

Christianity, he possessed no small share of their confidence and respect. These Indians resided in substantial houses erected for them through the exertions of the then Lieut.-Governor Sir P. Maitland, who took a lively interest in them, as did also his successor in the government, Sir John Colborne, with the view of civilizing them, and turning their attention to agricultural pursuits. The remnant of the tribe removed to the Grand River in 1832, and their village and reserve have since passed into other hands. As the land is now devoted to agricultural purposes, the log chapel is converted into a barn, and the ancient burial ground desecrated, the vestiges of the "deserted village," once the pride of those simple children of the forest, bids fair soon to become as insignificant as those of its prototype as sung by the poet.

The burial ground adjoins the church, and is extensive, well fenced, tastefully laid out, and planted, and kept in good order. A portion of it was consecrated in 1828, by Bishop Stewart, and the remainder in 1843, by the Bishop of Toronto.

There is a good road to the church, and a large shed for the use of the parishioners. On the death of the first venerable incumbent, the Rev. Saltern Givins was appointed to the mission, and discharged its duties for 4 years, when he was preferred to the incumbency of St Paul's Church, Yorkville, by the Lord Bishop. In the year 1854, during Mr. Givins' incumbency, the church underwent a thorough repair, and was much improved, the spire completed, and a bell provided. In 1856, the Rev. E. Denroche succeeded Mr. Givins, but resigned the charge after an incumbency of about 2 years, when the present incumbent, the Rev. T. P. Hodge, was appointed. Mr. Hodge's predecessors being in the old establishment, were in the possession of stipends from the Clergy Reserve Fund, but since his appointment, the task of supporting their missionary has fallen, in a great measure on the parishioners, so they have exerted themselves considerably in meeting their engagements. Mr. Hodge resides in Springfield, in the parsonage house, a commodious and substantial building, two stories high, having neat grounds, and every thing necessary to make it a comfortable residence. This property was purchased and the house built since Mr. Hodge's incumbency, and has cost the parishioners about £450. There is also belonging to this parish a valuable piece of ground near the village, of about 45 acres, well fenced, and having a good new frame barn on it. This land was formerly set out as a "glebe," but when afterwards sold by government, was purchased by the parishioners, towards which Capt. Harris, a warm and estimable member of the church, who has resided many years in the vicinity, liberally contributed \$70.

The state of efficiency in which the various departments of the church in this mission are found, reflects great credit on its corporation, and though it is thought desirable that the office of churchwardens should be held from time to time by new members, yet there is in this mission one instance where one has held that office for 27 years, in the person of Mr. James Magrath, who, together with his co-churchwardens, from year to year have been untiring in their exertions, and the present state of this parish affords a proof of how much may be done by the laity, when diligently exercising the great privilege they enjoy, in attending to the temporal interests of their church.

The congregation of this church, in which there is morning service every Sunday, is generally about , besides which Mr. Hodge attends at out-stations,—at Sydenham, every Sunday afternoon, and at other points as opportunity may

offer for evening week-day service during the winter season.

The limits of the parish extend to near Streetsville on the north, with the lake shore on the south, and to the town-line of the township of Toronto east and west.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,

Having lately been requested to advocate the claims of the Church Society in a neighbouring parish, I have been led to collect a few facts relating to the religious destitution of the diocese, which you may possibly think it worth while to place before your readers, in the hope of thereby arousing them to the necessity of greater exertions on behalf of the society.

There are, I am persuaded, few amongst us who are fully aware of the extent of the work that has to be performed before the church can consider her duty accomplished towards the multitudes of her members in this diocese who are as yet without churches or opportunities of religious worship; without clergymen or means of Christian instruction; without the sacraments; without those spiritual helps and privileges which our more favoured parishes enjoy, and who from this deprivation are in danger of declining altogether from the cause of religion, and of relapsing into a condition little better than that of the heathen. Among them tens of thousands, of whom, without any breach of charity, it must be said, that although perhaps nominal Christians and churchmen, they are, with few exceptions, living in actual enmity to Christ, are yet numbers who might by means of the appointed instrumentality of Christ's Church, be won back to Him, but whose salvation, if that instrumentality be not employed on their behalf, must be fearfully imperilled. Let me request the earnest attention of your readers to the facts I am about to adduce with reference to this spiritual destitution, and the utter inadequacy of the means that have hitherto been employed to relieve it.

The present population of the Diocese of Toronto, exclusive of that of Ontario, is by the last census, 544,699, of whom 134,680 profess to be members of the Church of England. The rural portions of the Diocese, including the counties of Durham, Haldimand, Halton, Lincoln, Northumberland, Ontario, Peel, Peterborough, Simcoe, Victoria, Welland, Wellington, Wentworth, and York, contains an aggregate population of 480,782, of whom 114,741 return themselves as members of the Church of England. Among them there appear to have been labouring, at the time of the publication of the last report of the Church Society, only 73 clergymen of our church; being an average of but one clergyman to every 1571 members of the Church of England, or one to every 6586 of the aggregate population.

Suffer me for a moment to fix the attention of your readers on this fact; and let me ask them to consider over how many souls one clergyman can, in a rural parish, exercise efficient pastoral supervision. It will be conceded that where the population is concentrated, as in a city, a congregation of from 600 to 800, probably representing a population of 1200, or 240 families, would be a charge amply sufficient for an individual clergyman. But in a rural parish where the population is sparse, where villages are at a considerable distance from one another, and where miles sometimes intervene between the house of one churchman and another, an average number of

120 church families, or of 600 souls, would be more than enough for the pastoral charge of one clergyman. The enquiry is limited to the number of church families only for the sake of arriving at a definite conclusion with regard to numbers: but it is not for a moment supposed that the clergyman will confine his attention to them. They will of course be entitled to his first care, his regular and stated supervision, but in every congregation, especially in country places, will be found many persons, who although professing to belong to other denominations, will thankfully avail themselves of the church's services, and will look for the clergyman's visits. By this means the amount of his labours will be largely increased, so that the average assumed above, will in fact be beyond the ability of many clergymen. To what conclusion then are we led by a comparison of the actual number of the clergy with the present population of the Diocese? That, supposing the ministrations of the church to be afforded by each of the 73 clergymen now employed in the rural portions of the Diocese, on the average, to 600 of her members, there is at the present time provision made by the church for the spiritual wants of only about 44,000 out of 115,000 of her members, leaving no less than 71,000 altogether unprovided with the means of Christian instruction; that in order to make anything like an adequate provision for the spiritual wants of these, the number of the clergy requires to be at once much more than doubled; that where there are now 73 labourers in the field, there should be at least 191.

From another view of the question we arrive at a similar conclusion. The counties enumerated contain altogether 165 townships. It will be admitted that there ought to be at least one clergyman in each well settled township, while in such as contain large villages or towns, additional clergymen will be needed. Some of the newly settled townships indeed may not yet be entitled to a resident clergyman in each. Still these, united 2 or 3 together with the larger number that are already well settled, and with such as contain large villages or towns, will demand for effectual pastoral supervision at least the number of clergymen previously stated.

But this general statement will fail to convey to your readers an adequate impression of the religious destitution of particular localities.

In the counties of Haldimand, Lincoln, and Welland, where the number of the clergy bears a larger proportion to that of the church population than in any others, there is an average of one clergyman to about 1000 church people. But in the County of Wellington with 13 townships, where, according to the average above stated, there should be 17 or 18 clergymen, I find but 6, i. e. 1 to 1766 of the Church of England, or 1 to 8200 of the aggregate population. In Halton, where there should be 9 clergymen, there are but 3, or 1 to 1859 of the Church of England, or 1 to 7598 of the aggregate population. In Victoria, with the vast area of 24 townships, where, according to the population, there should be at least 8 missionary clergymen, I find but 3, i. e. 1 to 1652 of the Church of England, or 1 to 7697 of the aggregate population.

In Peel, where there ought to be 12 clergymen, there are but 3, i. e. 1 to 2742 of the Church of England, or 1 to 9080 of the aggregate population. And in Northumberland, with 9 townships, and where at least 13 clergymen are required, there are but 2, i. e. 1 to 4045 of the Church of England, or 1 to 20,295 of the aggregate population, leaving, in these 2 counties alone, no less than 12,000 members of the Church entirely unprovided for.

Would we know how utterly powerless for