

lay, and Mr. J. M. Dagleish, their induction taking place on the 31st of October 1886. It was now apparent that the work in Vancouver was sufficient to occupy a minister's whole time. Accordingly in the early part of the following year the union between the two stations was dissolved, and the Vancouver congregation unanimously resolved to call as their first minister the missionary who had been labouring amongst them so faithfully for two years. Mr. Thomson's induction to the charge of the First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, took place on the 20th April, 1887.

The city continued to grow with wonderful rapidity; handsome residences, and substantial blocks of brick or stone were to be seen where but three years before had stood "the forest primeval." The necessity of providing further church accommodation was recognized, and in April 1888 a committee was appointed to arrange for the erection of a second church in the western portion of the city. The first service in the new building was held on Sabbath, 8th July. The new congregation, which had decided to be known as the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, was organized by the authority of the Presbytery of Columbia on the 20th of September; and the communion roll as made up at that date of organization contained the names of forty-eight persons. Mr. John M. Browning, Mr. Donald McAlister, and Mr. John Munro, having been unanimously elected, were inducted to the office of the eldership on the 30th of September. On the 8th of December the congregation extended a call to the writer of this sketch, and he was inducted on the 13th of February, 1889.

Steps were at once taken for the erection of a larger building, and the present St. Andrew's Church was opened for Divine worship on Sabbath, 25th May, the Rev. G. M. Milligan of Toronto conducting the opening services. The church has a seating capacity of 850, and cost about \$26,000. A pipe organ has lately been added at an outlay of upwards of \$4000.

In December, 1889, the First Church became vacant by the removal of the Rev. T. G. Thomson to Ontario. After a vacancy of several months the congregation decided to call the Rev. G. R. Maxwell of Three Rivers, Quebec. The call was accepted and Mr. Maxwell was inducted on the 27th of November, 1890. Under his energetic ministry the mother church bids fair to do more than repair the losses inflicted on her by the formation of new congregations.

All that is needed to complete this short sketch of Presbyterianism in Vancouver is a brief account of what is known as Zion Church, which, like St. Andrew's, is an offshoot from the First Church. In the early part of 1889 a petition was presented to the Puget Sound

Presbytery of the American Presbyterian Church by certain Presbyterians of Vancouver, asking to be erected into a preaching station, under the care of that Presbytery, with the Rev. J. M. McLeod of Charlottetown, P.E.I. as minister in charge. The prayer of the petition was granted and Mr. McLeod, having been received by the Presbytery of Puget Sound, began work in Vancouver in July 1889. At a meeting of the Presbytery of Columbia held last September, Mr. McLeod and his people petitioned to be received into the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Presbytery agreed to receive them, indicating as their sphere of labour a rapidly growing section of the city known as Mount Pleasant.

But in the briefest possible form the history of Presbyterianism in Vancouver is simply this; within five years the small handful of *fifteen communicants* has developed into *three self-sustaining congregations*. "The little one has become a thousand."

Our Mission to Indians in the North-West.

THE total Indian population of Canada is about 120,000—the larger portion inhabiting the great western prairies and B. Columbia. There are probably about 30,000 of these more or less under Christian instruction at the hands of the Methodist, Episcopalian and Presbyterian Churches. The Methodists have been long in the field and are more numerous than either of the others named. Their last missionary report states the number of missionary labourers among the Indians to be twenty-five, and the amount expended for the year. \$48,110.61—fully three times as much as the expenditure by the Presbyterian Church for the same year.

The first Presbyterian mission to the Indians of the N. W. was instituted by the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, (i.e. the Free Church in Canada) in 1865, when the Synod resolved to send one ordained missionary and an interpreter to the Cree Indians at Fort Pitt. In 1866 the Rev. James Nesbit who had for several years been assisting Rev. John Black, the Presbyterian minister at Kildonan and Fort Garry, known as the Red River settlement, was appointed as the first missionary to the Indians of the N. W. Mr. Nesbit selected an Indian settlement on the Saskatchewan,