shall not be forgotten in the prosecution of my work.

We held our annual camp-meeting at Chilliwack since my last. It began the same day as the opening of the late Conference at London. The Chairman of the District and Bro. Thompson from Victoria Circuit, cheered us with their presence and help,—for their ministrations were much blessed of God,—while Bro. Crosby, with his wonted zeal, laboured for the salvation of our Indian friends, assisted by Bro. Tate from Nanaimo. The attendance was limited, but the salutary effect of the meeting, the melting and subduing influence, the converting and sanctifying power,—felt both by Indians and whites,—will never be forgotten. The result may not be seen in an augmented membership; but the religious life of the Church has been quickened and revived. The meeting was also enlivened by a number of Indian converts from Victoria, who belong to a tribe near Fort Simpson, on the north-west coast of this Province. Their experiences were glowing testimonies of the power of saving grace to raise the foulest and vilest into "Abraham's sons," and thrilled all our hearts by their glad witness-bearing for Christ. May the Great Head of the Church enable us to enter the door which he has opened for us among this people! By the conversion of these Indians at Victoria, we hear the Macedonian cry coming from thousands of their perishing brethren on the north-west coast; and by these conversions, too, we have the earnest of a mighty harvest of souls, which might be garnered for heaven if we could only send among them reapers to do the work. Shall we hear their

piteous cry for help and allow it to pass by unheeded? Or shall not the Church apply itself at once to the work of claiming fresh trophies and new honors for its Lord, from the thousands who are lying in the heathen darkness of the regions beyond? We have such a field as this lying untilled upon our borders, and it is a duty incumbent upon us as a church to enter it and cultivate it, so that "the wilderness and the solitary place may be glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose."

While Bro. Russ has been representing this District at Conference, I have supplied his Circuit for one month; and during another month, I have been trying to supply Bro. Crosby's place here, while he rendered similar service for Bro. Russ. The unusual number of emigrant farmers who have lately settled in the district of New Westminster, and the large population engaged in the lumber trade at Burrard's Inlet, will find abundant labor for Bro. Russ and his newly-appointed colleague, Bro. Turner. We, too, are expecting a similar increase of population, as all available land is being eagerly sought out by intending settlers, and consequently our Circuit will continue to increase and embrace a wider area.

We are hoping, under the Divine blessing, to increase our Circuit receipts this year by an advance of \$100, being an increase in similar ratio to that of last year. While thankful for this, as for every other evidence of Divine favor, yet we would not rest satisfied with mere financial prosperity, but would covet the higher and richer gift of spiritual power—the endowment of the Holy Ghost!

I thank you again for the kind interest displayed in your letter.

*From the Rev. A. E. Russ, dated New Westminster, Sept. 18th, 1873.*

The Circuit hails with good cheer the arrival of Brother J. Turner as a fellow-laborer on this field. Already new appointments are entered upon; one at Hastings, and one on the

South Arm; thus the Circuit is enlarging, and the sowers are looking for fruitful showers and "times of refreshing."

What was once the North-West Cir-