

news that our dear brother had passed from labor to reward. I then left for Victoria, visiting Saanich, Cowitchan, Cheamuns, Nanaimo, on the coast of the Island, preaching to the tribes in all these places, and I never felt more that we need a travelling missionary among the Indians all the time on that coast. The people seemed all glad to see me, and to hear the Word. Our work at Nanaimo is being sustained by Bro. Sale, school teacher, and Bro. Cushon, class-leader, under Bro. Derrick as superintendent.

At Victoria our dear friends are feeling the loss of our now sainted brother David. He labored hard, and it was his delight to preach Jesus, and I do not see how they are to sustain the work without him; but we must look to the Lord of the harvest for the "Davids." But oh! shall we ever have another so good, so devoted? He was the most perfect Christian I ever knew,—beloved by everybody that knew him. For weeks after the Indians here heard of his death, they would refer to some truth that he had told them, and then they would weep, and say they hoped soon to meet in the "Happy Land." At our camp-meeting last September he was here with us in feeble health, and in speaking once he remarked his body was weak, but he would soon have two wings. And in his last class-meeting he said he was about to leave to go to Victoria, but he did not think he should find rest there, or at Nanaimo his old home, among his friends—no rest there; but he would soon have rest in heaven. And he spoke of our late Chairman, Mr. White, and that he should meet him; and to his old heathen father who was by his bed-side weeping: "Don't

weep for me, but weep for yourself; I am happy, and going to my sister, (a young woman who died very happy some five years ago); but my heart is sad, for I fear if you don't get a good heart I shall not see you there." May God bless the old father and mother, and lead them to Christ.

I also visited Buriard's Inlet and Ralsey, on Bro. Russ's Circuit. Here is work to be done, but I cannot stay more than to call and preach to them and on again. We need help on that Circuit. They are doing some good in Sunday Schools there, and the people say, "Come oftener; while you are away the bad spirit comes and takes all the words away that you told us." What are we to do among forty thousand Indians, with one missionary scattered over hundreds of miles? We must have help!

When I got home again to visit the tribes in this Mission, I found that a storm had passed over and blown down our little church at Rulters Lake, so that Capt. John and his people are now without a place to worship in, after they had worked so hard to get it complete, and both by money and labor had tried to get it to look neat. But as soon as the Spring opens we must get to work and rebuild, for it is a great loss to our work, and how to raise the money I know not; but we trust God will incline the hearts of friends to help.

We have now an "Indian Agent" for this Province, so that we hope to be properly represented as a Church in the next Report by the Secretary of State on Indian affairs; for I am sorry to see, by some strange blunder, our work as a Church was not noticed in the last year's Government Report.

*From the Rev. A. E. Russ, dated New Westminster, October 29th, 1872.*

A line about the work of our second quarter should have reached you before this. A large Circuit, full of demands upon a preacher, with weekly rounds visiting the appointments, seems to make time short. The annual high-water of July and August increases the travelling expenses, as it is more difficult to contend with the current of the swollen Fraser, and hence the need of two Indians instead of one.

Intemperance, with other snares of Satan, has done the church harm in

a few instances; yet devoted brethren and sisters in Christ are holding up by their labors and life the Christian standard of holiness unto the Lord.

Though the quarter is not marked by any special extension, still we are all praying, "Lord, revive thy work, and send now prosperity." Our membership remains about the same as that last reported, 56; and the Indian school, varying from 5 to 25, is well cared for by Bro. Dawson and staff, though a regular interpreter would be a great help.