

McGillivray. Bro. D. McGillivray was appointed the first Recording Steward, and Bro. Vedder was given license as an exhorter." Of the little company all are still living except the Chairman and Father Vedder.

In the following year Bro. G. C. Clarkson was appointed to the new Mis-

Champness, editor of "Joyful News," Rosedale, Eng. A cut appears in connection with this article.

Sumas suffered terribly by the high water of 1894, and has not fully recovered. The handsome and commodious church is still attended by a considerable and devoted congregation, the pul-

Conference, two were from the Chilliwack Circuit. A number of representative men and women of our church have their homes here, and all enterprises of the church meet with strong and intelligent support. Important gold mines are being opened in the vicinity. At least \$100,000 will be spent in development this season, and with a rapidly growing agricultural and business population the new century is likely to open with all departments of the churches work in a flourishing condition.

It may be added that no liquor license has ever been granted in Chilliwack, a blessing for which Methodism is largely responsible.

EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES AND PROBATIONERS FOR OUR MINISTRY.

The Christian Guardian of April 4th is at hand. I have just read the General Superintendent's paper on the Coming Annual Conference. It is in Dr. Carman's usual masterly style. Like a wideawake and wary general, his eye is upon every part of the field. He sees the marshalled hosts of our Canadian Methodism—the territory which lies before them, which is yet to be possessed—and the strong positions in which the enemy is entrenched. He sees also the weak points in the arrangements of the opposing forces. He sees, too, where our own weaknesses are, and summons us to a closing up of our too open ranks, and calls us to increased watchfulness, more importunate prayer, and more abundant efforts, that soon victory may perch upon our banners, and that there may speedily be heard the shouts of a glorious success all along the line.

Among the important features of our ecclesiastical system to which attention is directed is that by way of which our Methodist ministry is recruited. He says "we do well when we vigilantly and honestly advance and graduate our probationers." It will be conceded by every intelligent Methodist, ministerial or lay, who has the best interests of our church at heart, and is jealous that its future history may not be reproached by its splendid past, that this portion of our economy—the admission of candidates and the advancing and graduating of our probationers—demands all the vigilance, honesty and sanctified sagacity of our Quarterly Boards, by whom the entrance to the ministry is guarded, and of our District Meetings and Conferences, by whom they are afterwards accepted, advanced and graduated. The favorable recommendations of the Quarterly Boards should be a satisfactory guarantee of the fitness of the candidate in respect of piety, intelligence, readiness of utterance, zeal and other qualities upon which it is competent for boards of laymen to pronounce, and from which may be predicated with a strong degree of probability, the usefulness of the person recommended, and which are comprehended under the three heads of gifts, graces and fruit. The further determination of the suitability of candidates proposed imposes a most grave and solemn responsibility upon the ministerial members of the District Meetings and of the Annual Conference. In respect of intellectual equipment for the immeasurably important work of the Christian ministry, the General Conference has by its legislation on the sub-



CHILLIWACK METHODIST CHURCH.

sion, remaining for two years. He was followed by Rev. C. Bryant for three years, Rev. Jos. Hall for three years and Rev. C. L. Thompson for three years, bringing the history down to the year 1880, when the Circuit became self-sustaining. Following the attainment of self-support, Revs. Joseph Hall and C. Bryant each spent a second pastoral term on the Circuit. During these years Sumas had been the head of the Circuit, the minister living there. However, the centre of population was gradually changing, and the work extending to the upper portion of the valley. During Bro. Bryant's pastorate a new church was built at Chilliwack village, then known as Centreville, and immediately upon the appointment of his successor, Rev. T. W. Hall, steps were taken for the erection of a parsonage upon the same lot. This enterprise was successfully carried through, and the minister moved to the centre of his field. In 1889 the work had so increased that it was found necessary to station a young man on the field, the first to be so stationed being Rev. J. P. Hicks, the versatile and highly respected editor of the Recorder. Rev. J. P. Howell was the next pastor, and in 1892, at the request of the Q.O.B., the Conference divided the Circuit, making Sumas a self-supporting field for a young man, and Cheam with Camp Slough and other points a Mission. Bro. Howell was succeeded in 1893 by Rev. C. Ladner, and he in 1896 by the present pastor, Rev. J. H. White. As at present constituted Chilliwack Circuit is a very compact and convenient field, consisting of the Chilliwack and Carman churches. The latter is the latest addition to the Methodist churches of the valley, and is one of the prettiest and most comfortable country churches to be found in any Conference. It was opened for worship on December 4th, 1898, by Rev. Thomas

pit being supplied by Rev. Jos. Hall, Principal of Coqualeetza Institute. Cheam mission is growing from year to year. It has two churches, one at Cheam and the other at Camp Slough, and services are also held at Rosedale and East Chilliwack. Rev. W. G. Mahan is the present energetic pastor.

An institution which has done much for Methodism in Chilliwack is the annual camp meeting. This was begun in 1870, the first meeting being held on a lot of land owned by Rev. T. Crosby, and situated at the point of Chilliwack mountain. Services were continued here from year to year, with great blessing till 1892. The year following a plot of three acres was secured near Sardis, suitable buildings erected and there a camp meeting for both whites and Indians has been held each year since, with the exception of 1894, when the high water arrived just as the services were about to begin, and effectually put a stop to them for that year. The meetings have been blessed to the salvation of many, and are still a power for good.

No account of Chilliwack Methodism is complete without at least a reference to the work among the Indians. This is the head of the mission to the Fraser River Indians, and a pretty mission house with several churches provide for the work in the valley. Rev. C. M. Tate, Rev. W. H. Barraclough, B. A., and now again their ancient friend and missionary, Rev. T. Crosby, have ministered to the spiritual needs of the brothers in red, and many have been led to Christ. Coqualeetza Institute with Rev. Jos. Hall as principal, is also an important adjunct to the Indian work.

Chilliwack has for many years been one of the chief homes of Methodism in the Province. As an indication of its importance it may be mentioned that of the four laymen elected to represent the B. C. Conference at the late General