

CALGARY.

Our Canadian Switzerland, which includes Calgary, has many features of interest. Mission movements in the mountains, even as far as the second crossing of the Columbia river, are directed from this centre. Our mountain missionaries have to be chosen for physique as well as for suitable moral qualities. To walk, to paddle a canoe, to sit up all night in a railway car, to climb a mountain, to ride through the valleys and foothills or over the plain on a broncho, or to feel happy in the company of miners, cowboys, or railway men is absolutely requisite. Calgary is increasing in importance as it is becoming a railway centre; Banff is our Canadian Wiesbaden, and has near by valuable coal at Canmore and Anthracite; Medicine Hat is a railway town and centre of Indian trade; Lethbridge and Fort McLeod are on vast deposits of coal, and railway communication is now open to Montana: while north of Calgary is Edmonton, the centre of a beautiful farming district on the North Saskatchewan. All over the prairie stretches between these towns are vast areas to be devoted to horse and cattle ranches and sheep runs. This type of life has its wild and dangerous sides, but our church is specially fortunate in having sent thither such devoted and capable missionaries as Herdman, McQueen, McKillop, McLeod, Gordon and others to show forth Christ in the far west.

SILVER MOUNTAIN MINES.

On the shore of Thunder Bay, Lake Superior, near Fort William, may be seen the picturesque McKay Mountain. This is but the abrupt beginning of a range where are valuable silver mines, viz: Silver Mountain, the Badger and the Beaver, with which Port Arthur is connected by a good wagon road. At each of these mines the population is upwards of one hundred and fifty. Mr. J. S. Hamilton, an Arts student of Manitoba College, has done excellent work during the past summer here. He has also joined to the mines the new settlement of Slate river, with its thirty settlers, most of them Presbyterians, and promising to be the best farming region in a district where there is a great demand for farm produce. Sabbath schools were successfully maintained at the different points. Mr. Hamilton says: "It is very necessary that the mines should be supplied with a missionary remaining throughout the year. In no place are greater opportunities given for the growth of almost every form of sin than in a mining town, where the houses are so close together." The missionary however reports a "respect for service both in attendance and liberality." We are glad to say a missionary has gone to take the place of Mr. Hamilton, who has returned to college.

Rev. A. Lee, Sherbrooke, goes to Kamloops, and Rev. George R. Maxwell, of Three Rivers, to Vancouver.

Our first permanent Home missionary to the Northwest was Rev. John Black in 1851; and first missionary to the Indians, Rev. James Nesbit in 1866.