

gregation in our diocese on Sunday, May 3rd, 1891, and that the offerings of the people on the following Sunday be given to Domestic Missions.

JOHN FREDERICTON, Metropolitan.
J. T. ONTARIO.
J. W. QUEBEC.
W. B. MONTREAL.
ARTHUR TORONTO.
E. ALGOMA.
MAURICE S. HURON.
CHARLES NIAGARA.
F. NOVA SCOTIA.

To the Members of the Church of England throughout the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

GREETING :

The return of the season at which we commemorate the Ascension of our Lord to the right hand of the Father, immediately after He had laid upon the Apostles His last solemn injunction, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," imposes on us once more the duty of asking your prayers and offerings in behalf of the "Domestic" department of the missionary work of "the Church of England in Canada." Under this head are to be understood Algoma and the North-West.

On the very threshold of our appeal, however, we desire to make grateful acknowledgment of the fact that the contributions of last year were upwards of \$7,000 in advance of those of any previous year in the history of the Board. For this we "thank God and take courage," indicating, as it clearly does, that the tide of missionary zeal is steadily rising, and that the laity are realizing more adequately their responsibility to the Head of the Church as baptized members of His Body, "redeemed with the precious blood of Christ," and pledged, therefore, by most solemn vows and obligations to personal service and self-sacrifice for the extension of His Kingdom.

In this connection we gladly recognize the valuable aid rendered to the Board by the "Woman's Auxiliary," whose members have "laboured much in the Lord" in the ingathering of free-will offerings, the circulation of missionary literature, the increase of material comfort in the dwellings of many lonely missionaries and struggling settlers, and not least, the promotion of a missionary spirit in the Church at home. We gratefully commend this organization to the sympathy and confidence of the Church, as one of its most loyal helpers and handmaids.

Suffer us now, brethren, to lay before you a brief statement of the financial needs of our Domestic field, gathered from the communications of several of our Missionary Bishops. Next, after the power of the Holy Ghost stirring in the heart and conscience of the Church, comes a due appreciation of the actual necessities of the case, as an incentive to the discharge of personal duty.

The Bishop of Rupert's Land writes that, owing to deficient crops at many points—the removal of settlers from Manitoba to the North-West Territory and British Columbia—the wide dispersion of the more recent immigrants over a large area of thinly occupied country, and the consequent necessity for the establishment of new missions to bring the Church's ministrations within their reach, the financial needs of his diocese are more pressing than ever. Grants have been voted to forty missions, involving an expenditure of \$14,600. Reductions have been made in the cases of thirteen. Seven missions are vacant, five of them having occasional services, held by clergy coming from the centre, or by students employed during the summer. To maintain existing missions in full efficiency, and supply vacant districts with resident missionaries, at least \$5,500 is needed from the Church in Eastern Canada, in addition to the funds received from local sources and Societies in England. Aid is also becoming increasingly necessary for the Indian work, from which the "Church Missionary Society" is annually withdrawing one-twentieth of its former grant. Further, a travelling missionary is needed, who, besides supplying vacant missions, would also act as a financial officer, for the development of local contributions. \$600 is needed to supplement a similar sum already guaranteed for this object.

The Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary, having in view the needs of the two dioceses under his charge, asks for \$10,000 per annum for three years. There are sixteen clergy in Saskatchewan and thirteen in Calgary, an increase of eight since the Bishop's consecration in 1887. Here also the Indian Missions are already feeling the effects of the reduction made by the "Church Missionary Society," grounded, as it is, on the theory that the social, industrial and religious education of our heathen who have already been Christianized, belongs properly to the Church in Canada. Two important missions, Red Deer and Saskatoon are vacant. Funds are also needed for the endowment of the diocese of Calgary.

In the diocese of Algoma, "the firstborn of the Canadian Church," there are two self-supporting parishes—twenty-four centres occupied by as many faithful, self-denying missionaries—five districts vacant, needing men to occupy them, and the means to sustain them, and one (Temiscamingue) where the harvest is ripe, and only the "labourer" is needed, his "hire" being secured from Montreal and Toronto. Not less than \$8,000 is needed from the Board to meet the absolutely necessary annual outlay for stipends. The Church and Parsonage Fund is wholly exhausted, leaving several structures unfinished. The "Endowment" and "Widows and Orphans" Funds increase very slowly. Clergy disqualified by sickness, accident,