

of the river, is a good tract of country, where the people are steadily advancing in material prosperity, and where they should soon be able to support their own minister. This mission extends fifty miles up the river, as far as Yale, and the distance makes it difficult for one man to give it efficient oversight.

The remaining missions in the white work lie east of the Cascade Range. These, as already explained, I was unable to visit, and my information was derived from the testimony of others. CLINTON is 100 miles north from Yale, on the route to Cariboo, and some 30 miles from Cache Creek, on the Thompson River, the nearest point on the Pacific Railway. It is adjacent to a good grazing country, but it is not likely ever to become a place of any importance, and the prospects, from a missionary point of view, are not very encouraging. NICOLA and SPALLUMPCHEEN lie south of the Thompson River, and having a considerable amount of agricultural and grazing country, and being easily accessible from the railway, may yet have a large population; but it will be many years before either field becomes self-sustaining.

In regard to the support of our English Missions in British Columbia, I think the time has come when the appropriations should be made *pro rata*, as in other parts of the work; but in that case another basis should be adopted. The cost of living on the Pacific Coast is much higher than in Ontario or the Maritime Provinces; in the interior it is enormously higher. Market prices in Victoria for many of the staple articles of consumption are fully 50 per cent. higher than here. East of the Cascades they are fully 100 per cent. higher, except meat, which is cheaper there than at the coast.

III.—MISSIONS TO THE INDIANS.

As already stated, there are some 25,000 Indians in British Columbia. In the southern part of the country our missions have reached those on the Fraser, and latterly those in the Nicola country, east of the Cascade Range. Something, but not much, has also been done for those who visit Victoria, and in former years we had a mission at Nanaimo; but our chief work at present, apart from the Fraser, is on the west coast, in the Port Simpson District. The tribes reached by us in that region are the following:—

1. *The Tsimpseans*, found chiefly at Port Simpson and Metlakhatla, and on the Naas and Skeena Rivers. They are principally traders and fishermen.

2. *The Hydahs*, who inhabit Queen Charlotte's Island. In former times they were the warriors of the west coast. Their chief industries now are stone-carving, and the manufacture of gold and silver jewellery.

3. *The Kittickshens*, found on the head waters of the Naas and Skeena Rivers, are chiefly hunters and packers. Ponies are used to some extent in the far interior, but elsewhere the men are the burden-bearers. Their strength and endurance are great. An