

in British Columbia we have a needy though not very promising field. In view of the relation which we hope to see that country yet sustain to Canada, we cannot regard it as the duty of our Church to overlook the claims of our countrymen there. And while mission work on the Pacific coast is necessarily very expensive, we are glad to state that our people there are putting forth commendable efforts to bear a larger proportion of it themselves.

In Red River, our mission staff has been reinforced during the year by Rev. John McNabb and by Mr. D. B. Whimster. They reached the Colony just as the disturbances broke out, which at present prevail in that region. It is hoped that these troubles will soon be settled, and our work there will tell powerfully on the religious welfare of the whole region, which we trust soon to see the abode of prosperous civilized communities. The seasonable addition made to the mission staff, during the present year, entails an increased expense which the approaching collection will require to meet.

In the Saskatchewan Mission, Rev. James Nisbet and his assistants continue to labour with encouraging tokens of success. Unlike many missionaries to the heathen who have had to wait many years for the first fruits of their labours, they have already seen marked evidence of good accomplished.

Nothing has yet been done to establish a Mission to any other section of the heathen world. The state of the funds, at present, does not warrant such an attempt. The fund is now deeply in debt, and, unless the contributions are much more liberal, the Foreign Mission Committee will be compelled, however reluctantly, to curtail rather than enlarge their operations. We sincerely trust there will be such a response made to this appeal as will dispel all thoughts of such a painful and humiliating alternative.

WM. McLAREN, *Convener*.

BELLEVILLE, 15th Feb., 1870.

P.S.—Friends of the Saskatchewan Mission can render important aid by sending boxes or parcels of clothing for it. These may be sent any time before the end of March to John S. Playfair, Esq., Toronto, D. McLellan, Esq., Hamilton, D. Morrice, Esq., Montreal, or to the Convener, Belleville.

MISSIONARY ENTERPRISE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

It is not intended in what follows to enter at large into the subject of Christian missions in British Columbia. What is proposed is, mainly, to advert to some of the difficulties which have to be met in carrying on the missionary work in this remote Colony.

Among these difficulties may be mentioned in the outset the expense of living. In a country like this, indeed, which nature has furnished with an inexhaustible supply of what is adapted for the food of man—where the forests swarm with game, and river, lake and ocean with fish in endless profusion—it might well seem as if it were surely not impossible to live at moderate cost. Nor is this a thing impossible in fact. There undoubtedly is a method by which one might contrive to live as cheaply here as probably anywhere else on the face of the earth. That, however, is a method hardly available to the Christian Missionary without his laying aside something of his proper character, and ceasing to give himself wholly to his proper work. For it could be taken advantage of only by his submitting to carefulness and trouble about many things most directly and palpably pertaining to his daily subsistence; by his becoming in the strictest and