

loops, the Thompson and the Nicola, but in consequence of important changes in the mining interests at Cariboo, Mr. Hall urged me to extend my visit to Williams' Creek, and promised to pay the extra expense.

I spent a week with Mr. Hall, during which I visited several of the mines both on Williams' and Lightning Creeks. I happened to be there on the 1st of July, and saw Barkerville in its best attire. Dominion day was celebrated with remarkable order and sobriety. I was informed that two thousand people, including Chinese, were present. I never saw so large a gathering of such fine looking men. They were well-dressed; most of them were large and strongly built, and their countenances had a very intelligent expression. Their behaviour would have been a credit to any civilized city. The holiday lasted two days, and I saw only one man who was the worse of liquor.

The parsonage here is small, having only three rooms, but quite comfortable for a man and his wife. The church is neat, and will seat about one hundred. The Society is small, but they appear to be devoted and earnest Christians. They have a melodeon, a very good choir, and an intelligent congregation. Mr. Hall is well liked, and labors hard. He visits the outside creeks as often as practicable, and preaches to the people there when he can get a congregation.

The attendance at the church varies a good deal,—sometimes the church is well filled, at another time not more than half filled. The people are constantly moving from one creek to another, and sometimes so far off that they cannot reach the church on the Sabbath day; nor is it easy for the Missionary to preach to them at the mines, many of them are so scattered that it is exceedingly difficult to get them together on a week-day. I preached twice on the Sabbath, and held a public meeting on Monday evening. On Friday, I preached at Van Winkle to a good congregation, who had assembled in the billiard-room. Van Winkle, or Lightning Creek, is 13 miles this side of Barkerville, on the stage road. After service many of the people remained for conversation. I found that most of them had belonged to churches in the old country. They

expressed their thankfulness to the Wesleyan Missionary Society for supplying them with the Gospel, and hoped that the Society would not withdraw their Missionary. Mr. Hall is the only Protestant minister within 300 miles.

If the Missionaries who have toiled in this far-off field have not seen as many conversions as they desired, they have the satisfaction of knowing that by their labors they have saved hundreds to the Methodist and other Churches, who otherwise might have been lost.

On account of the mines on Williams' Creek having somewhat failed, at least for the present, and prospecting not having been successful, fully two-thirds of the miners have left Barkerville; some for Lightning Creek, and more for Cassian. Mr. Hall was at a stand whether it was not desirable to move the parsonage to Van Winkle, where the greater portion of the population is now settled. We thought best to leave things at Barkerville as they are for the present, build a church at Van Winkle, and for Mr. Hall to divide his labors, not only during the week but on the Sabbath. This arrangement has been completed, and is found to work satisfactorily. This gives the Missionary 13 miles travel between his morning and evening appointments, over a mountain which in winter is almost impassable. How the journey is made at this season I do not know. The snow, at places on this mountain, was two feet deep in the middle of July last.

This Mission may for a short time appear to be a severe tax on the funds of the Committee; but I do not see how this people can be left without a minister. It is the opinion of experienced miners that there is much more gold in these Creeks than has yet been taken out; but it needs more capital to work the mines successfully. There are still hundreds remaining on these Creeks, whose friends in Scotland, Ireland, England, Wales, and in Canada, are annually contributing to the funds of the Society. It is not improbable that these mines will yet be made more productive than they have ever been.

I do not think that it would be an improvement to send a single man to Cariboo. The little society has expended a large amount of money in enlarging and fitting up the parsonage