

which have been considerable, resulting from the unfinished state of the building, it has not been considered advisable to establish a Branch of the Church Society this year. During the occupancy of the present Incumbent, the sum of £2 11s. for the Widows and Orphans' Fund, has been sent to the Parent Society, together with the Incumbent's yearly subscription of £1 6s. A special collection is taken up monthly towards paying off some of the debt, which has been well responded to; nevertheless it will be many years before the present debt is liquidated."

St. GEORGE'S CHURCH.—This Branch is still in a flourishing condition, although the contributions are not so great as in former years. As usual, it supplies the only funds available for missionary and other purposes in this district. The quarterly collections have been regularly made, and remitted to the Parent Society. The subscriptions for the present year amount to £19 7s. 6d. Although this congregation gives upwards of £150 every year to the poor, and are frequently called upon for contributions to various religious objects, they are still ready with their subscriptions to the Church Society.

BARNESVILLE.—The missionary reports that the services in that township have been regularly kept up, and it is with much pleasure he has to state that the attendance is always very good, and particularly at St. James's Church, Birmingham, where the members attending church have nearly doubled within the last year.

There have been 48 children baptized, 11 marriages and 8 funerals during the year, in this mission.

There is no report from Amherst Island or Bath.

THE DEPOSITORY.—This year the sales at the Depository have been nearly doubled. The stock of books now on hand is small, there having been no importation for more than eighteen months. As the Depository ought to furnish a supply of Bibles and Prayer Books, with other religious books and tracts sufficient to meet all demands, no time ought to be lost in sending for a fresh supply.

THE BISHOP'S FUND.—The plan, long contemplated, of constituting a separate See, from that part of the Toronto Diocese east of the river Trent, seems likely to be soon carried into effect, an effort is now being made to raise the necessary endowment, which has thus far been very successful. Nearly one-half of the minimum sum required has been secured; and as the canvass will be prosecuted vigorously, until every corner of the proposed Diocese shall have been gone over, it is not too much to hope that, in a few months, we may be called upon to elect a bishop of our own. This calls loudly upon all who love our truly Apostolic Church, to pray earnestly and perseveringly that God would send us a man after his own heart to rule over his heritage.

Upon a review of the statistics given above, it will be apparent that the Diocesan Church Society, like other institutions of a like nature, is subject to fluctuations. It is much to be regretted that, at the present time, it is divided in its counsels. This must inevitably lessen its usefulness. Peace and unity alone can give prosperity within the borders of our beloved Church. We ought, therefore, to pray that the members of the Society may all be one in spirit, one in desire, one in aim, and then may we expect to see the efforts of the Society crowned with abundant success.

And let us never forget that, as a true branch of Christ's Church, we ought to exhibit a missionary spirit, the manifestations of which will find ample scope all around us. Both men and means are wanted at the present time, for "the

harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few." As Churchmen, we ought to rise to the work, as the wants of the Church increase, giving with a glad mind of our substance, according to our ability, and praying the Lord of the harvest to send forth more labourers into his harvest. It will be only then that we shall "have done that which was our duty to do."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

1857.—April 7, Balance in Treasurer's hands.....	£36	18	1
April 11, Rev. H. Mulkin's subscription for 1856.....	1	5	0
Quarter of subscriptions at Camden for 1856.....	0	15	0
1858.—Sales at the Depository.....	47	18	1
Subscriptions from St. George's less commission.....	49	7	6
Quarter of subscriptions from Fredericksburg.....	2	0	0
Rev. Robert Harding's subscription.....	1	5	0
Total Receipts.....	£139	8	8

DISBURSEMENTS.

1857.—April 11, Balance of quarter of subscriptions to Parent Society August, Mrs. Ferris' per centage for 1856 and 1857.....	£7	13	5
Rowsell's Bill for hymn books.....	4	5	9
Printing Annual Report.....	7	0	6
1858.—January, Rowsell, for books got in January, 1857.....	3	0	0
Watt's hymns.....	6	8	9
Rev. F. W. Dobbs, missionary at Portsmouth.....	0	7	0
Rev. E. C. Bower, missionary at Barriefield.....	10	0	0
Postages, &c.....	10	0	0
Balance in hand.....	0	11	3
	90	2	0
	£139	8	8

Kingston, 18th March, audited the above account, and found correct.

WILLIAM REDSTON,
R. SELLARS.

GORE & WELLINGTON DISTRICT BRANCH.

The following is the report submitted to the annual meeting:

The Committee of the Gore and Wellington District Branch of the Church Society, in presenting its members with the usual Annual Report, are sorry to be obliged, for the first time, to record a diminution of income. It is true that, in some parishes, there has been an increase on the contributions of former years; but in the majority of parishes, the collections have fallen considerably short. The "hardness of the times" is urged in extenuation of the deficiency; and your Committee are aware that, from a state of unexampled prosperity, the Province generally has, during the last year, fallen into a condition of almost unparalleled distress. Your Committee, however, must be allowed the expression of their decided opinion that the "hardness of the times" is no sufficient reason why the members of the Church should withhold their accustomed donations to the funds of the Church Society. Were the times never so hard, and the scarcity of money never so great, we are surely not discharged by that hardness and that scarcity from the heaven-imposed obligation of doing our duty to God and our fellowmen. The rule of duty is an unalterable rule, quite independent of times and circumstances. There is not one rule for times of plenty, and another for seasons

of destitution. The spiritual wants of the country are not less pressing, the souls of our brethren are not less precious in times like the present, than they are when we are basking, as it were, in the smile of a Bountiful Heaven. It is recorded to the praise of one of the early Churches that, out of the depth of their poverty, they contributed, not as most modern Christians do, what they could afford, but beyond their power. The sums generally given to the Church Society are so small as scarcely to be an object to the contributors, even in times of the greatest pressure; they will spend ten fold the amount in vanity and self-indulgence, and not whisper a syllable about the "hardness of the times." With reverence be it spoken, God is made the sufferer by the "hardness of the times." His claims are the first to be overlooked, and subordinated to our own pleasure and comfort. His work is allowed to languish, his Ministers to starve, and his ransomed people to perish for lack of knowledge. The Committee leave to the members of the Church within the bounds of this District Association, as a question worthy to be considered, whether this is a method worthy to be considered, whether this is a method calculated to restore the country to its wonted prosperity.

Notwithstanding the indifference of too many professed members of our communion, the Committee are happy to be able to state that something has been done by this Association in the glorious cause it has in hand.—It has been perfunctory during the past year to pay either wholly or in part the stipends of five Clergymen, who are diligently labouring as travelling Missionaries in many distant Townships which would, but for its aid, be wholly destitute of the ordinances of our Church. Reports have been received from all these gentlemen exhibiting much zeal, and no inconsiderable success in their arduous labors. Through their self-denying exertions, Churches have been built and filled with devout and appreciating worshippers; vast numbers of children have been admitted within the Christian covenant; and the consolations of our most holy faith extended to thousands both of the whole and the diseased. These devoted men feel painfully their inadequacy to meet the increasing requirements of a growing population, and cry with one voice for additional laborers. The Committee confidently hope that the members of the Church, will, by increased liberality put the Association in a position to accede to the demand.

By a rule of the Association made some months back, all Clergymen receiving aid from its funds were required to make collections in their missions for the Church Society. In some cases this rule has been complied with, and seems large in proportion to the number and means of the donors which have been remitted to the Treasurer.

Your Committee congratulate the members of this Association on the creation of the new Diocese of Huron, which consists of the western portion of the former Diocese of Toronto; and on the elevation of a gentleman of known piety to the supervision of the See. Four or five parishes which have hitherto maintained a close and cordial connection with the Gore and Wellington District Branch of your Society, form part of the new Diocese, and will not, of course, hereafter contribute anything to your funds. With the consent and sanction, however, of the Lord Bishop of Huron, the sums raised this year in those parishes have been, as heretofore, sent to your Treasurer, to be applied to the payment of the Missionaries for whose stipends the whole District was answerable.

The painful insufficiency of the remuneration afforded to some of the rural Clergy, is a subject which has occupied a large measure of the attention both of the parent Society, and the District