

I have to study up. I am getting interested in the story of Jesus Christ—was he not a wonderful character—I have begun to attend Church, and I don't know where it is to end. But, anyway, this is a better country than mine to rear a family in; and religion is not a bad thing in the up-bringing of children; and I guess I shall stay here till they are grown up, however much longer."

3. Missions are correcting, moulding, elevating the tone of public opinion. To a number of mining camps missionaries have from time to time been sent. They have found stores, saloons and dance halls open on the Sabbath; this was the day for games, races and picnics. The protest of the missionary at first was like the voice of one crying in the wilderness. But time was on his side; and what he prayed, preached and worked for, by God's blessing, came—a quiet Sabbath, with shops and saloons closed, and other species of Sabbath desecration an unpleasant memory. Twenty years ago it was not unusual in the West to see the mower and reaper at work on Sabbath; to-day in the busiest time in harvest, not a sheaf is cut, stacked or threshed between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains.

4. Missions create respect for law and order. The law protects life and goods. Heterogeneous as the population of the West is, the convictions for serious crimes are rare, and the record of Presbyterians is the cleanest in the land.

5. Missions make for the sacredness of marriage and expose the viciousness of divorce; they help to maintain the sanctity of the family, and build up godly homes; they save young men from sore temptations by connecting them with what is purest and best in their early life. Why in the West are saloon keepers principally, gamblers et hoc genus, almost wholly from abroad? These doors that open on the pit are seldom held by Canadians.

6. To Dawson the Rev. A. S. Grant was sent. In a year's time a congregation was gathered, organized and became self-supporting, and a church costing \$11,000 built. He succeeded in getting 'the Good Samaritan Hospital' built; he superintended it during his stay in the north, and had the satisfaction of seeing hundreds cared for and many lives saved. By the Rev. R. M. Dickey at Eldorado and along the mining

creeks; by the Rev. J. A. Sinclair, at Skagway, Bennett and White Horse; and by the Rev. John Pringle, at Glenora, Teslin and Atlin Lake, work has been done that called forth unstinted praise from travellers, newspaper correspondents, government officers, miners, traders and the rest. The writer has seen touching letters sent by sons to their parents telling of their conversion to God through the labors of these men; and the quivering lip, the choking voice and the streaming eye as the letter was read was ample compensation for sacrifice made. The Rev. J. J. Wright took Mr. Grant's place, and the Rev. D. G. Cock, Mr. Dickey's, and reports indicate that they are worthy successors of the pioneers to the Yukon.

7. In September of 1897 a missionary was sent along the Crow's Nest Pass Railway; he found over 4,000 men and he the only missionary. The superintendent of construction, although a Roman Catholic, took kindly to him, gave \$5 a week towards his support and contributed \$250 towards the building of a church. Result, a self-sustaining congregation at Fernie; an augmented charge, asking help for only one year, at Cranbrook; and a promising mission, giving \$10 a Sabbath at Moyie and Kimberly. At Fernie fifteen young men are giving \$1 per Sabbath each to support the missionary.

8. Presbytery of Algoma.—Three mission fields in 1875; to-day five settled charges and twenty-six mission fields. The missions have eighty-seven stations, 900 families, 1,174 communicants and 3,500 average Sabbath attendance.

9. Barrie Presbytery.—Since 1883, sixteen missions became congregations, ten of which are self-supporting-credit Home Mission and Augmentation Funds.

10. North Bay Presbytery.—Four self-supporting and three augmented charges; twenty-two missions, with seventy-two stations, 711 families, 885 communicants and 2,553 of an average Sabbath attendance—this since 1883, with four exceptions.

11. Western Canada.—	1875.	1899.
Presbyteries	1	15
Congregations	2	121
Missions	10	204
Preaching stations	34	1,040
Communicants	432	22,000
Contributions	\$5,421	\$320,000