

under God, even better health than when I left Canada. I am also thankful for the medium of the pen; but, oh! I wish I had one hour with you both, face to face, that I might communicate with you freely and at length in relation to our church and work in this country. Be assured of one thing, I have no complaints to make either as to my appointment,—for that I accepted as from God, though a mysterious and dark hour, humanly speaking, hung over us for the space of some two weeks after our arrival, yet we believe the day is dawning, and that songs of triumph are awaiting us in the future of our labours here,—or of the church, as I find it. But I do thank God that we have a beginning, and that churches are established. Permit me to say, no Wesleyan minister can look upon our church premises in Victoria, and consider the labours of Dr. Evans, which he did with his own hands, under the circumstances, and not feel it consistent to style him, as St. Paul did Tychicus, “A beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellow-servant in the Lord.”

The position of an “Eastern,” as we are called here in this colony, is one of *oppressive isolation*, and where one’s spirit seems to have been so suddenly left alone—alone with its joys and sorrows, for he will feel both. The ministry may be *heavy* in Canada; but it concentrates and intensifies itself here, where one feels the smallness and scatteredness of the church, while confronted with so many adverse forces. Yet we feel lightened as we confidently pray for the “free course” of the word, because the government is on the shoulders of Him who is in our midst, and “mighty to save.”

Our weakness and want of resources, and institutions to educate our youth, and minister to the scattered but increasing population of the colony, both

native and foreign, are at the very foundation of our *felt* embarrassments. Unless you provide—and the sooner the better, for it will have to be done—an Institution of learning, with a M.A. at its head, our church, by the force of circumstances, will be rifled of her youth every year. The Churches of Rome and of England have their colleges planted and operating greatly to our disadvantage. The power and elements of a fine college, such as is demanded here, are in the purses of Canadian Methodists, and, perhaps, could not be consecrated to a better object and one more urgent than that above-named. Without this seat of learning, it will be impossible to raise up an educated ministry and membership here; and we must have a native ministry raised up here also, or else involve your Missionary Society in great and increasing outlays. Those churches are not leading souls to “behold the Lamb of God,” but to behold church absurdities, rationalism, &c. The Bishop of the Catholic Church, expecting to see this colony grow and enlarge, is taking steps to build a Cathedral at a cost of not less than \$50,000. Bishop Hill, of the English Church, has just completed a large building near the Iron Church, for juvenile purposes. Thus you have an intimation of their hopes of this country.

Your appointment to Cariboo is regarded as the redemption of your character as a church, because our people here generally have thought our Conference remiss in not sending a Missionary long ago. So many of our families have husbands and sons in Cariboo, and other interests, that when they saw a Missionary on his way to Cariboo, they expressed great joy, and gave thanks to God. I fully believe that you were directed in the appointment of a Missionary to that field, and from all accounts you have made a good selection as to the man.

SASKATCHEWAN DISTRICT.

Letter from the REV. PETER CAMPBELL, dated Victoria, Saskatchewan, September 15th, 1868.

There is no regular connection between here and Red River until the winter packet comes, except by the

Company’s servants travelling from post to post; I shall, therefore, write at a venture—not knowing whether this