

Missionary Intelligence.

MISSION WORK IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

EDITOR OF RECORD:

MY DEAR SIR,—Another year is gone, and as you have heard but little concerning us, a few words of review may prove interesting to some of your readers and the supporters of this Mission. With the exception of the first two years of our work, we have had little or nothing of an encouraging nature to communicate, either as regarded the colony or our own efforts. For five or six years we have toiled on amid many distressing discouragements, and while the very existence of the colony seemed trembling in the balance, and depopulation and depression sorely tried our faith and patience. But the clouds are breaking. Though we have not yet benefited by immigration, depression has given way to confidence on the part of the few thousands scattered throughout our wide borders. The fact has at length been fully realized that "it is a country fit for settlement after all;" and now comes confederation with Canada—our political emancipation—and a Pacific railroad to make assurance doubly sure, and cheer the heart of the most despondent. Without confederation the settlement of this colony would be a very slow, though I believe sure affair; and without the railroad confederation would be useless. May God speed the day and bless the work.

Our own work, too, presents a more cheerful aspect. Details cannot here be given, but brief mention may be made of a number of reasons for special gratitude, encouragement and acknowledgment.

1st. We have had a greater number of additions to our membership from among ourselves—or by examination—than in any previous year.

2nd. A greater number of baptisms, adult and infant.

3rd. A greater number of communicants present at the different dispensations of the Lord's Supper.

4th. A great increase in pecuniary contributions towards the support of our cause. Only once before was there any attempt made in that direction. The last year I was here, previous to leaving for Nanaimo, four hundred dollars were with difficulty obtained. Last year the amount was nearly double that.

5th. Our ability to penetrate into the interior, and proclaim the saving truths of the gospel over a wider field and to a greater number and variety of people than ever before in the same time.

6th. A good steady attendance at the ordinary Sabbath and week-night services. 'Tis true, much travel and bodily labor are required—going and coming, eighty-six miles must be gone over every three weeks, chiefly in an Indian canoe, in all kinds of weather, in order to supply the four stations now regularly attended to.

7th. Better health enjoyed by the missionary and his family than in any previous year.

Sincerely yours.

R. JAMIESON.

New Westminster, B. C., January 25th, 1871.