

He was pleasing, supporting, inspiring. He recognized the efficient labors of the missionaries at the lonely outposts, but in view of the conditions and the perils, summoned them to intenser zeal and more heroic action. And when the court adjourned we were all glad to have been witnesses of these things.

But the church had been here many years. Presbyterians are not accustomed to look for things made to hand. They *do* things. They came into the Province primeval. We are reminded that First Church, Victoria, was planted just fifty years ago, and next year New Westminster will celebrate the coming of its first minister. The pioneer ministers of both places I have met. They came here because they counted Him faithful who had promised. These were Revds. Messrs. Hall and Jamieson, both translated. In those early days there came also Messrs. Macgregor, Dunn, McElmon, Fraser and others. The past twenty years has been the growing time of the church, but most of all the decade just closed. We cannot afford, however, to lose sight of the pioneers who sowed the first seeds; men of sterling mould, of simple faith—shall we say, men of the olden type? They toiled and struggled and travelled and preached. Where settlers went, they went. Their message was the strong meat of the word, such as suited the hearers, and when needed the people were sternly rebuked for their sins. They were great men and their gentleness made them great. All honor to their memories. How can we forget them. Our work is only possible because they labored. We have entered into their labors.

In '92 the Synod of British Columbia was formed, with three Presbyteries, covering practically the same ground as the original Presbytery. Gradually the three grew to eight. Then followed the division of the Synod, each embracing a Province—British Columbia, Alberta. Some twenty years ago two ministers did duty in the Spallumcheen and Okanagan districts. What work these men did! They covered forty miles square. They are working still. Did one of them at one time advertise for "a stout pony to do the work of a country parson?" I hope he succeeded. He needed all the help he could get. There was his own charge to work, mission fields to organize, many church courts to attend, etc., etc. Abundant in labors; scarce in most other things, except the joy of the Lord.