

have had preaching services since the Rev. E. Robson visited it in 1861. We have, in connection with the forenoon service, a class, and also a Sabbath-school, both of which are regularly met each Sabbath in the absence of the preacher. I also preach in the afternoon at a settler's house, three miles distant, on the east coast of the island.

There are a few Indian tribes at Cowichan, but none on Salt Spring Island. The Roman Catholics have had, for many years, a strong and active mission among the Cowichan Indians, and have a stone church and a conventual establishment near the reservation; yet as far as we are able, we shall avail our-

selves of every opportunity to witness for the truth among this people.

I cannot report favorably of the spiritual aspect of the work on this part of the circuit, as owing to our weakened ministerial force during the past year, it was but irregularly supplied. Added to this, priestly intolerance and sceptical tendencies have made matters worse. Our only trust is in the Lord of hosts, believing as we do, if faithful and diligent, we shall not lose our reward. May the Head of the Church cause this barren soil to bring forth plenteously, and "make the desert like the garden of the Lord."

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*Letter from the REV. W. POLLARD, Chairman, dated Victoria, V. I., April 9th, 1872.*

We held our District Meeting in New Westminster, and closed on the 19th ult. We had a very pleasant meeting.

The funds were all in advance. We have sixty-nine increase in the membership on the District. I think our Missionary income this year will be upwards of six hundred dollars. This circuit will raise over three hundred.

I went from the district meeting to Chilliwack to make arrangements for building a parsonage. We had to go in a canoe. We left New Westminster at seven o'clock a.m., Wednesday, and reached Sumas at half past three a.m., on Thursday. We were on the Fraser twenty hours and a half struggling against tide and current. On Thursday I met the trustees, and decided to build. On Friday we held a tea meeting and obtained six hundred dollars subscription: more will be raised. The house will cost about twelve hundred dollars. This in a short time will be a self-supporting circuit.

Our quarterly meeting has offered to guarantee the salary of a young man for North and South Vaanich if the Committee will pay his expenses to this country. This is an important

field, situated about twenty miles from this city. It is peopled with a well-to-do farming community. We hope that in one year it will be self-supporting. This is an urgent case, and if a Missionary can be sent this year, it will secure the ground to Methodism. Methodism will then have the entire field, with the exception of one Episcopal minister, from Victoria to Cowichan, and from Cowichan to Nanaimo.

As the quarterly meeting has generously offered to secure the salary of a missionary, I earnestly hope, dear sir, that you and Dr. Taylor will favor this request, and do all you can for us. It is of the greatest importance in this country to secure the ground, as it prevents, usually, any subsequent rivalry.

Our prospects are very encouraging as you will see from the district report. If the Missionary Society will treat us generously for a short time we hope to repay them.

Bro. G. C. Clarkson has the consent of the District Meeting to go to college, on condition that the Committee can supply his place. He will pay his own expenses. We could not spare him without a supply.

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*Letter from REV. A. E. RUSS, dated New Westminster, April 3rd, 1872.*

Since I came to this Mission I have been quite too busy to answer letters or write Mission Reports. The whole year indeed has been one of unsettledness, owing to moving from Victoria to

this field, and then to build a house before we could settle permanently, if permanently can apply to an itinerant preacher, together with the duty of acquainting myself with this large