

A brick meeting-house in the village is nearly finished, 55 x 40 feet, and costing \$4,000. The whole number of communicants is 108. Thirteen have been dismissed and one has died. All, with an exception of two, are members of the Temperance Society, which numbers about 300.

There have been no cases of discipline. The members for the most part give good evidence of piety.

While some no doubt are greatly deficient in true devotedness and Christian labours, it is evident that others are crying in secret for the deliverance of the Lord's people, and every day making advancement in holy living. On the whole, looking at the Church in both places, with the two congregations, it is believed that what God has already done, and what He is still doing, may be viewed as a pledge that He will yet more and more enlarge this portion of his Zion.

Chippawa.—The church in this place was organized in December, 1831, after a protracted meeting, consisting of twelve members. In July 1833, a second meeting was held, of the fruits of which twenty-nine made a public profession of their faith. In 1833 this church enjoyed an interesting season of revival, which commenced in June and continued through the summer. Of the number hopefully converted at this time thirty were added to the Church. The present number of communicants is seventy-one. This people have laboured under much disadvantage on account of not having a convenient place of public worship. They are now, however, about to build a meeting-house which they hope to occupy by next winter. Not much has yet been done for Sabbath Schools, chiefly for the want of teachers.

The temperance cause has begun to command attention, although yet in its infancy, in this place. The state of religion is not now as good as it has been in some seasons. There have been a few cases of discipline, and two suspended. Generally, however, the members walk orderly and maintain in a good degree the Christian character. On the whole, this little Zion, considering her embarrassments, has succeeded beyond the expectations of her best friends, and we think that it promises yet to increase and flourish.

The church at **Drummondville** was organized by Mr. Buell in October, 1831, consisting of eight members. For about six months they enjoyed only occasional preaching. In the spring of 1832 the Rev. Mr. Sessions commenced labouring with them, preaching however only once on the Sabbath. At this time a very mortal sickness prevailed in the village and its vicinity. This, it is believed, together with the faithful exhibition of the truth, was the means under God of bringing some to Christ.

In the following autumn the little church was most deeply bereaved. Few and weak as they were, God was pleased to take away from them by the cholera one of their most efficient members. In May, 1833, a protracted meeting was held. Of the fruits of this interesting season of revival twenty-five were received into the Church. The whole number added in a year, and during Mr. Session's labours, was thirty-two. At present the Church is destitute of stated preaching. They are, however, anxious to obtain a minister, and they expect one soon. Although it is supposed that the present state of religion is not so cheering as usual, still prayer meetings during the week and the worship of God on the Sabbath are maintained. They have a Sabbath school of about sixty scholars. In this place and its vicinity is a very large and flourishing temperance society. While we record with gratitude what God has already done for this little church, we are encouraged to believe that He will yet continue to enlarge her borders.

The Church in **Beech Woods** was organized after a protracted meeting, in May, 1832, comprising sixteen members. In 1833 there was an accession of eight. The present number of communicants is twenty-two. A Sabbath School and weekly prayer meetings are maintained. Recently very successful efforts have been made in the cause of temperance. This Church and people have had but little preaching. For a single year they have had the small supply of one sermon in two weeks, this is all they have had. They are now destitute.

The Church at **Forty Mile Creek** was organized in July, 1832, consisting of about fifteen members. We cannot make perfectly accurate statements in regard to this little portion of our Zion, as it sent no delegate to the last meeting of Presbytery. We know, however, that it is supplied with preaching part of the time, and we believe that a Sabbath school and the weekly prayer meetings are maintained. This Church and society are building a very good brick meeting-house, which is almost completed. Considering how recently this Church was organized, and how few their numbers, we think the prospects are encouraging.

The Church in **Brantford** was organized in August, 1833, consisting of forty-five members, the fruits of a most interesting protracted meeting held at that time. Since then seventeen have been added. The monthly concert is well attended and a Sabbath school of between forty and fifty scholars is in a flourishing condition. This Church and people have been supplied chiefly by Rev. Wm. F. Curry until within a few months past. They have commenced the building of a meeting-house, and though destitute of preaching for the time being yet they expect soon to enjoy the stated ministrations of the Gospel.

The Church at **Dunville** was organized in January, 1834, consisting of eight members—two males and six females—one has since been added. All are members of the temperance society. They have no stated preaching and only here and there a sermon: But even while thus destitute a Sabbath

school is in operation, and prayer meetings during the week and reading meetings are well sustained.

The Church at **Oakville** was organized in April, 1833, consisting of eleven members. They had but very little preaching until December, when Mr. Sessions came to the place. Since then five have united with the Church and more are expecting to unite soon.

The congregation attending worship in this village is large, and for some time more than ordinary seriousness has prevailed generally. Weekly prayer-meetings, with an interesting female prayer-meeting and the monthly concert, are well attended. A Bible-class has lately been organized which promises much. There is also a temperance society in this place. It is in contemplation to build a meeting-house to cost \$2,000 and to be completed at the close of next autumn. The Sabbath school, which is connected with the Methodists, consists of about eighty scholars, and is in a flourishing condition. With God's professing people the state of religion is interesting at the present time. The friends of the Redeemer are much engaged in this service, and are willing to labour and make sacrifices for their Master, and many seem ready to press into the Kingdom.

The Church in **Eramosa** was organized in February, 1834. The origin of this Church is as follows:

Two men converted at a protracted meeting in Hamilton went home and began at once to labour with their families and their friends in the neighbourhood. Though they sought for ministerial help they obtained none until twenty were the hopeful subjects of grace by means of their efforts. In December, 1833, Mr. Sessions preached twice to this people, and in February following organized a church of eighteen members. Previous to this, many not expecting any Presbyterian preaching, had united with the Methodists. Prayer-meetings were crowded and solemn.

In this place, though new, a temperance society is operating successfully, and a Sabbath school is sustained of about thirty scholars.

This Church is not supplied with preaching at all on the Sabbath, and only occasionally in the week.

Besides preaching weekly in a great number of places, Mr. Sessions divides his labours on the Sabbath between five congregations, including but two churches. Two of the congregations mentioned are in Erin. These, being in neighbourhoods contiguous, propose to have a Church organized between them, and to worship in one place that will accommodate both.

In **Esquesing**, also, Mr. Sessions labours occasionally in two neighbourhoods, six miles apart. In all these places of his labours he meets large and waiting congregations. On the whole it is believed that a field is here opened of very great promise. Some females walk seven miles to hear the Gospel preached. The people are calling for protracted meetings. They seem hungry for the bread of life.

There are two or three small churches, belonging to us and other congregations, of which we cannot speak anything definite, except that they have no stated supply of the means of grace. Besides these there are many other places which scarcely any religious denomination pretends to possess, and that enjoy but few of the privileges of the Gospel.

(To be continued.)

FRAGMENTARY NOTES.

POINTS OF INTEREST ON THE PACIFIC COAST.

Having spent the Sunday pleasantly and profitably at Banff, with my friend Mr. Andrew Robertson, of Montreal, together with some others, I left that interesting place on Monday morning, and again had in our party the Dowager Countess of Shrewsbury and Lady Selkirk, Miss E. Ramsay, daughter of Mr. A. G. Ramsay of Hamilton, and others. As the Banff Springs Hotel is a couple of miles from the station, and then when you "get there" find no station, it seems rather rough to find your "left baggage" on the platform and only protected by a cover. The unanimous opinion of the passengers was that the best thing the C.P.R. could do would be to have a place where passengers could sit down, and a room or at least a shed for baggage not required during the stay at the hotel. All the passengers were loud in their complaints regarding this poor provision for their accommodation and convenience. One of our distinguished passengers carried a large satchel which some one suggested should be accommodated with—not a back seat—but an "outside seat;" but No! the reply came, it "will not be put outside, I will keep it on my lap," although it did inconvenience two or three passengers. But what of that—"blood will tell." The train arrived on time and all made a rush for the Pullman, and those who had not secured berths were bowing most politely to the coloured gentleman who had charge of the car.

To many of your readers it would be an insult to describe what not a few of them have seen, and what no doubt many more of them have read with much interest, but the scenery was grand, and as many of our passengers were from the old country they all said that the half had not been told them.

THE GLACIERS.

We stopped here for breakfast, and attracted by the scenery, a number of our passengers stayed off, as this is one of the most interesting points on the whole line. It is the summit of the Selkirks, named after Lord Selkirk whose grandson's widow was a passenger in the train. The hotel is situated high up among the mountains, and although you

would not expect any comforts yet you are surprised to find the highest type of civilization and a hotel which is run on the very best principles.

VICTORIA,

the capital of the province is in Vancouver Island, and is reached by steamer from Vancouver. The citizens of Victoria complain that when establishing the new city of Vancouver, the Vancouverites stole their name. Since my last visit here Victoria has improved very much. Real estate has been selling freely and at satisfactory prices. Small wooden houses have given place to handsome brick blocks, and a large number of private residences have been erected while on every side are to be seen signs of substantial prosperity. There are several large wholesale stores where a large trade is done with the mainland. The churches are all prosperous, and show signs of life and material prosperity. A very imposing edifice is nearing completion, which is being erected by the congregation of St. Andrew's of which the Rev. P. McF. McLeod is pastor. It is expected that the church will be ready for occupation this winter, and although Mr. McLeod has been less than two years settled in the congregation, increased accommodation has been rendered necessary. The church will be a credit, not only to the wealthy and important congregation of St. Andrew's, but to the denomination in general. The First Church, situated on Pandora street is in good shape, the pastor, Rev. Donald Fraser, is doing excellent work. Several alterations and improvements have been made in the interior of the building, but the principal improvement noticeable is the increased attendance at public worship—every seat was occupied. We predict a successful future for Presbyterianism in Victoria. It is also gratifying to find that prosperity is not confined to our own denomination. The Methodists are arranging to build a new church on the same street where their present church stands. The pastor, Rev. J. E. Starr, is a Toronto man, and I understand is to be invited to one of the prominent churches in this city next year.

VANCOUVER,

as is well known, is now the terminus of the C.P.R. and most of the through passengers, no matter how much they have enjoyed the trip and the scenery, are quite ready to bid good-bye to the train officials. Quite a bustling crowd is to be met on the platform, some rushing for the hotels, others enquiring concerning routes for Victoria, Seattle and Tacoma. Between the cities of Vancouver and Victoria there is a vigorous but honest and honourable rivalry; but unlike St. Paul and Minneapolis in Minnesota, they cannot meet or become one in the future seeing that they are separated by the sea, so that each must work out its own destiny. The growth of Vancouver is phenomenal, and should it only grow at half its present ratio in the future, it must become one of the most important cities in the Dominion.

As is the case elsewhere Presbyterianism has taken a strong hold there, and leads the other denominations. In the east end we have the irrepressible Thompson—the pioneer of Presbyterianism in the terminal city. Mr. Thompson and his struggling congregation passed through a baptism of fire when church and manse and minister's sermons were all destroyed by the fiery element, but the man who made the old sermons which fed the flames remained to make others to comfort and console those who had lost their all. But from this rough and unsettled town there emerged a new and beautiful city now boasting 12,000 inhabitants, and which in a short period of time is destined to be one of the most important cities on the continent.

During the summer of 1887 a new Presbyterian Church was organized, and so rapid was the increase that the congregation erected a temporary place of worship and called the Rev. E. D. McLaren of Brampton, one of our most esteemed young ministers to be the pastor of the new but promising church. It soon became evident that the old church was not sufficient to accommodate the growing congregation. They set about erecting a new building on a prominent site, which will be ready for opening this winter. Whatever loss our church may sustain by the removal of Mr. McLaren from the Toronto Presbytery, one thing is clear, the church on the coast will be a decided gainer, as Mr. McLaren will be a worthy representative of a Church that with all her imperfections is destined to be the Church of the millennium.

Several new churches have been erected and others are in course of construction, and if the people of Vancouver are not a God-fearing, religious people, it will not be for the want of churches or ministers.

The Methodists have recently opened a beautiful little church and so have the Baptists. In the former church, of which the Rev. Mr. Robson is pastor, was held a harvest festival, and the Sabbath evening previous the Rev. E. D. McLaren preached to an overflowing congregation, several persons had to go away who could not find standing room. The pastor of this church, Mr. Robson, is brother of the Hon. John Robson, Premier of the province, who is a member and elder of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria and who like many others is a credit to Ontario, having come from Perth in that province.

The press is well represented here, two good daily papers—the *News-Letter*, issued in the morning and the *World* in the evening, the latter edited by two worthy knights of the Guild—Mr. MacLagan, formerly of Ontario; and Mr. O'Brien from Bathurst, N. B. Anything they don't know about a newspaper is not worth knowing. K.

Vancouver, Nov., 1889.