

has gone to present the claims of the extensive mission field in British Columbia to the sympathy of the Mother Church, and in the hope of obtaining the services of missionaries to labor there. He expects to be absent between two and three months.

SABBATH SCHOOL work in the city churches has been vigorously carried on during the past year. Reports have been presented, showing good results, but we have been unable yet to secure a copy, or get the substance of them either.

P. E. Island.

The Church in P. E. Island has to lament the loss of an active and warm friend in the person of one of her Elders, of whom the Rev. T. Duncan thus writes:—

It is with sincere regret we record the death of the late Alex. Robertson, Esq., St. Peter's Road. For some months he had been in declining health. Still there was nothing to alarm his family, until Monday the 25th ult. Although confined to the house for about a fortnight previously, yet no serious danger was apprehended, his conversation being lively as usual, and the only depressing symptoms being his apparent indifference or inability to walk about as was his wont. On Monday, however, an alarming change was seen to take place about midday, and from that he gradually sank, until in the evening of Wednesday, the 27th, he breathed his last, aged 72. As an old residenter in our midst, as a man of active enterprise, of public spirit, and especially as an elder and warm supporter of our Presbyterian forms in connection with the Kirk, as well as a man of liberal Christian sympathy, it is our duty—however sad at present—and our pleasure—however mingled with sorrow for his decease—to record his name as one who loved his country well, and worked for her prosperity.

Mr. Robertson arrived on the Island, in company with his father, in the year 1818. He was a native of the "Fair City"—as it is called—of Perth, Scotland. Although a young man when he left, yet even to his last hours, how his memory loved to linger around the old scenes of his boyhood, with an affection that time seemed only the more to hal-

low. His native land—old Scotland—was dearer than his city, and I suppose one of the last places—except the Church—in which Mr. R. was seen, was at the annual gathering of the Scottish Society, November last.

Of his politics, it may not be deemed necessary that these columns should say more than that his energy carried him oftentimes into this field, and he was always a warm and steadfast supporter of the cause he espoused. Let his opinions be what they may—and of course men must have British liberty, and will not all agree—yet we can honestly say that his friends, at all events, were often indebted to his warmth and zeal.

In the quieter walks of life—for the political arena is one oftentimes of fierce and unrelenting contest—he took his part first as a member and zealous friend and supporter of the Agricultural Society, where only the higher philanthropies prevail, and where, undisturbed, a farmer can devote a portion of his time and talent and energy to the advancement of the more abiding interests of, at least, one class of the community—his brother farmers. And, of course, in promoting the best education of the district, at all events, in which he lived, he was zealous. We refer to this fact only, because, even his friends being judges, he was one of the prominent men whose presence must be missed.

But valuable as his services in these departments may have been, we would rather record and love to dwell upon his activities in and for the Church of Jesus Christ. The date of his membership cannot be exactly ascertained, but it is many, many years since he professed to have received a change of heart, and made an open confession of "faith in the Lord Jesus." Since then—doubtless with many a conflict—he has held fast that which God had given him, and not many men could show, at proper times, more Christian sympathy. Over twelve years ago, at the formation of a Session for the new Church at St. Peter's Road, he was chosen an elder. The importance of that office, or the opportunities for doing Christian work which it affords, it would be difficult to overrate. In this sphere of Christian action, the writer believes he was diligent and anxious even above the common rate.