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REV. J. H. WHITE

The Rev. James H. White, whose genial countenance is presented in the accompanying cut, is presented in the list of the fathers of the Church in B. C., not because of his age (for he is but a young man yet), but because of the place he has filled in the Methodist work of this Conference since its earliest days. He was born in Sandwich, Ont., in the year 1855, and he is the son of one of our most saintly, and successful, though now deceased ministers.

He was but a tot of four when he looked out upon the "Seas of waters and mountains" in this province, which was, though all unconscious to the child, to be the field of his future toil and triumphs in the Kingdom of God.

It was at a Camp Meeting at Maple Bay that James, a lad of thirteen, first gave himself up to the Holy Spirit and found the "peace the Saviour gives." Not long did he retain the blessings of that meeting, but soon lapsed into a state of semi-indifference till called back by the Master at a powerful meeting, for the salvation of souls on the old Grimsby Camp ground. This second birth took place in the year 1874, and for the years intervening he has been able to declare

"Jesus all the day long
Is my joy and my song."

But this most important incident has carried us out of our latitude, both as to time and space, and we now return to tell that this son of the parsonage was, from childhood, kept "free from ungodly teaching and example" in the home life of those who practised the most lofty and practical form of true piety.

It is one of the calamities of ignorance that "the sons of preachers are the worst in the world." Let us remember that of all the great men who have adorned the most lordly lines of life it will be found that the majority of them were either ministers or directly or indirectly related to them. Or, to put the same fact in another way, no other profession has produced such a large percentage of useful and distinguished characters in the civilized world. Of this fact the subject of this sketch is but one example. Bro. White received his educational groundwork in the schools of New Westminster and Nanaimo, and it was at the latter place that he was for years under the tutorship of the popular young teacher



who was to be, in after days, President of the B. C. Conference in the person of the Rev. C. Bryant, of whom a sketch appeared but recently in these columns.

How little the teacher thought in those pedagogic times that he should be the President, and the little lad at the front desk, the later President of the growing Methodist Conference of this mighty province. But so it came about and the honors, and responsibilities, well became both teacher and pupil.

It was after leaving the common school that the young man spent some time, as a student, at the Willamette University proving his past training as well as his native ability in the world of human thought.

After leaving Willamette University, Bro. White completed his education by a two years' course in Victoria University, then situated in Cobourg, Ont. In

1878 we find his name appearing as a probationer for the ministry, and that year he was stationed in Hamilton under the superintendancy of the sainted Rev. S. D. Rice, D.D., afterward General Superintendent of the Methodist Church. Later we find him at Seneca, Lowville, Kilbridge and Waterdown.

His probation passed with honor he was ordained at Brantford, Ont., under the presidency of the Rev. Alex. Langford, D.D., the preacher for the day being the great orator, the Rev. Geo. Douglas, LL.D., than whom, I suppose, Canada has never heard a greater preacher.

The venerable Dr. Ryerson was one of the elder ministers present whose hands were laid, for ordination, upon the head of the young men that day.

In passing we will all pray that a double portion of their spirit may continue