

youthful holiday makers when assembled presented such a gay and happy scene as might make older and sterner hearts unbend to the feelings of the hour. Their very looks and tone and gesture bespoke fullness of joy and gladness. Indeed nature seemed to be in sympathy for she turned on them her fairest face. The sun shone out clear and bright and warm. The fields and forests and meadows laughed from amongst their richest robes of grass, and flowers and foliage.

The children being assembled, to the number of 200, formed and walked in procession accompanied by their teachers and many of their parents and guardians, to a grove near the residence of the Honble A. Macfarlane, where Mrs. Macfarlane and other ladies had exercised their ingenuity and generosity in preparations for their amusement and entertainment. After they had enjoyed for a considerable time the sports and gambols so dear to young and buoyant natures, they sat down to a table richly laden with all the dainties of the season. Tea being over short and suitable speeches were made by Rev. Jas. Anderson, Minister of St. Matthew's, Rev. Mr. Nicolson, Woodstock, Rev. Mr. Goodwill, Scotsburn, and Honble A. Macfarlane. Between the addresses the children sung some nice and appropriate hymns. Having concluded the programme of the day by singing the National Anthem, the assemblage dispersed; each little and big heart filled with pleasant associations and remembrances of the pic-nic.

Wallace, 22rd July.

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JAMES BAY, VICTORIA, V. I. }  
BRITISH COLUMBIA, April 27, 1868. }

JOHN W. BROOKE, D. D.,

*Clerk Synod of New Brunswick:*

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

I have already taken the opportunity of describing the position of the Church of Scotland in this colony, by communications to the various magazines of the Church, but venture to write directly to the Synod of New Brunswick, in the hope that the subject may come under the consideration of the Fathers and Brethren at their next meeting.

As the sentinel of the Church of Scotland in the furthest west, I have frequently stated the weakness of the position, and urgently cried for help. If unheeded, the issue may prove disastrous to the missionary enterprise of the Church. One minister is surely inadequate to the wants of a colony 200,000 square miles in extent, and one congregation far from being a suitable representation of the Church of Scotland in a land where so many of her children are gathered.

The Colonial Committee have maintained a mission here for five years—the united and prosperous congregation of St. Andrew's

Victoria, is the result. They have also agreed to appoint a colleague who will alternately with myself preach one month in Victoria and itinerate in the outlying districts of the island. They have had much difficulty in finding a qualified minister willing to accept the appointment, so that a year's delay has taken place since the promise of assistance was given. The managers have sent in a strong recommendation in favor of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Campbelltown, New Brunswick, and an urgent invitation to himself, and tho' not advised of the result, indulge the hope that it will be favourable.

As the St. Andrew's congregation comprises the whole Presbyterian population of the city with the exception of a few individuals of peculiar views, little need be done for Victoria at present, unless it should appear that an educational institution might be originated.

At Nanimo, the town next in importance upon the island the Presbyterians enjoy the ministrations of a missionary of the United Church of Canada.

At New Westminster on the mainland of British Columbia, lately the capital of the Colony, a Church has been built under the auspices of the same Church, and although it has been vacant for a year it would be well to await the further action of the Church, which first entered the field.

It would be of great advantage were a minister appointed for the districts of Cariboo, Saltspring, and Comox. These are all upon the island and being rapidly filled up by industrious and prosperous settlers, many of whom are from the Maritime Provinces and Canada, and sincerely attached to the Church of their forefathers. In each of these districts there are about sixty families.

The establishment of a minister in Cariboo the seat of the mining population in the mainland, would be fruitful in spiritual good and do much to strengthen the position of the Church of Scotland in the colony. It has been strangely neglected by all the Churches. There are in this place alone 2000 in summer, and 1000 in winter, and yet the only provision for their spiritual wants is in the presence of a Roman Catholic priest. The conditions of life are now so well established that many of the miners and some of their families remain permanently there. The mines are proving better than ever, and the present population is likely to be speedily and largely increased. There are many Presbyterians, and non-conformists from England from whom a minister of our Church would receive a cordial welcome, and I have such confidence in the intelligence, liberality, and good feeling of the mining population of Cariboo, that I feel certain the first who enters as the minister of Cariboo would be warmly supported by all classes, whether Methodist, Presbyterian or Episcopalian.