

*From the REV. A. E. RUSS, dated Victoria, June 13th, 1870.*

The first Church-quarter of another year is among the past of solemn records. As results of it, some good fruits of labor and discipline are with us, to the praise of God, and serve as replenished resources for extended usefulness. We have been reduced in numbers by removals as usual, yet others have been added, so our total is even above the largely increased membership given in my *last Annual Report* of three months ago. A review of the quarter impresses the mind with the goodness of God, and that our mercies abound. We must confess, in lowliness before God our judge, that we as a Church in solemn covenant to Him, have lacked in gratitude, zeal, and holypower: still all the means of grace have been sustained with general profit, while the Church, as a little flock, has heard with pious joy the Chief Shepherd's voice, leading it into green pastures and beside the still waters. The Quarterly Board, which met the 2nd of June, found its income largely in advance of this time twelve months, and hopefully sufficient in view of the year to meet current expenses, though some of the Board keenly felt the stringent action of the last March District Meeting, by withholding the chief part of the expected Missionary grant, and thereby threw an *unwelcome* burden upon the present year of not less than \$150—an amount incurred by horse-hire and purchase of sulky for the mission work. The church edifice at S. Saanich, distant from Victoria 12 miles, has been finished this quarter, and divine worship is held in it fortnightly. The congregation is small,

varying from 15 to 30 persons, yet it is a beginning, and may serve for a Carroll, Playter, or Stevens of fifty years hence to write about. This, with another post in the country, has obliged us to purchase a sulky, both to save livery expenses and to enable us to reach the outlying work. The badness of the roads for half of the year, and six miles of it through a dense forest, and dangerous on horseback, make the Saanich trip a stirring one, particularly as it falls between the morning and the evening preaching in the city, and is frequently accompanied with showers of rain and mud—the spice of the day. The income of these outposts is not at all equal to the expenditure, so you see while the Board has assumed, by request, to be self-sustaining this year, it has added to its liabilities by striving to enlarge the field—which extension is not only a draft upon the exchequer of the Board, but a twenty-four mile draft upon the preacher, and suddenly turns a city parson into a pioneer, and often leaves him a little “*Mondayish*.”

The Sabbath-schools are prospering. The white school numbers now 100, and its teachers, under the Superintendent, Bro. D. Spencer, are laboring in faith—teaching for conversion to God. The Indian school, through white “Chinook” interpreters, is growing in numbers and spirituality, and has an attendance of twenty-five Indians, under the care of Bro. Wm. McKay and his staff. We want an earnest staff to head a Chinese department. May God select the men!

*Later from the REV. E. WHITE, dated Nanaimo, June 21st, 1870.*

I returned last Tuesday from a six weeks' absence, five of which were spent on the New Westminster and Chilliwack Mission. I visited all the appointments once, and several of them twice, renewed the quarterly tickets, and held the quarterly meetings. The question of division was again fairly and fully considered, and the feeling seemed to be unanimous in favor of carrying it out as recommended a year ago.

Chilliwack now has a distinct form, including all the lower Fraser from Yale to Langley. It bids fair to be one of our most prosperous Missions. New Westminster will still have the important outposts, and will require the whole time of an efficient itinerant, with all the aid of the local staff, to sustain it, to say nothing of working it as it should be. There is plenty of work for two men, independent of Chilliwack, since I have resuscitated the appointments at