

*Missionary Intelligence.*

LETTER FROM REV. R. JAMIESON.

*To the Editor of the Record.*

New Westminster, B.C., March 8th, 1864.

MY DEAR SIR.—It is probable Mr. Duff's departure to British Columbia will be occupying the attention of your readers ere this reaches you. The time and occasion, therefore, may not be inopportune to give a very short sketch of ecclesiastical affairs in this Colony, above New Westminster.

Eighty miles up the river there is a small, almost deserted village named Hope, where the Church of England has a resident minister and a church. It is confidently expected, however, that it will yet be a place of some importance, as it is the outlet of a large district of good agricultural land to the east, called the Similkameen and Okanagan districts. Fifteen miles further up the river we reach Yale, the head of steamboat navigation on the lower Fraser. The population is about four hundred, chiefly foreigners. Here there are two churches and two resident ministers—Methodist and Church of England. A considerable business is done at Yale during the summer, as it is one of the two routes to the mines; and passengers and goods exchange the steamboat for the splendid waggon road lately constructed, and which is really a triumph of engineering skill. About fifty miles above Yale is Lytton at the junction of the Thompson River with the Fraser, a small place with no provision for any religious services, except a few occasional visits by the only resident minister at Lillooet, forty-three miles higher up. Those going to the mines by the Yale route here leave the Fraser and turn to the right up the Thompson, and meet those going by the Douglas-Lillooet route at a point about seventy-five miles from Lytton and fifty from Lillooet, where the two roads join at a place named Clinton, where some efforts have been made to induce a town to grow.

Coming back we shall make a start from this by the other route to the mines. We ascend the river again for fifty miles, strike in by the Harrison river, seven miles which brings us to Harrison lake, forty three long, at the end of which is the town of Douglass, with a population of about 200. Here again we meet with a church and a resident minister belonging to the Church of England. Various portages and lakes have now to be crossed for about 120 miles before we reach the next place of importance—Lillooet, with a population of about 400. Here the other branch of the waggon-road commences which connects with that from Yale as already stated. The Church of England has a resident minister and church at Lillooet. This is all the stated provision yet made for the religious wants of the Colonists, with the exception of the erection of two churches in the mines last summer, one Episcopalian, and one Methodist—but which have been left unsupplied during the long and tedious Cariboo winter, though hundreds of miners remained up there. There are thus above this point, (which your readers will remember is only fifteen miles into the country), one Wesleyan and four Episcopalian ministers. A few come from Vancouver Island during the summer and hold services at the mines on the different creeks. Perhaps I should have mentioned that Lillooet is about 250 miles from the Cariboo region. Besides the towns or villages mentioned, there are quite a number of settlers thinly scattered along the different routes. A number of families are gradually finding their ways to various points where even the occasional services of a minister might prove highly valuable. This winter a man and his wife with five children belonging to our congregation here, have gone to keep a wayside inn or tavern far above Lillooet, and the nearest neighbours four miles from them. Some, however, seem to be able to dispose easily of their children if they are in their way. A family calling themselves Presbyterians live in a certain town up the country, and the woman or mother passed