

had the good times continued, such criticisms and complaints would never have been heard. On the other hand the promoters of false church building undertakings would have been commended as eminently wise, far-seeing men.

The Progress of the Present

With these early memories and struggles before us, it is cheering and refreshing today to know that the congregation of St. Andrew's now worshipping in a graceful and commodious brick building was never so strong and flourishing at any time in its history, as it is today; that St. Stephen's congregation (originally known as the West End Church) now located in a new and well finished building, at the corner of Seventh street and Fourth Avenue had an honorable career under the ministry of Rev. Dr. Wardlaw Taylor and continues in a thoroughly healthy spiritual condition under his successor, Rev. M. G. Melvin, and has

been free of debt for several years; that the Sapperton church, long fretted by the yoke of a considerable debt bestirred themselves, put forth a supreme effort and wiped off that debt in one short year. In the last case the number of communicants has been more than doubled since Rev. Mr. Thompson took charge. But in addition to all this it was discovered that there were room and scope for another Presbyterian church in the west end—and this edifice—West church—complete in all its parts, now dedicated to the worship of God, is the fruit and outcome of that conviction. That Rev. Mr. Reid and those associated with him have done a noble work and deserve the highest commendation, all will admit.

In brief, it may be said that in 1875 Presbyterianism in New Westminster was a tiny streamlet whereas it is now a strong and healthy stream, deepening and widening as the years go by.

