

will reach you or not. We arrived at Victoria last Friday. Our four months' journey on the plains, though tedious, was marked by unnumbered mercies. A kind Providence graciously protected both man and beast; and at times our deliverances were so manifest, that all felt the Lord to be our defence. Once, when in the vicinity of the Red River Settlement, a fearful tornado passed over our encampment, destroying life and property. Twice the lightning proved fatal to parties in the neighbourhood where we had pitched our tents. Rivers have been crossed, and hundreds of miles of uninhabited plains traversed; but in the midst of all our loneliness and helplessness, the Lord was our protector.

A Canadian cannot withhold his astonishment that a country so well calculated for agricultural development should, under the banner of enterprising Britain, continue a wild waste. At Red River, though the grasshopper had been very destructive, and the mode of farming most primitive, yet both soil and climate promise a great future. We met parties from the Presbyterian Mission, located near Fort Carlton, carrying samples of wheat to Red River, as good as the best produced in the New Dominion. At Victoria, the crops are excellent. Brother McDougall had one acre of wheat much better than any I have seen in Canada. Now that these western adventurers will have plenty of seed, we may expect more of the staff of life. Our Canadian friends have been most favourably impressed with the appearance of the Saskatchewan. Plenty of room out here for the thousands of young Canadians who find it difficult to procure a home in the fatherland. As a missionary, I have been encouraged by what I have witnessed amongst the inhabitants of this country. Great was the contrast between Bro. McDougall's two Cree boys, and the wild savages we frequently met with on the plains. At Red River, we saw the fruits of missionary effort at Norway House, and in the Saskatchewan. Parties who had been brought to God at these distant points, and whose business had brought them into the settlement, presented a striking con-

trast with the unchristianized natives. Last Sabbath, I had the privilege of preaching to an interesting congregation in the Mission Church at Victoria. Bro. J. McDougall interpreted. I felt I was amongst my own people; the song of praise, first in English and then in Cree; the converted white man sitting side by side with his brother of the plains; the hearty "Amen," with the tear that trickled down many a sun-burnt cheek; and the cordial welcome given to the strangers—all demonstrated that the religion of Jesus bears the same fruit in every land. I am, (D.V.,) to pass the winter at Fort Edmonton, where, through the kindness of Governor McTavish, accommodation will be provided for the missionary. Bro. John McDougall, is anxious to carry out the benevolent designs of the Society, as regards the Blackfeet. He will visit them, if possible, at the Mountain Fort this fall. As an Indian Missionary, he is a power, being perfectly acquainted with the language and habits of many tribes; and having an acquaintance with some of the Blackfeet chiefs, I expect to hear of great things from him. May the Lord continue to signally own his efforts to evangelize the wanderers of these mighty plains! Pray for us my dear brother. What we want is a richer baptism of the Holy Ghost. Great efforts have been made by your Missionaries in this far off land, but greater is the work that remains to be done. Tribes unreclaimed, baptized Christians living without God, multitudes of poor children growing up in the grossest ignorance, and the foundations of a Christian church to be permanently laid in a country where millions of a dominant race will yet make their homes. My prayer is, "Lord help us." From Bro. Steinhaur's mission, I have heard very favourable reports. A converted young Canadian, who came out with us, is going to teach their school this winter. It must be gratifying to the older friends of the cause, to know that Canadian natives, Christianized through their instrumentality, are now successfully preaching the gospel in the far north-west.

We have received marked kindness from the officers of the Hon. H. B. C.