

the rector of Grace Church during his absence abroad, earning a large measure of esteem and love for his work's sake.

The number of clergy on our list to-day is thus 185, classified as follows:—

Engaged in parochial work	112
Engaged in tuition	10
Retired and on leave	18

During the past year I have ordained six deacons and three priests, have administered the rite of confirmation in 59 different places to 1,229 candidates, of whom — were males and females; have consecrated two churches, St. Peter's, Churchill and Trinity College Chapel, Toronto, and have opened two new churches, St. Paul's, Newmarket, and St. Andrew's, Toronto Island.

In my episcopal visits I have delivered ninety-one sermons or addresses, administered the Holy Communion thirty-three times, baptised six infants and one adult, and presided at a large number of meetings.

The Bishop then gave an elaborate statement of the statistics of the diocese. The salient points were that there has been a falling off in contributions, but that an increase has been made in the number of churches.

Enquiring, first, into the property of the Church it appears that there are now in the 9 rural deaneries 192 churches, of which 13 are stone, 82 of brick, 9 roughcast, 81 frame, and 7 of logs. Of these 192 churches 104 are consecrated. The total value given, with 1 blank return, is \$929,097, and the amount of debt \$180,140. This statement exhibits an addition in the four years of 19 churches, 18 consecrated. The increase of value and of debt I cannot estimate, the previous returns having been so imperfect.

But the addition of 19 churches to the former number does not represent the whole gain that has been made in providing accommodation for our church people. Several new churches have been built to replace old ones, and others have been enlarged. In this way the number of sittings has been increased from 81,500 to 46,185. I have enquired this year the number of seats that are free, and with 3 failures to respond, the returns give no less than 80,780. In point of fact, with the exception of the churches in the city and a few towns, all in the diocese are practically free. Of the whole 192, 150 are actually so, of which 12 are in the deanery of Toronto. This is a circumstance which deserves to be more widely known, because I think it contradicts the common impression of the exclusiveness of the Church of England, to learn that she provides over 80,000 sittings to which all comers are freely welcomed. But it also furnishes good ground for urging a more liberal offertory—something better than the traditional five-cent gift to the service of the sanctuary.

Looking at the materials employed in the building of churches, it is satisfactory to observe that while the number of brick buildings has increased by 19 only 4 frame structures have been added to the list, and the rough-cast have been reduced by 3. The number of new churches opened during the year is 11, viz:—In Toronto 2; Trinity College Chapel, of brick, costing \$24,000 and seating 200; St. Andrew's, on the Island, of rough cast, costing \$2,500 and seating 240. In West York, 1; St. Paul's Newmarket, of stone, costing \$10,000 and seating 814. In West Simcoe, 3; The Messiah, Sunnidale, of frame and brick, costing \$1,800 and seating 120; Cranmer's Church, Honeywood, of brick, costing \$2,000 and seating 175; and St. James', Primrose, of brick, costing \$1,200 and seating 100. In East Simcoe, 2; St. John's, Oraighurst, of brick, costing \$1,500 and seating 150; and Christ Church, Vespra, of brick, costing \$900 and seating 100. In Durham, 2; St. Thomas, Millbrook, of brick, (not yet finished), costing \$10,000 and seating 400; and St. Saviour's, Orono, purchased from the Episcopal Methodists for \$1,500 and seating 250. And in Haliburton, 1; St. Paul's, Chandos East, of frame, costing \$700 and seating 80. These 11 churches represent an aggregate value of \$59,100 and seating accommodation of 2,109.

The school-houses in the diocese are still very few, only 38, with three basement school-rooms. This, however, shows an increase of eight in the four years. One-half of the school-houses are in the city of Toronto. The total value of this class of property is returned as \$111,697, with a debt upon it of \$34,193. The classification by materials is:—Stone, 2; brick, 17; rough-cast, 6; frame, 18.

Ten parsonage houses have been added to the 47 existing in 1881. Of the whole number, 4 are of stone, 27 of brick, 16 of rough-cast, 9 frame, and 1 log. Their value is estimated at \$181,150, and the debt on them at \$18,610. I would again draw the attention of our lay brethren, present from rural parishes, to the very great value of a parsonage-house to a parish, as a substantial inducement to have to offer to a clergyman to cast in his lot with it, and a strong power to anchor down to it, with the attractive tie of home, a good man when he is secured.

The total value of the buildings (with, I presume,

the sites) owned by the Church in the diocese is thus \$1,171,944. But it is incumbered with an indebtedness of \$241,948.

With regard to this debt, it is proper to point out that the greater portion of it lies upon the Church property of the city of Toronto, no less than \$195,690. Only seven churches out of twenty-three in this deanery are free from debt; in the country parishes 189 are free, out of 189.

I am thankful to note an increase both in the number of schools, in the staff of teachers, and in the roll of scholars in the country parts of the diocese. The total army, divided into 149 schools, now consists of 1,464 teachers and 15,204 scholars (6,887 boys and 8,317 girls). The average attendance is given as 10,961. If this seems unduly small, it must be remembered that the obstacles to regular attendance encountered by children in the country from bad roads and severe weather are very great. In the city schools the average is fair, 5,177 out of 6,893.

The Bishop then addressed himself with much force to the question of stipends for the clergy. We shall give this section of the address in full next week. Passing on to the Mission Fund a deficiency was reported of \$1,000, caused by the increase in grants and certain parishes having failed to make collections ordered by the Synod. St. Peter's, Toronto; St. Paul's, Christ Church, Deer Park; Bobcaygeon and Verulam, Cookstown; and St. Luke's, Mulmer; were commended for increased contributions. The failure of the mission boxes scheme, was alluded to with much regret, and its abandonment urged unless more successful. Allusions were made at length to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, to the Church of England Temperance Society, the appointment of Mr. Kemp as secretary and treasurer, coupled with a highly complimentary allusion to Mr. W. P. Atkinson, who has retired from that office, &c., &c. The St. Alban's cathedral scheme was dealt with, and full explanations given of what is proposed to be done. The Bishops address closed as follows:—

I now, brethren, dismiss you to your duties. I do so with the confident trust that you will, one and all, be actuated by the single and earnest desire to advance the truest spiritual interests of our beloved church, and by a spirit of brotherly love, mutual esteem and forbearance, and with a fervent prayer that the holy spirit of God will be pleased to give us a right judgment in all things, shed His peace into our hearts, and so prosper all our deliberations that they may redound to the glory of God in the promotion of true religion amongst us.

The Rev. John Pearson was elected clerical secretary, and Dr. Hodgins lay secretary.

The honorable secretary read the report of the executive committee. The committee reported that in the matter of the increase of the sustentation fund, referred to the committee the previous year, for the purpose of supplementing the stipends of those clergy men of fifteen years standing whose clerical incomes are under \$1,000 per annum and a house, that a sub-committee had been appointed, and the Bishop had been empowered to appoint one or more collectors.

His Lordship named Revs. Canon O'Meara, Rural Dean Allen, W. C. Bradshaw (convener), A. J. Broughall, and Dr. Roy, Judge Benson, and Messrs. Alex. Marling, C. R. W. Biggar, Herbert Mason, and C. H. Greene, as a committee to consider this report.

In the evening the usual choral service for the Synod, was held in the Holy Trinity Church, at which the Rev. Hartley Carmichael preached an admirable discourse.

Meeting of the Synod—Second day.—At the opening of the second day, the clergy trust committee reported estimates for next year \$21,982, expenditure \$20,884.

The St. James' rectory case was brought up, and the present position explained. After the Mission Board report, a lively discussion arose on the question of introducing the itinerant plan for missionaries, and the following committee appointed to consider the scheme:—

Rev. John Langtry (convener), Rev. Septimus Jones, Rev. T. W. Patterson, Rev. Provost Body, Rev. J. P. Lewis, Rev. Dr. Roy, Mr. S. H. Blake, Mr. A. H. Campbell, Judge Benson, Mr. J. A. Worrell, Mr. C. R. W. Biggar, and Hon. James Patton.

This discussion elicited a very remarkable utterance from Mr. S. H. Blake, who said "The scheme proposed would put an end to the despicable system of starving out." This deliverance startled the Synod, as Mr. Blake is generally credited with having been the most active promoter for many years of "the despicable system." The election by the laity of a member of the Cathedral Chapter resulted as follows:—

Mr. E. M. Chadwick 44 votes, Mr. Hoyles 14 votes, Mr. S. H. Blake 4 votes, and for the executive committee:—

Clerical—Rev. John Langtry, 98; Rev. Rural Dean Beck, 61; Rev. Wm. Logan, 58; Rev. A. J. Fidler, 52; Ven. Archdeacon Boddy, 87. Lay—Mr. C. J. Campbell, 95; Mr. Wm. Ince, 94; Mr. A. McLean Howard, 79; Mr. John Carter, 79; Mr. Marcellus Crombie, 69.

These gentlemen were declared elected.

The Bishop afterwards appointed the following members of the executive:—Rev. Canon O'Meara, Rev. Canon Dumoulin, Rev. Rural Dean Allen, Rev. John Pearson, and Rev. Septimus Jones, Mr. A. H. Campbell, Dr. Hodgins, Hon. Edward Blake, Dr. Snelling, and Mr. C. R. W. Biggar.

The Widows and Orphans Fund was reported \$985 in arrears, and a subscription was opened at once to meet the deficit. The Students Fund was stated to be \$1,110 in hand.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND WORKINGMEN'S SOCIETY.—Mr Charles Powell, president of the Church of England Workingmen's Society, is now in the United States, and will shortly visit Toronto. He comes with the commendation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and his reception by the American bishops has been most cordial. His object in visiting this country is to interest churchmen in the work of this striking and wonderfully successful movement within the Church of England. Although not more than six or seven years old, the Church of England Workingmen's Society numbers some 7,000 members, all bona fide workingmen, and all communicants, who are now engaged in large bodies in active mission work in different centres in England. The part they played in the East London mission is well known. Mr. Powell will deliver addresses while in Canada, on "The Church of England and its relation to the working classes." He is a workingman himself, a good and forcible speaker, and worthy representative of the English Church, judging from the testimony of the Archbishop.

We cannot but extremely regret, that a vulgar and slanderous attack on Mr. Powell, has appeared in a contemporary. It would seem as though the spirit of party was so strong that the conductors would prefer to keep up the alienation of the working classes from the Church, rather than see any reconciliation effected by a medium not connected with their party. The Bishop would do a wise thing, if he organized a public meeting to hear an address from Mr. Powell, on "The Church of England and its relation to the working classes." Men who care no more for the Church than they do for other religious bodies, may carp and sneer and malign the society Mr. Powell represents, but every honest, faithful churchman of any school, or no school, will wish him cordially and fraternally "God speed," in this important mission. The alienation of the working classes is the greatest blot on the escutcheon of the Church, their recovery is as great a work as any foreign and domestic missions. Mr. Powell's call to this work by the Head of the Church is manifested by the blessing which has been shed upon his labours.

REMARKABLE CONVERSION.—Our columns have for some time past been occupied by a series of letters discussing the old and ever new topic of "conversion." At the Synod an incident occurred which some of our correspondents might use as an illustration of their theory. In a debate on a clerical itinerary, Mr. S. H. Blake said "the scheme proposed would put an end to the despicable system of starving out." This is indeed a complete case of "turn," in fact, the speaker turned his back on his ownself and his own tactics as practised, advocated and encouraged by the party he has led for years past. We are, indeed, heartily delighted to see this change of spirit. We admire much the courage of a man, who having received grace to see the evil of his ways, has the manliness to manifest the gift by so open a condemnation of a system with which he had been so much associated. Let the word pass around then, "the starving out system is despicable."

CARLTON AND WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.—A very good concert was given in the schoolhouse of St. Mark's Church, Carlton, on the 6th inst., by the choir of All Saint's Church, Toronto, under the able direction of Mr. Collins. The boys and some of the men came out with Mr. Collins early in the afternoon, and, after amusing themselves at cricket and lacrosse, were entertained at tea in the grounds of Rev. Mr. Thomson at Glenside, by the kindness of several ladies in the neighbourhood. The concert was well attended, and the programme was excellently rendered, including songs and choruses by the boys and by Messrs. Sparks, Tidy, Hallowell, and Kermon, Creighton, Higgins, and Harper, and Masters Scott and McAllister. The Misses Uttley of West Toronto Junction, Barnes, of Carlton, and Emily Brown, of Weston, sang well, and were deservedly applauded. Little Miss Moffatt, of the Junction, recited two pieces very nicely. A novel feature, was the performance of two pieces written for the Kinder-Sinfonie instruments. The instruments were most kindly allowed to be used by their owner, the Rev. A. H. Baldwin, and the boys who played them acquitted themselves remarkably