

are living unmarried with Indian women. The last report from the mines are of an exciting character, and will attract many thousands more to our shores.

The Chinese are arriving in great numbers, and 10,000 are said to be on their way from China.

4. The *native* race all over the Colony is numerous. I have visited various tribes. Some are more intelligent than others. There is desire for improvement, and ambition to be like the whites. It is common to see Indians dressed in best European costumes. The other day I observed two women in round hats and ribbons and extended crinoline! I mistook them for English; but on coming up found their faces besmeared with red paint!

The men are universally employed in labour, for which they are paid from 10s. to 20s. per week.

Poor creatures, they imitate freely the white man's vices! It is a common thing for Indians, even children, to utter oaths in English.

5. I have as yet but eight Clergy. I hope friends at home will send out at once several additional men. We are, I am thankful to say, early and well on the ground.

A. For the *Indians* twenty Missionaries might readily be employed. We should have, however, *at once* not less than four—two for Vancouver, two for Columbia.

I purpose to establish an Institution at this place near several Indian villages. We have commenced the mission in tents.

The Roman Catholics are actively at work. Several French priests are constantly in the Indian villages. They baptize the children of heathen parents, and give to all a cross or crucifix, which is suspended as a charm about the neck of the infant. They have certainly in some instances checked drunkenness; but their principal teaching is the worship of the Virgin and hatred of the American and English, while the French are exalted and extolled.

It is stated twenty or thirty Romish priests are on their way from Europe.

B. In the *white* population we need immediately an addition of *ten*; for the following:—

(a) *Nanaimo*.—On this island, about seventy miles hence, is the seat of the coal district, and rapidly advancing as a town. A Romish priest and two Sisters of Mercy have recently gone there. I am much pressed to occupy this at once.

(b) *Cowitchen Valley* and *Salt Spring Island*, a lovely agricultural district, rapidly increasing in population.

(c) *Barclay Sound*, a settlement in course of formation, on the west coast of this island, about 100 miles from hence, for fisheries and timber, where a town will be formed in the course of the year.

(d) *New Westminster*, the capital of British Columbia, needs a second clergyman. Mr. Sheepshanks is heavily worked, and preaches four times each Sunday.