



REV. GEORGE HILLS, D.D.,
First Bishop of Columbia.

tion will soon be changed to Victoria, the name of the sea city.

At the time of the formation of these three dioceses there were, in all, twenty-six clergymen, eleven in Vancouver Island, eleven in New Westminster and four in Caledonia. The clergy in Vancouver alone now number twenty-four, and their Synod is thoroughly organized with bishop, clergy and lay representatives. At the Third Session of the Fifth Synod, held in the City of Victoria on June, 14th and 15th, 1892, Bishop Hills said of the progress of the Church:

"Not only have we our own internal statistics, showing a marked progress in the growth of the Church of England in the Province, but we learn important facts from the recently completed Dominion Census for 1891. From that census it appears that the Church of England has made greater progress in British Columbia than any other religious body, the progress being thirty-one per cent. of the whole increase of population during the decade. No doubt this is mostly due to immigration, but also, we may hope to the blessings attending the increase of the Episcopate, treble number of clergy, and efforts in opening and carrying on new missions in districts heretofore neglected. Considering how peculiarly cosmopolitan, from special circumstances, the Pacific Province has always been, its population having been gathered from all points, rather than direct from the mother country, this result is an encouragement to both clergy and laity of the Church of England. It is indeed a call for increased zeal on the part of all."

Shortly after this Synod was held the venerable bishop felt constrained, by his age and failing health, to withdraw from his work, but

he resigned it in the midst of evident marks of prosperity. The clergy had increased from eleven to twenty-four, representing twenty-one parishes or mission stations. Five of these are in the City of Victoria, viz.: Christ Church Cathedral, St. John's, St. James', St Barnabas', and St. Saviour's. There are fifty-eight lay representatives in the Synod.

At Nanaimo, a town on the eastern coast of Vancouver, there are about four hundred Chinese, for whose evangelization very little, if anything, has been done. On the opposite side of the harbour from Victoria, on an extensive area of land, is the Indian reserve, allotted to the Songhish tribe, now greatly reduced in numbers.

It has been their chief dwelling place from time immemorial. Occasional Sunday duty is done among them by the clergy of Victoria.

On November 22nd, 1892, the Synod met in Victoria for the purpose of electing a successor to Bishop Hills, the Venerable Augustine Scriven, M.A., Archdeacon of Vancouver, presiding. The first ballot resulted as follows:—

| | Clergy | Laity |
|---|--------|-------|
| For Archdeacon Scriven | 7 | 6 |
| For Dean Carmichael (Montreal)..... | 4 | 10 |
| For reference to Archbishop of Canterbury | 8 | 20 |
| For Rev. Cañon Padget, London Eng.... | 1 | 0 |
| | 20 | 36 |

Three more ballots were taken without producing much variation from the above, except that in the last of the three Canon Padget received a vote of five clergy and eighteen laity.

On the fifth and last ballot it was decided by a vote of twenty-one clergy and twenty-four laity to leave the appointment in the hands of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

His Grace shortly afterwards appointed the Rev. W. W. Perrin, D.D., Vicar of St. Luke's, Southampton, who is spoken of as one of the "most hardworking and popular incumbents in that town." He has been associated with Canon Basil Wilberforce, and is, therefore, an ardent supporter of the temperance cause. It is hoped that the new bishop will give a healthy impetus to the Church in Vancouver Island.

A WRITER in one of our religious weeklies tells the following story: "A lady once asked John Wesley this question: 'If, said she, 'you knew that you would die at twelve o'clock to-morrow night, how would you spend the intervening time?' 'Why,' said Wesley, 'just as I intend to spend it. I should preach to-night at Gloucester and again to-morrow morning. After that I'd ride to Tewksbury, preach in the afternoon, and meet the society in the evening. I should then repair to friend Martin's house, as he expects to entertain me, converse, pray with the family, retire to my room at ten o'clock, commend myself to my Heavenly Father, lie down to sleep and awake in glory.'"