

northward to Lake Lebarge, where he and his party built boats by which to float down to Dawson.

The Rev. John Pringle was designated about the middle of March, and proceeded to Glenora with little delay. He travelled from Fort Wrangel, drawing his sleigh with 400 lbs. of supplies up the Stikine River to Glenora—150 miles—and began work at Glenora and Telegraph Creek. Because a fleet of boats is to ply between Fort Wrangel and Glenora and a road is to be built connecting Glenora with Teslin Lake—Teslin being the head of navigation down to Dawson—it is likely that at Glenora and Teslin towns will spring up.

The Rev. J. Sinclair was designated at Ottawa, and will leave Vancouver on the 15th for Skaguay.

In overtaking the religious wants of this wide region, it should be our aim to occupy strategic points like Dawson, Selkirk, Teslin, Glenora, Bennett, etc., first, and then extend as circumstances suggest. Dease Lake, Big Salmon River, Stewart River, Hootalinqua River, the upper reaches of the Kloudyke River and other gold-bearing streams require attention. Until the policy of the Government in this matter of providing transportation is known, caution in completing arrangements is desirable; but the Committee should be ready to act promptly as soon as the way is clear, else much of the advantage already gained may be lost.—Assembly Report.

#### Sickness—Nurses.

The reports sent by missionaries, and private and press communications, show that there has been a great deal of sickness and suffering and that the means for coping with disease are primitive and inadequate. The people of the United States may be relied on to build hospitals and provide nurses in the coast cities; they have done so at Dawson, thinking that town was in Alaska. It is pleasing to report that the Victorian Order of Nurses has sent four nurses already, under the patronage, and at the personal expense of His Excellency the Governor-General. The women of the Presbyterian Church in Canada are perfecting arrangements to send two nurses, to be followed by others if required. By his means, suffering will be alleviated, lives spared, and Christian work advanced. The Rev. A. S. Grant, who has received a medical training, did much in this way while on the route to Dawson.

"Mr. Grant is doing Missionary work all along the road, his destination being Dawson. Mr. Dickey's place at Skaguay will be filled by Mr. Sinclair. Mr. Pringle goes on to Teslin and Mr. Dickey to Selkirk. Other points will be supplied, as far as possible, in the near future."

Rev. Mr. Pringle writes as follows:—

"Steamer 'Amur,' en route to Wrangel,  
"Saturday, March 19th, 1898.

"In an hour and a half I shall be in Wrangel—on Monday I shall be one of a thousand camped on Cottonwood Island, at the mouth of the Stikine, waiting for the trail to harden so that they can proceed. The American Church is established at Wrangel, gives morning service to the Indians and evening service to the white population and birds of passage like myself. The only Church there, besides, is the Roman Catholic. It will be unnecessary for me to do anything there. I shall, as soon as possible, start for Glenora, and shall try to make by it the first Sunday of April. I have taken measures which will ensure us a church site at that point. Mr. J. T. Bethune, formerly of Fort William, an elder of St. Andrew's, Victoria, will attend to this interest for us. He will see the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Victoria, and will if his Company's reserve is more convenient than Government property, give us a site himself.

"I shall, with others, start afoot from Wrangel, if it is possible to proceed at all. The general opinion is that while the trail is unfit for horses, it is possible for those who travel afoot. I have a reversible sleigh—sleigh on one side, toboggan on the other and when I am in my harness will be able to draw my stuff with considerable ease."

The fourth Missionary appointed, Rev. Mr. Sinclair, having only left in May, when this report was going to press, will be heard from shortly.

It is impossible to make permanent appointments to the different fields that need supply—Skaguay, Lake Bennett, Teslin, Glenora, Dawson, etc. When Mr. Pringle left Winnipeg, it was fully expected that the railway between Glenora and Teslin was to be built; and Mr. Pringle was to establish a cause at Glenora, and then, after a month or six weeks, push on to Teslin and get work organized there, Glenora being occupied by another missionary. The defeat of the Yukon Railway bill interfered with our plans somewhat, and it is considered advisable to wait additional light.

When last heard from the Rev. A. S. Grant was at Lake Bennett; but he was to push on to Lake Lebarge to attend to the building of boats with which to sail down to Dawson. At Lake Bennett he had a church built—a wooden frame covered with tenting—probably the only church of the kind belonging to the Presbyterian body. At the opening service there were twenty-six present—twenty-one men and five women. Major Walsh and his party attended in a body.

"The Committee await further and fuller information as to railway extension and the more important centres likely to be occupied, and the opinions and advice of the Missionaries already on the ground, before making other appointments."