

the brethren who occupy the more isolated positions in our Mission fields. Portage la Prairie is now a thriving village of considerable extent, and the Mission, under Bro. Hewitt's energetic administration, is making rapid strides towards independence. Moreover, as it has been decided to deflect the line of the Pacific Railway so as to touch the Portage, the commercial future of the place may be regarded as assured. On the Sabbath I had the pleasure of preaching in the little log church (which I hope will soon be replaced by a better building) to a full congregation; and on Monday evening took part in a meeting in the Town Hall, in favor of the Scott Act,—the chief speakers being the Rev. James Scott, of Owen Sound, and the Hon. J. W. Sifton, of Winnipeg.

It was now near the end of September, and as the Central Board of Missions was to meet by the middle of October, it was needful that I should hurry homeward. To visit any more of the Missions in Manitoba was a simple impossibility, and I must therefore content myself with a few general observations in regard to the work as a whole.

In the first place, I would say that the division of the District has proved most beneficial. In its old shape it was simply impossible for any one man to give the work efficient oversight; and if there is one place in our entire work where efficient oversight is more needed than in another, that place is the North-West. At

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I found our work in a condition that proved the wisdom of the choice that sent Dr. Rice to that important field. The people are more than pleased with the appointment, which is saying a good deal of any one who follows a man as popular as Bro. German. Arrangements are being perfected for the erection of a new church, and I have every confidence that by the close of 1881 a building worthy of the denomination will be completed in Winnipeg. The one in contemplation will probably cost not less than \$30,000.

I was able to spend but a single day in Winnipeg; but in the forenoon the Chairmen of the three Districts met, and we spent a couple of hours in consultation about the state of the work, and the duties of the hour. These honored brethren fully understood the situation, and the interests of our Church in that great and growing country could not be in better hands.

On a careful review of all that I saw and heard during my three months' sojourn in the North-West, I am fully convinced—

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