

tinued interest in your welfare. It has been my privilege, as a pioneer missionary, here and in other places in the western portions of this Province, to gather together the scattered portions of Christ's Church, but in no district have I met with more kindness and true friendliness. And though it is now more than three years since we parted, I am safe to say that no day has passed in which I have not remembered the people of Alberni. Yet I hesitated for two weeks to comply with your invitation to be here to-day. True, I had pleasure in the prospect of meeting with you all, but I recoiled from the ordeal of a second parting, remembering the anguish of the first. However, you were then in a very different position, as a church, from what you are now. Then there was no certain prospect of your obtaining a missionary. Now you have stationed amongst you an able and zealous minister, who will carry on the work of Christ begun by his predecessors; and also an excellent church which will be as a centre from which, we trust, good and holy influences will flow over the whole community. My friends, many changes—some sad ones—have taken place since we last met. Some who no doubt would have been here to-day have gone to their last resting place. Soon we must follow them. May death find each of us ready, trusting, simply trusting in Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world."

The building of the church in Alberni was begun six months ago, but owing to the prevailing wetness of the weather, it could not be completed and made fit for services. Viewed from the public road the newly finished church presents a bold and substantial appearance, and is a standing monument to the energy, zeal and Christian liberality of the inhabitants of Alberni. Members of all denominations contributed, either in money or labor, towards its erection; and members and adherents of the church are much indebted to the kindness of friends in Victoria and elsewhere, who have given or promised handsome contributions towards defraying the expenses connected with the building. A general financial statement of the expenses, prepared by Mr. Huff, the secretary of the Building Committee, shows that the whole cost of the building, including voluntary labor, amounts to a little over \$1,000, leaving a deficit not yet paid or promised of not less than \$150. The collection at the Sunday service amounted to the handsome sum of \$47.50."

