

cuit is now two. Chilliwhack and Sumas Circuit has been set off from this, and is fast rising in importance; yet the present North-West Circuit is large, 40 by 20 miles, with 7 appointments, and travelled by stage, steamboat, canoe, and on foot. A buggy is a luxury not yet.

Perhaps no section of this Province has suffered so much as North-West from the fluctuations of the past. For a short time this city was the seat of Government, and then suddenly removed, bringing business to a dead lock, after a large expenditure in lands, houses, shops, &c.; consequently families well to do were as suddenly thrown into financial embarrassment.

From this withering blow our church in New Westminster has borne up, under painful vicissitudes, with Christian courage worthy of their faith. Notwithstanding these oppressive financial circumstances, the Church has

steadily gone on, enlarging her field, increasing her membership and contributions. In less than two years it has built a respectable parsonage and two churches. This year, in view of a second preacher, it assumes to raise about \$250 more than last.

At present, there is an urgent need of a new church in town, but the funds will not justify the undertaking just now. It is to be hoped that the good people of New Westminster may soon be cheered by a commodious church. Who will help us to build in this place an house for God?

On the parsonage premises a wood-house 12 ft. by 30 ft. has just been completed by myself and colleague, securing the admiration of the Mayor of the city, for he has taken the measure of it to build one for himself. At any rate the rainy season will justify the industry and enterprise of this addition to the parsonage, if not the expense.

## JAPAN.

It is gratifying to be able to record the welfare of our brethren and their families so recent as October 6th. They were heartily and courteously received by the representatives of other Protestant Churches, already diligently at work in that vast Mission field. The following letter from the Rev. GEORGE COCHRAN will be read with interest by the thousands of our Canadian Zion who have presented their offerings, and are constantly sending up their prayers, to spread the knowledge of Christ, and thus hasten the subjugation of the world to His triumphant and benignant sway.

*From the Rev. George Cochran, dated Yokohama, Japan, October 6th, 1873.*

By some fatality our *Guardians* missed from June 4 to July 9, so we are without the usual reports of Conference proceedings. The *Minutes* came to hand last mail, which in some respects compensates for the loss of the *Guardians*. We hope you will send us the *MISSIONARY NOTICES*, that we may learn what our brethren are doing in other parts of the field. You have been in the Mission field, and can doubtless understand the longings of heart for information from the dear home land, experienced by those far away, and amongst strangers.

We have now been two months engaged in the study of the language, and have made what we consider encouraging progress. The first, however, will be wholly consumed in acquiring the ability to talk to the people. None of the Missionaries so far have been able to use the language in public discourse short of from two to four years' study. We hope to be able at the end of one year to use it for purposes of conversation and teaching, and shall press on diligently in study until we can preach in it the unsearchable riches of Christ.