

much as a source of occupation or wealth as a centre of population, and so of our fisheries and our coal mines; and so now I speak of our agricultural settlements. If we have thousands of men digging for gold, surely it is our duty as a Christian nation to see that these men are not utterly deprived of the means of grace. Yet, my friends, at the same time they are so deprived. We have a church there and a parsonage house there, but, owing to unforeseen circumstances, there is no clergyman there. We had a man there for some years—a hard-working man, one who commended himself to all who knew him by his earnestness and self-denial in his work; but he was unfortunately struck with snow blindness, and was compelled to give up. We have never been able to supply his place; and if we had men we have not the means. With regard to our lumber mills, there are two, often employing as many as 500 hands. They have no means of grace, but a little school has been built, in which for a time we were able to carry on occasional services. It would be a great thing to be able to carry the services to the logging camps. Those men are favourable specimens of those who find occupation in British Columbia. They never allow any strong drink in their camps; their highest indulgence is a pipe of Tobacco. They will always welcome anyone who comes to see them, and they will specially welcome anyone who comes to do them good. As to our agricultural districts, if I tell you how a man places himself on a farm, you will see how a settlement grows up. A man comes into a place with a wife and one or two children. By-and-by, another comes in, and another. As it is a great advantage that they should be close together, very soon we find a little cluster of farmers. I could carry you in imagination some 70 miles up the Fraser river to a settlement from which a special requisition came to the Bishop, signed by nearly all the householders of that settlement, begging him to send them a resident pastor. I give you the very words of the requisition:—"We, the undersigned residents of Chilliwak, do humbly pray your lordship to consider the great necessity of a church in this settlement. When we consider the active means employed by clergymen of other denominations to visit the members of their churches here, we feel ourselves sadly neglected; an Episcopal service has never yet been held here. Should your lordship be pleased to erect a church in this settlement, an acre of land in a central position on the main road will be placed at your lordship's disposal. Our public school house could be used for the present. Hoping your lordship may be pleased to grant us a service even once a fortnight, your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray." The Bishop has been unable to comply with this reasonable request.