

board terminus for a trans-continental line—navigation, sea-room, anchorage, mooring, dockage, wharfage, and large suitable land area adjoining. Port Moody, which is about four miles distant, and which at one time was chosen as the terminus of the railroad, has now been abandoned as the chief commercial and railway centre, although it will always be an important point. It is a snug clear harbour, about three miles long and one and a half miles wide, and will be useful as an adjunct to Burrard's Inlet harbour proper. It is not in itself naturally suitable for a terminal harbour, having to be reached through two narrows, and is deficient in commodiousness and extent of suitable adjoining land area, although it possesses certain advantages that may make it a useful adjunct in the near future. That the Home Mission Committee have acted wisely in providing able supply *at once* for Vancouver City, your readers will I am sure endorse. As regards the actual field for farming, a competent authority says:—

On evidence which I cannot doubt, the following exceptional yields seem to be authentic—three tons of timothy per acre in the twelfth consecutive crop, 80 bushels of wheat, also 62 bushels of fall wheat per measured acre. As the average on several well-tilled farms, the following may be noted: wheat, 40 bushels per acre; oats, 60 to 65; barley, 40; timothy, 3 to 3½ tons; turnips, 40 to 50 tons. The roots are enormous; potatoes and vegetables, with squashes, pumpkins, melons, cucumbers and tomatoes; also varieties of corn, do very well. Hops are a good crop. The ordinary fruits of a temperate climate grow large and fine in all parts of the district. I saw a 2 lb pear, a 1½ lb apple and an 8 ounce plum.

The New Westminster district is not merely an arable or dairying district, but is filled with salmon-canning factories and with lumbermen. Silver lodes exist in many localities, and minerals of all kinds abound in the province. It will thus be seen that there is a great future before such a district possessed of such a soil and climate, and so well supplied with communications by railway and seaboard. While as a farming country it may never reach what Manitoba is, it offers great inducements to men of some means, and has in it all the elements of solid and permanent progress.

Of the *Yale District*, the Kamloops Valley, and the Kootenay district I have not space to speak. But from all accounts these

localities offer inducements not behind the more populous centres of Victoria and New Westminster, and call for speedy action on the part of our Church. What we have long desired in British Columbia—one strong Presbytery, able to take the oversight of the entire Province—is likely soon to be realized. The Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, with ourselves, are earnestly desirous for a union of their ministers with ours, and recognise that we are in a better position than they are to supervise the field. Whether this most desirable consummation shall be reached during the present year or not is uncertain, but in any case the Presbyterian Church in Canada is now regarded as the one to whom Presbyterians in new fields must look for supply of Gospel ordinances.

While entering with new vigour upon British Columbia, we dare not neglect *Manitoba* and the *North-West*. What we have gained there must be held. That in so short a time we should have three good Presbyteries in that recently "unknown land," is surely worthy of grateful mention. In a review of our Church work, published in Winnipeg on the 1st of January, we find the following record:—

	1871.	1884.
Congregations and mission stations.....	9	273
Ministers and Missionaries	4	92
Families.....	198	6,000
Contributions for all religious purposes.....	\$2,195	\$89,085

This rapid growth has been largely during the last three years. In that time the church has more than doubled her membership and families, quintupled her Sabbath-schools, more than trebled her churches, and increased her manes fourfold. Although immigration received a decided check last summer, eight new fields were occupied. Missionaries were sent to Fort Macleod, Ft. Saskatchewan, Medicine Hat, Yorkton, Cathcart, Touchwood, Elkhorn and the Shell River country. In connection with these fields there are 23 mission stations. During the summer of 1883 fourteen new fields with 71 stations were opened up.

In the *Prince Albert District*, we find from recent letters sent by Mr. McWilliam, our able minister at that point, that the people there, however willing, will not be able this year to meet the demands made upon them to support religious ordinances.

The crops throughout the district are almost a total failure, so much so that their only hope