

## PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

Notwithstanding many difficulties, the Mission has prospered. Ample testimony is borne to the high character, earnestness, and acceptability of the Clergy of the Diocese. These pages have often chronicled addresses of regard and sympathy from the colonists, showing the Church of England to be held in respect and confidence. Some not originally brought up in her pale are now her zealous sons; and amidst the terrible temptations abounding on the Pacific Coast many will trace their interest in religion to the faithful labours of the Missionary Clergy.

Amongst the native race also the work is subject of thankfulness. There cannot be less than 5,000 *natives under Christian instruction*, where twelve years ago there were none. The Rev. Mr. Good reckons 2,000 in connection with his own station, and nearly as many more with that of the Rev. D. Holmes at Yale. In one of his last letters he writes of having 800 *candidates waiting for Baptism* at the hands of the Bishop. At Cowichan, Alberni, and Nanaimo we may estimate those under instruction at several hundreds, while amongst the Chymseans and Nishkahs are 700 *Christians* who are *baptized and leading exemplary lives*; and many more of surrounding tribes are in the habit of receiving with increasing interest Christian instruction in their visits to Metlacatla, where also converts are now being added through the influence of native teachers.

Although attended with drawbacks and fluctuation, this work cannot but result, under God's blessing, in a large amount of permanent good, spread as it is over a vast area, 600 miles from the Nass River in the north to Victoria in the south, and 700 miles from Alberni in the west to Cariboo near the Rocky Mountains in the east, carried on also amongst a population the most varied in race and intelligence.

## NECESSITY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE MISSION.

This Mission is most necessary, for the colonists are poor, and there are many poorer still who are attracted only by the gambling excitement of the gold mines, and who lead