

are over thirty of those at the Camp Presbyterians, about one-third of whom are married and have their wives and children with them. I have been speaking with a few of them to day who purpose (D.V.) remaining in the country when their present term of service expires, and becoming permanent residents of the place. They are a fine, steady, respectable, and very intelligent body of men. There are about 180 in all at the Camp.

On the day of my arrival the Rev. Mr. White, Wesleyan Methodist, called upon me, welcomed me to New Westminster, and invited me to preach for him on the Sabbath as he was to be absent in Victoria. He also very kindly gave me liberty to make any announcement I pleased relating to my own business, and also the use of the church during the week for any meetings I might wish to have with the Presbyterians of the place. Printed notices were accordingly put up through the city on Saturday announcing that the missionary to British Columbia from the Canada Presbyterian Church, would preach in the Wesleyan Church at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M.

I did so to large and very attentive congregations—about 120 each time. At the conclusion of the services I called a meeting of the Presbyterians which took place there on Tuesday evening, the 18th instant, when we had about forty-five present, though the night was rather unfavourable, and the arrival of a steamer at the time prevented some. I then made a short statement, giving an account of the action of our Synod at its last meeting with regard to this mission, the action of the Committee subsequently, my object in coming amongst them, and my intention to give them constant "supply" for the present, and in due time to organize them into a congregation. To this statement they very heartily responded, and appointed a committee to procure a temporary place for public worship on Sabbath first and subsequent Sabbaths, and make the necessary arrangements; and likewise another large committee to raise funds for clearing and fencing one of the sites—the erection of a manse in the first place (as a suitable dwelling house cannot be obtained)—and a church afterwards. Since the meeting the committee have obtained the use of the Court-house, which is convenient and suitable. Yesterday we held our first meetings there—present twenty-two of the military, over thirty civilians, and one female, in the forenoon; about fifty in all in the evening, two of whom were military and no female!

At the meeting on Tuesday night there was a most earnest and liberal spirit manifested. Indeed there was a literal following of the example of those spoken of in Isaiah xli. 6, 7, "They helped every one his neighbour; and every one said to his Brother, Be of good courage. So the carpenter encouraged the gold smith, and he that smoothed with the hammer him that smote the anvil."

Such, my dear Brother, is the commencement of our good work in British Columbia—a much better and more encouraging commencement than I had anticipated from our long delay in occupying the field. Brought face to face with the work, and looking around upon the difficulties to be met with, and trusted, tried, and experienced friends to whom I have been in the habit of resorting for advice and assistance, far, far distant. I might well shrink from the undertaking, especially in view of its responsibility, did I not feel persuaded that myself and family and field for labour are the subjects of many fervent prayers—and as fully persuaded that it is not by "might nor by power, but my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts," that the glorifying of His name and the salvation of souls depend; and farther, that the promise of the God of Jacob, "the seed of Abraham, my friend," is sure to all his seed—"Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will uphold thee by the right hand of my righteousness. Fear not thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel."

The population of this place is eleven hundred (exclusive of the Royal Engineers and a large number of Indians all round the place), and likely to