

inaugurated the new year by commencing special services in St. James' Hall: the Rev. Mr. Punshon, a popular and talented minister of the Wesleyan connexion delivered the first sermon; to be followed by the Rev. Newman Hall, of Surrey chapel; the Rev. John Graham, of Craven chapel; the Rev. Wm. Brock, of Bloomsbury chapel; the Rev. Henry Allon, of Islington; the Rev. Wm. Chalmers, of St. Marylebone; the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, of Kennington; the Rev. John Stoughton, of Kensington; the Rev. Dr. Archer, of Oxendon street; the Rev. Francis Tuckor; and the Rev. F. A. West, late President of the Wesleyan Conference.

---

The Bishop of London, at a meeting held in the wide-spread parish of Islington, with a view to Church extension, observed that he most fully concurred in the recommendations of the Committee with regard to the advisability of constructing temporary churches until more permanent foundations could be made, because he had always held that the living church was that which should be first gathered together, and not the material fabric of stone and mortar. If men could be assembled to worship God in a temporary building there could be no doubt but that the zeal of the congregation would not rest satisfied until a permanent temple had been raised.

---

The year has opened in Europe with the dark thunder cloud of war looming on the political horizon. Northren Italy is especially excited: the falling of a spark may kindle the train which once fired shall spread havoc and death on a large scale. The attitude of France and Austria respectively to each other is not calculated to dispel the expectation of "war in spring" in sunny Italy. The state of the world demands the efforts of Christians to spread the peace giving word; and calls for strong faith in uttering the prayer, Thy kingdom come—Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

---

The Colonial Missionary Society has appealed to the churches in Britain, for special contributions to establish a mission to British Columbia. The Secretary—the Rev. Thomas James,—in a letter to the Editor of the *British Standard*, says—It is well known that the Imperial Government has resumed the territory heretofore occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company, and erected it into a new colony, under the name of British Columbia. The discovery of gold in that region will, no doubt, attract myriads of our countrymen. Indeed, we are credibly informed that there are already 50,000 English-speaking people to be found there? As far as we know, these are destitute of the means of spiritual instruction. Must they continue so? Will not every one, according to his ability, help to send them the faithful preacher of the Gospel? Believing this, our Committee have resolved to send, with the least possible delay, two or three well-qualified ministers, to enter on this truly promising field of missionary enterprise. But they cannot do this unless they obtain, by special contributions, a sum which will enable them to enter on the work free from anxiety. From the nature of the case, a considerable time must elapse before any local pecuniary help can be realized. The Committee, therefore, feel they should possess from £1,500. to £2,000. in order to carry on the mission with the energy necessary to justify the hope of success. Is this too large a sum to expect from the British churches for such an object?

This movement of our brethren in England will deeply interest the churches in Canada. Our future is closely linked to the "Far West."

---

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS AND LONDON UNIVERSITY.—The Roman Catholic Colleges have forwarded to the University of London an objection of the following kind against examinations in Mental Philosophy:—

That their grounds of objection to this regulation are, that it tends to exclude the Catholic body altogether from the B.A. degree at the London University, because mental philosophy, as studied by Catholics, is not a mere "inquisitio veri," or a history of opinion, but a "demonstratio veri," presupposing the dogmas of