

APPENDIX C.

On Lay Co-operation,

BY THE

REV. G. J. LOW,

Madoc, Ontario.

In the first mission of which I had charge, I was once visiting a parishioner who lived some miles from the Church, and whom I will call Mrs. Smith. In the course of conversation she said to me; "Oh, you should visit the Browns" (who lived on the adjoining farm,) "they are all turning Methodists through your not visiting them oftener." I replied "I see them every time I come this way." "Yes," said she, "but you don't go as often as the Methodists do; they are there continually." "Indeed," said I, "is Mr. ——— (the Methodist Preacher) there so often?" "Oh, no!" "When was he there last?" "I don't know" she answered "that he was ever there; but then Mr. Jones, and Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Thompson are always visiting them." "Why, Mrs. Smith," said I, "these people you mention are their immediate neighbours, and farmers like yourselves!" "Oh yes, but then Mr. Jones is a local preacher and Mr. Robinson is a class leader." "And why don't *you* visit them, and persuade them to cleave to the Church?" "Well you see," responded Mrs. S., "my 'man' has no office in the Church." "And can you expect, Mrs. Smith," I enquired, "that I, single-handed, can make as many visits, and do as much work, as two Methodist ministers, six or eight local preachers, a dozen exhorters, and a score of class-leaders?"

This interview set me thinking what a vast power and influence is wielded in the organization of which I have spoken; and the following facts and ideas served to strengthen the impression.