

a religious home in that church—being thus lost to the church of their fathers, traces however, of whose early training and influence they and their descendants retain to the present day. Such names as that of the late Sir James Douglas, Hon. Roderick Finlayson, Hon. Senator McDonald, the late Dr. Tolmie and Chief Factor Wark may be mentioned in this connection. A large number, however, of the first Scottish and Irish colonists remained loyal to the form of service and principles of the Presbyterian church, in spite of these unfavorable conditions. Mr Cridge still resides in Victoria and is now, and has been for some years, the much respected Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal church.

The discovery of gold on the Fraser River about the year 1858, brought British Columbia into prominent notice and attracted a large population from every part of the world.

As early as about the year 1859 or 1860, the duty of appointing a Presbyterian missionary to British Columbia was recognised by the late Dr. Burns, the Convener of the Foreign Mission Committee of that day, and resulted in the offer of the appointment being made to the Rev. D. H. MacVicar, now Principal of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, who had, a short time previously, graduated from Knox College. This being only one of many calls for Mr. MacVicar's services, he was led to accept of that from Knox church, Guelph—a decision, it may be stated in passing—strongly suggestive of what might have been.

As early as the year 1861, the Rev. John Hall, commissioned by the Irish Presbyterian church, arrived in Victoria, where for four years he continued to labour, surrounded by many difficulties, but with not a little success, evidence of which remains to the present in the well organized and active First Presbyterian congregation and its beautiful church edifice. Mr. Hall was followed in 1862 by the Rev. Robert Jamieson, by appointment of the Canada Presbyterian church. He began work at New Westminster on the mainland, where he continued to labour, except for a short time spent in the organization of a congregation and the erection of a church in Nanaimo, amidst the many discouragements incident to the fluctuations of a town mainly dependent upon a restless and constantly changing mining population, until obliged, in May, 1884, in consequence of ill health, to resign his charge. He left, as visible proofs of his ministry, a thoroughly organized and vigorous congregation with a comfortable church and manse. Mr. Jamieson continued to