

A TOUR

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

1860.

VISIT TO BRITISH COLUMBIA—THE MAIN LAND.

May 19.—Reached New Westminster at eight. Considerable increase in buildings was manifest beyond those existing at my former visit; there were several steam-boats and a barque, the *Perkins*, of Francisco; we could not get near the wharf, it was raining hard. I walked up to the Camp and found Colonel and Mrs. Moody and the Governor at breakfast; I was kindly and hospitably welcomed.

May 20, Sunday.—I preached three times—in the morning at nine, to the soldiers; at eleven at the Court-house; at seven at the Camp. I attended also, the afternoon service; at this latter were present two young Chinese, three coloured men (Africans), and others; Mr. Sheepshanks preached.

LAYING CORNER-STONE OF TRINITY CHURCH, NEW WESTMINSTER.

May 22.—A lovely day; at a quarter to eleven his Excellency the Governor, Colonel Moody, and officers, walked towards the town from the Camp, were met by the Committee and Mr. Sheepshanks, and proceeded to the ground. The site of the new Church is a very beautiful one in Victoria Gardens, and, commanding an extensive view, will be a most prominent object from the river to steamers arriving from the sea; at present two deep ravines are on either side, around it are large stumps of trees, and the ground is entirely unlevelled. Here the frame of the flooring had been laid, being massive sills on thick short columns of wood. Under one of these "pinnings," the south-east outer corner of the porch was laid, the stone of granite; a bottle of coins, with inscription, was inserted. The Governor was received by a guard of engineers; there were assembled about 300; Chinese, Indians, and other nations, being represented. The same form of service was used as at St. John's, Victoria; the service was commenced by Mr. Sheepshanks, and the Bishop followed. The Governor laid the stone. Addresses were delivered by the Governor, the Bishop, and Colonel Moody; concluding with the doxology and blessing.

I went up the Brunette in a canoe; this is a beautiful stream, the banks were covered with verdure and overhanging trees; amongst others, a wild apple was in full blossom with white flowers—very like in appearance to our