

on the primeval forest of vale and foothill abundantly testify. At this season of the year (September) apple, pear, and plum trees are burdened, and some breaking with their load of delicious fruits, while there are hundreds of young trees of healthy look and vigorous growth not yet bearing, and preparations are being made to plant out hundreds more. Nor are the mountains unproductive, as they are all owned and mostly fenced as ranges for sheep, thousands of which roam the extensive pastures. Morally and religiously the people compare favorably with any in British Columbia. Two organizations are actively engaged in temperance work. One saloon-keeper has been induced to drop his license and close his bar, and there is reason to hope that the only remaining saloon on the island will be compelled to close for lack of customers. Clergymen of all Churches are welcomed, and none more so than the Methodist missionary. For many years previous to 1873, the island was visited by our ministers from Nanaimo, since then it has been part of either the Maple Bay or Saanich Mission, and has from the first paid a fair proportion of all receipts. There are two Sabbath-schools supplied with our own S. S. papers and lesson-helpers.

At one of my four appointments a neat church witnesses to the liberality of the people, for it has never been in debt. At another initial steps have been taken to erect a suitable place of worship. Our members are loyal, earnest, devoted, growing in grace, useful in church, Sabbath-school, and temperance work, while the class-meeting is to them a blessed privilege and a delight. My work, though arduous, is to me a source of blessing, and there is evidence of the power of the Gospel to quicken and to save.

## Facts and Illustrations.

NIGHT brings out stars, as sorrow shows us truths.—*P. J. Bailey.*

THAT which is most needed in our churches to-day is heat and enthusiasm.—*Independent.*

A LOVELY life beheld and loved is worth a thousand sermons that are only heard.—*Rev. John Page Hopps.*

THOUGH a gem be worn on the feet, and glass on the head, yet glass is glass, and a gem a gem.—*Hindu.*

TROUBLE and perplexity drive me to prayer, and prayer drives away perplexity and trouble.—*Melanchthon.*

JUST now the most popular book in Japan translated from the English is Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress."

ONE of D. L. Moody's favorite principles is, that it is far better to set others to work than to try to do all the work oneself.

THERE is no degree of merit so high as to place man beyond the reach of temptation or to prevent him from rising still higher.—*Dr. Follen.*

AN elder of one of the Presbyterian churches in Tokio has recently been appointed the chief magistrate of the neighboring province.

SMILE not at the legend as vain, that once in holy hands a worthless stone became a heap of silver. Let thy alchemist be contentment, and stone or ore shall be equal to thee.—*Persian.*

LET no beginner in the life of faith model his service after the pattern of any other erring brother or sister, but take his own marching orders for himself directly from the Book.—*Moravian.*

THE church bells of innumerable sects are all chime-bells to-day, ringing in sweet accordance throughout many lands, and awakening a great joy in the heart of our common humanity.—*Chapin.*

I HAVE been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for that day.—*A. Lincoln.*

DR. WOLFF, a traveller who has recently been exploring one of the tributaries of the Congo, tells us that when one of the kings in that part of Africa died a little while ago, a thousand female slaves were sacrificed upon his tomb.

EVERY man takes care that his neighbor shall not cheat him. But a day comes when he begins to care that he does not cheat his neighbor. Then all goes well. He has changed his market-cart into a chariot of the sun.—*Emerson.*

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