

mediate benevolence,—an appeal which stirs the best sympathies, and to which Dr. Evans' pathetic references to the abject Indians on the Pacific give pain and intensity. May the opportune petition he offers to God for them be speedily granted!

*Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Ephraim Evans, D. D., dated Victoria, Vancouver's Island, February 21st, 1859.*

Through the mercy of God our Mission Band are all in good health. The females of our party have recovered from the fatigue and privation of the voyage, and are occupied in arrangements for future domestic comfort, so far as that may be attainable in the incipient state of the Colony.

On our arrival in the harbour we were met by our esteemed brother, Mr. John T. Piddwell, with a greeting of that cordial character to which an ardent attachment to our beloved Methodism was sure to prompt him, on finding his cherished desire thus far gratified. He had but an hour or two after learning that we were on the Steamer, to make preparation for our reception, and had improved the brief space by fitting up with tolerable comfort, a new house which was by his kind forethought retained. Into this the entire Mission Band entered, and with Mr. P. and one of his sons we form one family.

The day after arrival, I obtained an introduction to His Excellency, Col. Moody, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, to whom I delivered your letter. As it was under seal, I know not whether it was simply a letter of introduction, or whether it contained any outline of our proposed operations. His Excellency received me with great urbanity and kindness—assured me of his deep interest in the success of our Mission, and of his desire to do all in his power to promote it. He expressed himself as a Christian ruler, duly feeling his responsibility to the King of Kings, and fully impressed with the importance of the religious element in any well-ordered community, might be expected to do; and desired me to convey to you his appreciation of the kind manner in which the letter referred to himself. I have since had a short interview with him, and entertain no doubt that in him genuine christianity has a devoted friend. A day or two ago, Mrs. Evans and Mrs. White, were honoured

by a call from Mrs. Moody, who was kind enough to give them a cordial welcome, and an unaffected assurance of her sympathy and good wishes. I expect to spend this evening with the Colonel by invitation, to converse at large upon the probable future of our operations in British Columbia.

On the evening of the day after our arrival [Friday, Feb. 11th,] having had no previous opportunity, and being pressed by the necessity of making arrangements for Sabbath services, I rather unceremoniously called upon His Excellency, Governor Douglas to ask permission to occupy a room which has been used for a Police Court. His Excellency accepted my apology for what might have been regarded as a somewhat impertinent intrusion at his private residence at his dinner hour, and very kindly placed at our disposal, a room in a brick building in course of erection as Police barracks. Mr. White and I have since dined with His Excellency, and had some interesting conversation on the general subject of future religious effort among the Aboriginal and Emigrant population. We received his assurances of desire to promote the objects we have in view.

On Sabbath, the 13th inst., I opened our Mission in the room referred to. at 10½ o'clock, A. M. The congregation consisted of about 60 to 70 persons, who listened with evident attention and interest to the message of mercy. In the evening brother White preached with wonted energy, to a larger company than could be contained in the room, which being very closely filled with temporary seats of narrow flooring boards probably accommodated about 200. A goodly number stood outside the building during the service, and I am told that many retired for want of shelter. The brethren Robson and Browning took part in these services, and I trust that it will be found that our labours were not in vain in the Lord.