

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

THIS prosperous and self-sustaining Mission Church, gives undeniable evidence of having godly and zealous disciples of Christ, enjoying the happiness of a sincere religious life themselves and seeking to bestow the blessings of salvation on others who "are ready to perish." This is Bro. Russ's second appointment to Victoria, and though approached by him tremulously, the letter from him will show he has been greatly blessed and encouraged in his labours.

NICOLA VALLEY is at length occupied by a Methodist missionary, after several years of patient waiting on the part of the settlers, so long destitute of religious ordinances. We anticipate for our estimable missionary there an ingathering of these wanderers into the fold of Christ.

FORT SIMPSON continues hopeful and promising, as indicated in the Rev. Thomas Crosby's letter. We have a teacher ready to join in the mission work there as soon as a favourable opportunity for her undertaking the long journey presents itself.

From the REV. A. E. RUSS, dated Victoria, December 9th, 1875.

As I have a release from next Sabbath I have more time this week for correspondence. Since my appointment here by your last Toronto Conference—an appointment, the hardest of my life to bow to—I have been so engrossed with ordinary and special services that writing has been almost out of the question; and now, after wishing to write you, I am obliged to be very brief. Though I entered upon my work here, at my old station, with a tumult of feeling, chiefly from unavoidable circumstances not to be named here, yet the Lord has given us the comfort of prosperity. Up to the present I have received into the Church 55 persons, from sixteen to seventy-five years, beside some children. The official Board has just reviewed one of the most prosperous quarters ever enjoyed by the Church in Victoria. The Sabbath collections for this, the third quarter, were \$465—being \$100 over the best preceding

quarters,—and the class money or quarterage largely in advance, about \$100 more. All the services were never known to be so largely attended. I have not one evening free from meeting, and the pastorate in this city is never done, though I devote to that essential work fully one-half of my time. Had I a good pastorate colleague I should often feel greatly aided as well as relieved in mind. The pastorate is the more heavy owing to the increase of my congregation, and the fact of two pastors having been associated here in this church for two years.

I trust no vain spirit of mine has mingled in the above intimations of success, knowing that the Lord has done us good, and that He has been better to us than all our fears.

Through the mercy of God since my return from Ontario—a short visit that did me so much good—my health and vigour have been greatly renewed,