

# British American Presbyterian.

Vol. 3.—No. 21.]

TORONTO, CANADA, FRIDAY JULY, 3, 1874

[Whole No. 125

## Details of Home Mission Work of the O. P. Church, 1873-74.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Your Committee have not succeeded during the year in obtaining another Missionary for British Columbia. As only one application was made, they did not feel warranted in making an appointment. Mr. Jamieson still occupies New Westminster and the adjacent stations of North Arm and Langley. Very little progress has been made during the past year. In a letter received from Mr. Jamieson since the April meeting of the Home Mission Committee, he says: "I have been engaged during the past year in conducting services at the usual stations. These have been so often reported upon, that it is unnecessary to repeat them. The changes are very few. There has been some increase to the population, but few of them belong to our church. I have had, however, more than the usual amount of discouragements to contend with. But for the great disappointment in the railway, one might reasonably have expected to see a different state of affairs throughout the Province, and a consequent increase of more encouraging material for religious organizations. The floating character of the population demands the exercise of more than ordinary faith. While there has been much toil-some labor, the past twelve years, there has been little or no opportunity for interesting results. Ours is in fact an itinerant mission, with this difference, that while the minister is stationary the people are constantly moving. It would not, however, be right to conclude that our labor or the expenditure of so much money by the church have been in vain, because our membership and attendance are comparatively small at any time."

The financial statement submitted by the managers of the congregation from January 1st, 1873, to March 31st, 1874, is as follows.

### RECEIPTS.

LANGLEY SETTLEMENT.	
Subscriptions.....	\$ 78 76
Sabbath Collections.....	26 75
	\$100 75
NORTH ARM SETTLEMENT.	
Subscriptions.....	\$ 95 00
Sabbath Collections.....	26 13
	\$121 13
NEW WESTMINSTER CITY.	
Subscriptions.....	\$264 00
Sabbath Collections.....	312 87
	\$476 87
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Pew Rent, Interest, &c....	69 25
Total	\$767 25

EXPENDITURE.	
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Light, Fuel, Insurance, &c.....	\$ 81 60
Interest.....	72 60
Charges, Sale of Manse.....	6 50
Special Collection, paid over Foreign Mission and Hospital.....	26 12
Sunday School Papers.....	5 00
Travelling Expenses.....	88 00
Salary of Minister.....	468 00
Balance on hand.....	25 13
Total	\$767 25

The last General Assembly fixed Mr. Jamieson's salary at \$1,000 in addition to the \$600 which it was expected the congregation would raise. Of the amount, as will be seen by the financial statement, only \$468 has been paid. Mr. Jamieson writes that on this account, coupled with the high rate of living, he has incurred a good deal of debt to several parties for supplies of necessaries, besides using a legacy of \$200 left him by a member of the Church, which otherwise would have been invested for his support. Accompanying the financial statement, the Committee of the Church sent the following communication, which may guide the Assembly in its action regarding the Mission:—

New Westminster, B.C., 18th March, 1874.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of St. Andrew's Church to forward to you the enclosed statement of receipts and expenditure of the Mission Station here, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church, and at the same time to lay before you some facts relative to the present and prospective state of the Mission.

As the statement will show, the total amount paid as salary to our pastor, Rev. Jamieson, since the beginning of 1873, is \$468, with the \$1,000 per annum, which he receives from the Canada Presbyterian Church, makes \$1,718 for fifteen months, an amount altogether inadequate for his support, in this country, where many of the necessities of life are so expensive; and the Committee hope to raise a much larger sum during the year upon which we have entered. The congregation in the Province is drawn, in however increasing rapidly, though slowly as yet, and the Committee trust that, prospering with the prosperity which has lately begun to dawn upon the Province, the Presbyterian Church in New Westminster will soon see brighter days.

The Committee feel sure that you would not be so slow to see the work of the church here, and the majority of the different congregations gathered into other folds, and labor and expenditure of so many years, yet failing additional help from the other church, it is difficult to see how a favorable result can be expected. The Committee would, therefore, respectfully request you to consider carefully the following proposition, viz: That the Canada Presbyterian Church should make good last year's (1873) and make an allowance of \$1,000 instead of \$1,000 for the year 1874

and 1875. This will involve an expenditure, in excess of the amount provided for under the present arrangement, of a little more than \$500, and will, we confidently believe, be the means of maintaining and establishing, in this distant corner of the earth, a representative of our beloved church.

The Province of British Columbia, owing to causes, into a statement of which it is impossible to enter here, was in a very depressed condition at the time of its confederation with Canada. From that depression it is now recovering. Large public works are being undertaken both by the Dominion and Provincial Governments; new settlers are constantly arriving in the country, and a healthier tone pervades the entire community. These things make it peculiarly desirable that the work carried on for so many years, under great difficulties and at great expense, should not be abandoned now, when, so far as human eyes can see, the harvest is at hand.

### MANITOBA.

The Committee are able to report encouraging progress in the North-West. Mr. Ure, of Godrich, and your convenor, visited the Province last July in reference to the location of the Manitoba College, and while prosecuting their special mission, embraced the opportunity of preaching in nearly all the stations, and assisting the brethren in evangelistic work. But for the entire failure of the crops in certain localities, rendering the people unable to give for ordinances to the extent expected, a much larger amount would have been contributed to the Home Mission Fund. The Mission stations of Little Britain, Headingly and Parks Creek, and the new settlements of Rockwood, Springfield and Sunnyside, are all within the region, which had no harvest on account of the grasshopper visitation, and hence were much crippled. From the annual report presented to the Presbytery of Manitoba, by Prof. Bryce, and subsequently laid before the Home Mission Committee, the following extracts are made, indicating the progress of the various stations during the past year.

### WINNIPEG.

Winnipeg, as the locality that has received the greatest addition to its population during the past year, has advanced most rapidly in church matters. The congregation has gone on steadily increasing, and has added thirty-four to the roll of members during the year, and has thus received in all eighty-five members. It may be mentioned that, without doubt, the number would have been considerably increased but for the congregation being without a settled pastor.

The congregation has so increased that it was found necessary, in November, to add a wing, so that now the church holds about 350 persons. It has about eighty families and one hundred single persons. The pews are nearly all let; the congregation is influential, and has been energetic and liberal during the past year. As it has declared its intention of being self-supporting it now comes under the head of "Vacant Congregations." The expenses of one candidate (\$120) were paid. The amount due to Mr. Moodie for the first three months of the church year, as assistant to Prof. Bryce, of \$150, was paid, and the congregation is paying for the present supply from the Home Mission Committee at the rate of \$1,500 per annum. This total contribution for all purposes from March 31st to March 31st for the congregation may be set down at \$2,800. After meeting what the congregation considered its fair share of expenses, it was decided at the annual meeting to make a donation of \$400 to Prof. Bryce for the attention shown by him in beginning and managing the congregation. This was the more acceptable that the high rate of living in Winnipeg requires it. The resolution adopted at the meeting was as follows: "That this congregation tender their hearty thanks to Rev. Professor Bryce for his zealous and assiduous services on behalf of the congregation, in the pulpit and otherwise, and as a token of their appreciation thereof beg to tender him the sum of \$400 to be paid from the ordinary revenue of the church." The congregation, during the past year, chose three elders, who were ordained and inducted, and Prof. Bryce as moderator of session has still a supervision of the congregation. A Missionary Association has been formed in connection with the congregation, and a strong committee of the congregation for giving advice and assistance to immigrants did good service. The Sabbath School, from a mere handful a year ago, has grown with great rapidity; it has now a well organized and capable staff of twelve teachers; it has eighty scholars; it uses the international series of lessons, and is well supplied with books, catechisms and Sabbath School literature; its teachers have monthly meetings, and the regular, stated sermon is preached to the children.

The supply of the past year has been considerably varied. Messrs. Ure and Cochran, Commissioners to Manitoba; Messrs. Macdonnell and Carmichael, Rev. Mr. Smith, of Fond du Lac, Rev. Dr. Clarke, and Rev. Mr. Robertson, have each done good service. Of the \$2,800 raised during the year by the congregation, \$1,000 has been expended in additions to the church. Within the last twenty-one months between \$1,800 to \$2,000 have been expended in building and clearing of the small debt previously on the church. The church is now unencumbered. The Trustees have taken steps to obtain the title from the Hudson Bay Company.

### LITTLE BRITAIN AND PARKS CREEK.

This congregation, under the care of Rev. Mr. Fraser, has done moderately well during the past year. \$100 toward the Home Mission Fund was the amount the Presbytery could obtain on account of the harvest being an absolute failure and almost all de-

pending on this as their only resource. It is presumed the people will have some difficulty in living the winter through comfortably. They have with unusual zeal gone forward with a very substantial stone church, which was very much needed upon which, however, there is remaining a debt of \$1,500. This point is the probable site of a town, and the hold thus taken by the erection of a good church is not only a present advantage but a considerable prospective one as well. The congregation has added, between the two stations, Little Britain and Parks Creek, fifteen to its roll during the past year.

### ROCKWOOD.

When the report was given a year ago this station was reported as about to begin a church. The church is erected, though not finished in time for services during the present winter, the congregation here is not large, but the position is a very important one as being the key to a large extent of country, of thirteen townships open to settlement. To the north of it are the Townships of Victoria and Greenwood, where twice during the past winter we had service and which promise to be important fields. West of Rockwood also is a new settlement, Woodlands, where we have never had service. In Rockwood we have maintained a regular fortnightly service for the past year.

### SPRINGFIELD AND SUNNYSIDE.

Since last year Sunnyside has been added as a new station. Although this region has a small Episcopal Church erected in it, we have almost exclusive command of the people. These townships have organized as a municipality. The establishment of the second station has had the effect of retarding the erection of the church which was planned last year; it has been found necessary to have two churches, and matters are now clear and favorable for such a result. It may be necessary to explain that in the prairie settlements the fixing of sites is a most difficult matter. The tendency to scatter among the settlers in a country where there is a road in any direction is marvellous and seriously affects rapid advance in the formation of congregations. It was found necessary on account of the importance of this field to remove Rev. Mr. Donaldson from Headingly and station him at Springfield. This cannot fail to be most advantageous for this locality. Already the Springfield church is under way and will be fit for service by the middle of summer. Sunnyside has also decided on building a church of its own. Should a year or even two years from now see two churches and two fair congregations in this region, it must be confessed that this will be a rapid development, when it is considered that the settlement is not two years old yet. During the past year the congregation was formed, communion dispensed and a Roll containing nine communicants made out. This congregation has pledged itself to raise \$150 next year and in all probability this will be exceeded.

### HEADINGLY.

This station has just about held its own during the past year. It has at present no station which can be connected with it; though a reference to the map will show that it is the nearest point to what is likely to be a good settlement, "The Boyne." For nine months of the past year the Rev. Mr. Donaldson has supplied this congregation and has paid two visits to the Boyne thirty miles away. About New Year it was found necessary, as already noted, to remove Mr. Donaldson to Springfield. Since that time Headingly has been supplied every Sabbath; although fifteen miles distant from Winnipeg the journey has been made in all kinds of weather, without a failure. At no time a very hopeful congregation it has maintained its place fairly. During the past year Sabbath School and the regular ordinances have been maintained and the communion dispensed.

Headingly has been charged with the amount deducted from Mr. Donaldson's quarterly salary, and being in the *famine district*, has probably done its share, at least as well as we have ever been able to induce it to do, by raising \$75.

### BOYNE.

As will be seen by the map this is an isolated settlement. Could we occupy it the people are prepared to put up a little church, and we could count on probably the greater part of the settlement. Our plan of supplying it would be to have a missionary able to endure hardship stationed at Headingly, to go on alternate Sabbaths to the Boyne, and have on that Sabbath Headingly supplied from Winnipeg. As soon as spring opens should the supply of men be great enough we intend doing what we can for this district.

### POPULAR GROVE, ETC.

This is the first of the settlements on the Lake of the Woods road east from Winnipeg. We have during the past winter held service on a few occasions at this point. From the colporteur of the Bible Society, who is a Kildonan elder and who made a religious census of the new settlements, we learn that there were fifty-one Presbyterians, old and young, in this district last summer, &c., in the region over some thirty miles. The settlements, of course, are only beginning. This region, lying as it does on the Dawson route and on the probable line of one of the first branches of the Canadian Pacific, will soon be filled with settlers. All that we can do for this region must be from Winnipeg for some time, unless we can have an itinerant missionary employed.

### PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, HIGH BLUFF, AND BURNSIDE.

These three points have all been under the care of the Rev. Mr. Mathieson. There has been a good deal of development in this

field, particularly in the western part of it. Poplar Point, where we have a few people, has been occasionally supplied.

High Bluff is a good station. It has spent a considerable amount upon its church and manse combined, and will, it is hoped, have them ready for occupancy during the present summer. A grant from the Building Fund has been made to this congregation. This congregation has a glebe of some fifty acres. The missionary supplies this station fortnightly.

Portage La Prairie. This congregation is not very large, but worships in its own church, and has service every Sabbath; it is an important point and has a new settlement rising a few miles north of it.

Burnside, though the newest, is the strongest station of this group; it has developed very much during the year. A church is now being erected there; the material is mostly upon the ground and the application has been made to the Church Building Fund.

In this group of stations elders were elected, and the whole constituted a congregation. All the elders (6) elected have not accepted, but last week those who did were ordained and inducted, and the first session in our western district thus organized, the first of many more to be. An application for a division of this extensive field was made at last meeting of Presbytery, and a deputation consisting of Messrs. Robertson and Fraser was appointed to visit them, with explicit instructions that unless the field contributed largely in excess of present amounts we could not afford them another missionary. During the past year the amount to be raised by this group of stations was \$270, and this has been deducted from the salary of their missionary in his quarterly payments. The deputation appointed to visit these stations has just returned, and reports encouraging things, viz: that the group of stations will raise at least \$600 during the coming year. At next meeting of Presbytery we hope the field may be divided, as it is very extensive for one missionary.

### PALESTINE, PINE CREEK, AND 2ND CROSSING (WHITE MUD).

In this region Rev. Mr. McNabb was laboring successfully until poor health compelled him to resign. After his removal, with the exception of two Sabbaths' preaching, we were unable to give this region any supply until the coming of Rev. Mr. Robertson in January. The Home Mission Committee, in order that Knox Church might have an opportunity of hearing the Rev. Dr. Clarke, who had been supplying Knox Church for about a month, before Mr. Robertson's arrival, sent the latter gentleman west for five weeks. Mr. Robertson with great energy and acceptance visited the field, encouraged the people and brought down to the Presbytery a petition signed by nearly ninety persons praying to be organized into a supplemented congregation. This settlement of thirty scattered families are willing to contribute about \$825 in the first year, and wish to call a minister, which the Presbytery encouraged them to do. From what has been said in regard to this western district the Committee may see that a way is opening up for us of getting congregations out of the leading strings of being mission stations, and of encouraging them to move towards supporting their own ministers. We shall, we trust, be able in the coming year to get several congregations on their own feet in this way.

- 1.—Winnipeg is so already raising \$1500 per annum.
- 2.—Palestine, &c., (promises \$325 for first year).
- 3.—Burnside and Portage La Prairie (promise \$400 for first year).
- 4.—High Bluff, Poplar Point, &c., probably only \$200 promised yet).
- 5.—Headingly and Boyne (probably \$200—150 each).
- 6.—Little Britain, &c., (almost certain of \$300, but on account of the famine we can do nothing with them just now).
- 7.—Springfield and Sunnyside (certainly \$150).

In all probability at next meeting of Presbytery we may make some suggestions towards working out a scheme of managing those congregations that will call and become supplemented charges. It has required much perseverance and patience with some of them, but matters are looking favourable now. It would not be just to pass without notice Rev. Mr. Robertson, in this connection, who has in the few weeks of his visit west done invaluable service.

In order to accomplish these ends we need more men, and if we succeed, there can be no doubt that much advancement will result. As before urged by the Presbytery, we need three more missionaries, and will, we trust, be able to sustain at least two of them, with our increased contributions, on a sum not greater than that drawn from the Fund during the year now closing.

### EDUCATIONAL WORK.

Our College Board and Senate will report fully to the Assembly. We may more fully advert to the College work. Prosperity has been again vouchsafed to us: thirty-four students have this season been entered on the roll, and the work done has been the most satisfactory in the history of the College. Our differences of opinion in regard to the site of the College have not injured it at all, and the removal, should the Assembly so decide, will take place under the most favourable auspices. Our Ladies' School (not in formal connection with the Church) has also been very successful. There have been in attendance thirty pupils this year. From it will result nearly \$1000 this year; but our expenditures in beginning, keeping up, and paying teachers' wages (over \$800 for salaries alone) is heavy. We

have not acknowledged gratefully assistance sent us from home. The religious census of pupils in attendance has been: Presbyterians, ten; Roman Catholics, ten; Church of England, seven; Wesleyans, three. Not only have we reclaimed most of the Protestant girls from the Nuns' School, but it will be observed we have carried the war into the enemy's country. We insert a paragraph from the leading paper of the country, for last week, conducted by one not connected with us at all, and showing the public sentiment. It says:

"Manitoba College, under the auspices of the Presbytery, located at Kildonan, four miles from Winnipeg, might be rated with the best Ontario High Schools or even Upper Canada College, of Toronto. It prepares students for matriculation and though but three years in existence, is doing a large amount of work. The fees are very reasonable. 'Winnipeg Ladies' School' is an incorporated institution founded by the Presbyterian Church, and provides a superior education, embracing, besides the more solid branches, all the modern accomplishments."

### BUILDING CHURCHES DURING THE YEAR.

- Knox Church has been enlarged.
- Little Britain, church erected.
- Brockwood, church erected.
- BEING ERRECTED NOW.
- Springfield church.
- Burnside church.
- DECIDED TO BE ERRECTED.
- Sunnyside church.
- Palestine church.
- Boyne church (?)

### CHURCH PROPERTY.

Just a year ago the Bill introduced by the Government, at our suggestion enabling us to hold property by Trustees, was passed. Trustees have been appointed and in most cases have taken the steps necessary for procuring titles. Knox Church, Winnipeg, has not yet received its title though occupancy before the transfer ensures us possession, and we hope within three months to have our limits defined—an important matter as the land on which the church stands is worth from \$3000 to \$5000 per acre. At Headingly we have taken the necessary steps; at High Bluff we have made our sworn affidavit. At Portage La Prairie our church is built on a small lot, for which we have made application. It is a disputed claim, but we are likely to hold our own. At Palestine the young and spirited congregation has under contemplation the buying of the McNabb property of 160 acres, with a house on it. Rockwood, and Springfield we have bonds for deeds for our church sites. Kildonan and Little Britain have not yet moved in the matter.

### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MISSIONARIES.

Under the happy arrangements of 1872 there have been working in concert with us the missionaries of the "Presbyterian Church in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland." We are grateful to your committee for the grant of \$200 per annum to Prof. Hart, although it is but a small recompense for the service rendered. Prof. Hart has endeared himself to us all. His services in the College have been invaluable; and his regular and willing help in the mission stations has given us every reason to be satisfied with the arrangements made. Whenever the state of the union question after the Assembly, we trust we may still work together in the common ground of the College; believing that should the union not be consummated at once, it is at least certain within a few years.

The Rev. Dr. Clarke, the second missionary of this church, arrived in this Province in the middle of December, 1873. As there was no minister to supply Knox church, Winnipeg, though another had before this been sent for, Dr. Clarke supplied the congregation for two months and a half. Our cordial thanks are due for the service rendered at such a necessitous time. Dr. Clarke has been sent for a few weeks to Little Britain, to supply the place of Rev. Mr. Fraser, who has gone for the meantime to Palestine.

From the foregoing it is evident that there has been a great outward advance during the year. We regret not being able to do more for the Home Mission Fund; but the unfortunate failure of the crops is our reason. As already stated, the prospects of next year are good. We need a greater outpouring of God's spirit, for amidst our church building and rapid advance we feel a great tendency in ourselves to realize more the seen than the unseen, the temporal rather than the eternal. Brethren, pray more for the missions of the Church. We pledge ourselves to do our utmost to be as independent as the circumstances in which we are placed permit, and our cry is still for more men.

In reference to our work in Manitoba, the Home Mission Committee at its last meeting agreed to recommend to the General Assembly.

1. That the salaries of Missionaries be \$800 per annum for married men, and \$700 for unmarried, men, to take effect on 1st October, 1874.
  2. That the Home Mission Committee be hereafter relieved of the support of Manitoba College.
- The Rev. L. Vincent who has resigned his connection of Saskatchewan Mission, has been engaged for one year, from the first of April, to labour in Manitoba. His salary up to the first of July is assumed by the Foreign Mission Committee.
- Messrs. McKellar and Currie, students of the third year of Knox College, have also been sent to labour in the Province, by the Students' Missionary Society, during the present summer. These welcome additions