

the dreaded snowslides and rockfalls off and down into the valley beneath, and with construction so solid, that when a rock leaps upon one full and fair in its downward rush, it pierces where it strikes, and shatters like a cannon ball, but without so much as jarring the structure as a whole. Meanwhile, amid such grandeur of nature and such skill of man, it is painful to see in Roger's Pass, what I saw on a recent Lord's Day: the shops all open, gambling at its height, men staggering on the street, unsexed women parading themselves for advertisement among the dissipated crowds. And alas! to offset these traps for the undoing of souls and bodies, where were the counter influences? No work answering at all to the exigencies of the case has been devised here by any denomination. And so, while folly was clamorous, and called passeng-ers, saying "Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither," wisdom's counter invitation was seldom heard, and understanding did not often put forth her voice. For the voices which *did* occasionally cry in that wilderness—(one or two earnest laymen, one or two Salvationists, and, as often as they were able, visiting missionaries)—for these, then let us thank God. And now, because the work which kept men there is nearly over, and especially because it is in the track of snowslides, the town with its floating population of thousands is about to pass out bodily, and its very name will be forgotten in the history of the mountains. Would that the influences which it branded deep into too many hearts and lives could also so disappear! GLACIER HOTEL is a little west of Roger's Pass. This hotel, built in the Swiss mountain style, is likely to be a favourite resort of tourists—the favourite resort probably along the line, Banff only excepted. It lies at the foot of a mountain which boasts of a glacier of immense proportions and unknown depth, and is yet accessible to the public; and the creek or torrent running out of this field of ice, is likely to be dammed up next season so as to create an artificial lake for pleasuring purposes. Some very successful meetings were held here this summer, and there will probably be always a small population at least in the neighbourhood. Then between Glacier Hotel and Revelstoke there are several large mills and gangs of section-men: work along here would have to adjust itself to changing conditions. And if mission work in localities 80 or 100 miles away from the line of rail is sought, the BIG BEND country is before the missionary. Here the Columbia River, which had been flowing northward for hundreds of miles, determines upon a new direction, and turns suddenly southwards, forming a neck-yoke course, and necessitating for the railway a second crossing; and within the limits of this vast curve rise in their consummate roughness and grandeur the stupendous and impatient Selkirk ranges of mountains. Big Bend is accessible from Revelstoke, by water and by trail. What business goes on there? Simply and

solely, mining, which has started up in great vigour; and many are they who are anticipating this very fall that Big Bend will yet turn out a second Cariboo country. REVELSTOKE, which last year under the name of Farwell, was claimed by many to be the wickedest town in the whole Dominion, is at the second crossing of the blue Columbia. It should be quite possible to gather a congregation together there, and there exists already a nucleus of church-loving families and individuals. The town, however, has been allowed to crystallize into its habits and ways without the presence and influences of religion, and now, careful constant work will be needed. A fairly suitable building could be bought or leased cheaply and fitted up for divine worship. There is quite a large population at Revelstoke, both resident and floating, and if mining develops, it will be an important town. Good influences meanwhile are much wanted. A missionary having his headquarters here, could join hands on the one side with a co-labourer at Donald, and on the other with his fellow-worker at Kamloops.

With this rapid survey of the position and of our responsibility, I commend the Mountain Mission Field to the consideration and prayers of the whole Church. Conquered for commerce, can the mountain ranges not be also conquered for Christ? It was the Macedonian cry that I heard, rising from the rushing rivers and echoed from the mountain peaks. Calgary, N. W. T., 30th. Oct. 1886.

### Ecclesiastical News.

SCOTLAND.—The "General Session" in Glasgow Established Church recommends as to the hours of public worship—1, That the forenoon service shall be regarded as the principal diet of worship for all. 2, That the afternoon should be left open for services for the young and other parochial efforts, in which lay members of the church might largely assist. 3, That opportunity might be afforded for greater variety and freedom in the evening meetings, when all seats might be declared open and free, social questions discussed (1), special evangelistic and temperance missions conducted, and efforts made through lay visitors and otherwise to bring those who are at present non-church-going within the walls of their respective parish churches. This document is to be sent to all the ministers and elders of the city churches, and a special meeting convened for its consideration. In the Free Church Synod, an interesting statement was made by Dr. Inglis, so well known as a co-worker with the late Dr. Geddie, with regard to the New Hebrides. He very conclusively refutes the claims of the French to the protectorate of those Islands. The Sustentation Fund shows an increase of \$5,650 over the corresponding four months of last year. Another important