

Presbyterianism in B. Columbia.

THE Church in British Columbia is becoming consolidated. The American Presbyterian congregation in Vancouver, hitherto connected with the U. S. Presbytery of Puget Sound, was received by the Presbytery of Columbia at its last meeting; and Mr. Christie, of Wellington, the only minister of the Church of Scotland in the Province, together with his congregation, have applied to be received into our church, and doubtless will be received at next meeting. Considering the short time the Presbytery of Columbia has been in existence, one is surprised at what has already been accomplished in the way of organization and equipment.

A strong mission with two stations, promising \$600 salary, has been organized in the city of New Westminster, and a missionary appointed—Rev. W. G. Mills, of Sunderland, Ont. At Northfield and East Wellington a new mission is to be begun at once if a suitable missionary can be secured. This is a mining district. For Mt. Lehman a missionary is earnestly asked. This farming district is a new Canadian settlement along the Fraser River. From North Bend a former resident of Orangeville writes: "Are we ever going to have a missionary here? We might as well be in the heart of Africa!" He sends the names of 13 Presbyterians who promise \$178 for the support of a missionary. He suggests that Yale, Lytton, Ashcroft and other stations be associated with North Bend and a mission organized. At Chilliwack a very substantial and comfortable church and a commodious manse have been built, and the settlement and congregation have so increased that Mr. Ross and his people asked that another missionary be appointed and \$7 per week is promised towards his support. From the Kettle River country, in the heart of the mountains, word has been received that ground must be broken there in spring at the latest. Here are found 35 householders, many of them with their families—separated from the rest of the world, without ordinances from any church. They raise wheat and grind it with hand mills. Milk, butter, cheese, fruit, game, mutton, beef, they possess in abundance. Away from the lines of travel, neither telephone nor telegraph disturbs their quiet. They are anxious, however, for the schoolmaster and the missionary, and promise handsomely to maintain ordinances. Lured by the favorable climate, a large number of settlers have found their way into British Columbia during the last three years. More systematic exploration has revealed large tracts of good farming land

in the valleys and river bottoms and these are being occupied. In the Lower Fraser, fruit is being extensively cultivated to be shipped East. This expansion of settlement implies more missions and means, and men of adaptability are required to supply the growing work. And British Columbia must have ordained missionaries that will give continuous supply. Travelling expenses are too high to justify the church in sending a man during the summer only. J. R.

Home Missions in Muskoka and Algoma.

BY REV. ALLAN FINDLAY.

PART I.

IN presenting my report of labour during the past season within the bounds of this Mission Field, I do so with the conviction that it is one of the most prosperous which the field has enjoyed during my connection with it. In this I refer not only to the fact that an increased number of missionaries are employed this term—seven in all—indicating growth, the result of labour in previous years, but more especially to the earnest self-denying labours of your missionaries, whose efforts have been, I believe, owned and blessed by the Divine Spirit for the advancement of the good work. In only one instance did I hear a whisper as to want of attention to duty on the part of the missionary, but everywhere, with this one exception, missionary and people, I found working heartily together for the upbuilding of the common cause. By this, I do not mean to convey the idea that no difficulties are now to be met with in the work, nor stumbling blocks to be removed out of the way. But what impressed me was the seeming determination of both missionary and people, because of these difficulties, to do their duty in their respective spheres "as those who must give an account." The aim of this report will be to give first: a brief statement of the progress of the work in the Muskoka field during these months, and then a more detailed statement of the work in the Algoma field where the greater portion of my time was spent.

MUSKOKA.—All the fields within the bounds have been occupied during the past term. These number thirty-two, the largest number that has ever before been reported. The following five are new fields, viz.: *Copper Cliff*, etc., composed of the mines in the neighborhood of Sudbury, a most important and promising field. *Warren*, formerly known as *Veuve River*, separated this year from *Sturgeon Falls*. *Frank's Bay*, separated from *Calander*. *Carling*, separated from *Parry Sound*, and *Black River*, separated from *Longford*. Of these new fields, only one, *Copper Cliff*, is receiving aid from the Home Mission Fund. Of