

rowful. But, perishing souls—how dare we utter the words! Yet nothing is surer than that souls around us are perishing—dying the most sorrowful of deaths—passing out of the sunshine of hope into the dismal night of perdition.

Let us ask ourselves how many souls are perishing this day in this Canada of ours?—souls, too, for which we shall be held accountable. Are there one thousand such in all this Dominion? Are there ten thousand? Nay, are there not ten times ten thousand who know not Christ, or the plan of salvation? How many perished last year through our indifference,—and how many must perish this year through the same cause?

Such questions with their inevitable answers, are unspeakably appalling. Yet they are the very questions and answers that must be pressed home upon the hearts and consciences of ministers and people. Remember, brother, sister,—remember what issues are at stake at this moment. What do you *think* about the perishing ones, or have you began to think at all? There is no more important subject within the range of your thinking. You dare not rest satisfied with merely echoing in words the forms of orthodox belief. This would be but making a mockery of the great realities of Heaven and Hell. You dare not ease your conscience by merely giving the smallest possible contribution to this or that fund of the Church. This would be but mocking God and your own soul. We know what Christ did to save perishing souls: and conscience tells us what every Christian ought to do. Brother, sister, listen to the call of conscience. The thousands that are perishing in this Canadian Dominion are the strongest possible appeal to you to aid the operations of the Church at home. The millions perishing in Heathen lands are the loudest advocates for our Foreign Mission. How much of your time, your thought, your money, are you willing to give to aid in saving souls from death? Answer before God!

## British Columbia.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM REV. SIMON MCGREGOR, OF VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

IT is pleasant for us to know in this "Far West" that we are becoming of some little interest to the rest of the Empire, as we can observe from the public journals, both of England and of Canada, that we in the mean time occupy some little share of public attention. We do not, of course, object to this, believing as we do with a great many modest people, that we only require to be better known to be more fully appreciated. We think that by-and-bye our geographical position will really be known to the reading and educated classes, both of Britain and America.

His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin and Lady Dufferin have come and gone—leaving behind them, among all classes of our people, most pleasing memories of their visit. We were all glad to see them, and sorry to part with them. We feel pretty sure that their visit will prove of value to British Columbia, and to the Dominion in general. To us, His Excellency seemed a model Governor-General, possessed at once, and to an eminent degree, of the *suaviter in modo* and the *fortiter in re*. Fortunately, the latter quality was not much in requisition, but just enough to show a grand reserve fund ready, should any occasion call it forth. The uniform courtesy and consideration of their Excellencies won all hearts, and we doubt not but the late visit will do much by way of cementing our Union with the other Provinces of the Dominion.

Further upon Politics we shall say nothing—knowing Carlyle's panygeric upon "golden silence," and knowing also that the RECORD eschews the subject: and so do we.

Our Church in this Province is doing what she can to bring the ordinances of religion within the reach of our scattered people. Mr. Jamieson is labouring as usual with zeal and ability in New Westminster, and upholding the cause which he has upheld for so many years in B. Columbia. Mr. Murray is still diligent as usual, preaching and visiting among the people at Nicola Valley and surrounding districts. He has lately laid the foundation of a Church in Nicola; the first Presbyterian Church built in that part of the Province. His preaching stations are numerous, and his labours very arduous; but his unflagging energy and zeal carry him through his work. He (in common with Mr. Dunn at Langley and other large districts adjoining) is laying