

The Revs. Ephraim Evans, Edward White, Ebenezer Robsen, and Arthur Browning were the first Methodist Missionaries stationed in British Columbia. They landed on the 10th. day of February 1859 at Victoria, and on the 18th. held their first preaching services in the Colony.

Most interesting and enthusiastic reunion services were held in Victoria and other places last February, to commemorate the event. I take the liberty of publishing the following very appropriate lines sent to me by a pioneer layman.

February, 1899.

Forty Years Ago.

Down the long rivers and over the sea,
Then onward through forests and Indian trails.
Up the great canyons and mountainous glens,
On the slope of the mountains that look to the West,
Then over the summits and down to the plains,
Across the great river and shores of the lakes;
There came a great cry from the West and the North,
Come over and help us, oh men of the East.
T'was the Spirit of God took the message along,
And selected the men for the work to be done.
The four who were called said "we will go"
And like valiant men turned their face to the foe.
Then saying farewell to their homes in the East,
They came to our shores with the gospel of peace,
They scattered good seed where thorns tall had grown,
In hearts who had left their religion at home.
They plough'd furrows deep in the more virgin soil,
And gladly they reaped the reward of their toil.
They planted the seed in the Indian mind,
Till from the far Naas to Fraser's broad river,
They sang of His praise who liveth for ever.
British Columbia.

Notwithstanding the fact that so many of our people have been away, the interest in our League has never flagged.

The League has received new badges, and our members consider it quite an honor to have the privilege of wearing one.

We are taking up the topics assigned by the General Society this year, the boys and girls of the Home read the daily readings.

Our Social meetings are always a success a cup of tea and "a good sing" goes a long way with the Indian to give him "a good heart" and these we always have Social night, the last three Social nights we have had solos one in Kitamaat and one in English by Isabella Nice. "Throw out the Life Line," by Henry Nico, "The Ninety and Nine" by Willie Grant.

We made a special effort to have a good programme last week as we expected a good number home. Mr. & Mrs. Raley and Miss Long each sang a solo, these were very much appreciated.

Paul Tate translated into Kitamaat a little story he read in the Guardian about an African conversion, which he related at one of our Social meetings. *M. J. Walker.*

LOCAL ITEMS.

Coal has been lately discovered on the Skeena River.

A party of Kitlopes arriving here on February the ninth report "white" food very scarce.

The first fortunate hunters returned March 6th. with a supply of venison.

Our people have been industrious this past three months, logging, canoe making, obtaining food; now all are home except three families.

The str. "Neil" was 8 days on the rocks near Metlakatla. A high tide took her off before she sustained any damage.

A "Potlatch" is in progress at Fort Rupert on a large scale. The Potlatch is the "beto noire" of all people on the North Pacific Coast who have the welfare of the Indians at heart.

Our long dark winter is nearly over. It has been quite mild with the exception of a severe cold snap in November. But little snow fell before February when we got five feet; signs of spring rejoice our hearts.

The "Barbara Roscowite" whose departure from active work we regretted in a former issue has, we are glad to say, been raised from her watery grave, and is on her old route, with her former obliging officers and crew.

Captain Oliver brings word of a large run of oolachan or candle-fish at the Naas, oolachan run a month earlier at the Naas than at Kitamaat. "An acre of good fishing-ground in the sea will yield more food in a week, than an acre of the best land will do in a year."