

spent a pleasant Sabbath, Dr. Burns preaching in the morning and Dr. Grant in the evening, others supplying the Methodist church.

Early Monday morning we left Calgary, and on Wednesday evening reached Victoria, spending one day at Banff and two days in travelling.

This last six hundred miles is literally "a sea of mountains." To the eye of the husbandman there are few attractions. For wild rugged grandeur of scenery it is unsurpassed. Mountains! Mountains! Bare, steep, rocky, snow-capped, towering high, and lonely, and desolate, greet the vision at every turn, until eye and brain grow weary, and yet they cannot rest, for one, unwilling to lose aught so grand, still strains both eye and brain, wishing, it may be, that wonders would cease and give the weariness relief.

Reaching Victoria we found that the kindness which had been so lavishly bestowed by the friends in Winnipeg still followed us, for instead of having to provide for ourselves, as might reasonably have been expected, we were most hospitably entertained during the two or three days of our stay by the good people of that far West city. On the evening after our arrival a meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church, (Mr. Fraser, minister,) addressed by several of the delegates, and this seemed almost a second closing of Assembly, for our party broke up at the coast, different members returning on different days. Still in most cases there were enough together to make the return journey pleasant as the outgoing trip had been, the sights of the way bearing repetition without loss of interest.

One feature of our trip that will long be remembered was the "family worship." On the outward journey the train was at our disposal and we could stop, get out, and have our morning and evening sacrifice of prayer and praise. Now it was on the open prairie with no bound but the horizon to our vision, the level expanse stretching away, away, seemingly infinite, opening the mind to the greatness of the One we worshipped. Again, as at North Bend, the last morning we were together, we were shut in by the everlasting hills. Hoary with age, they were reminders of Him who was "before the mountains were brought forth." Rearing their giant forms aloft as so many spires in the grand Cathedral where we sang and prayed,

they told of Him who "weigheth the mountains in scales." And, as now on open prairie, now in mountain glen, there rang forth to music some grand old psalm, that heart would be hard indeed that would not beat responsive to the thought "It is good for us to be here."

One thought that gets well beaten in during a railway ride from the Atlantic to the Pacific is the size of our country, and coextensive with that the size of our church. The writer preached one Sabbath in New Westminster on the Pacific Coast; the next Sabbath in Winnipeg, and the Sabbath following in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. The distance between the extremes being, by rail, about three thousand seven hundred and fifty miles, or one thousand two hundred and seventy miles farther than across the Atlantic from Halifax to Liverpool.

A church of that extent is certainly a large enough subject for reflection and there are one or two such reflections which we venture to print.

One is the responsibility that rests upon her to see that the land in which she is, is provided through all its length and breadth with a pure gospel.

Another, is her duty, considering the means at her disposal, to the heathen world.

A third reflection which forces itself upon one is, that in a church covering such an extent of territory, it is not the wisest, most economical, or best, arrangement to bring her representatives together every year and to attempt to legislate for the whole from one centre. Might there not be an Eastern, a Central, and a Western, Synod, each of which would be able to do what the Assembly cannot do, keep an intelligent oversight of all the work within its bounds. Might not these Synods have greater power and more work to do than is now given to Synods, and might not Assembly meet once in three years, for such general oversight as might be deemed necessary to reserve to it. If instead of that, the church resort to reduced representation to make the Assembly more wieldy and workable, and send every year, one in eight, or one in twelve, to some central place to do the greater part of its work, the church will be so large that much of the work will be blindly done by many of these present, and the representation will be so small that its deliverances must cease to carry