

report of the young man from all his neighbours, and though the only son of a father who has a farm to work, the latter has consented to let him devote himself to God, and he is now with me preparing for college.

A month ago I was requested by a man residing on the town lines between Humberstone and Crowland, five miles hence, to go and visit his family; I went and found that he was an Englishman who had been twenty years in this country, but had never had an opportunity to have his children baptised; he seemed, however, to have retained more of the religion of the Church than many who come from dear old England. As the children were from ten to eighteen years of age, I thought it my duty to make them feel as if they were of themselves coming to Holy Baptism, and being very much pleased with their knowledge and apparent proper disposition, I, the other day gathered a small number of friends, and went out there to baptise them, the whole congregation standing for the young people, and all answering for and with them, at the font. It was an imposing scene; the new clearing in the back woods, the small log houses of new German settlers all around, and the idea that at least one good English Church family with proper respect for God's Word and God's Church, was living here and would most likely be the seed of a future house of God, in that locality, where bears and wolves abounded only a few years ago, could not but make the work in which we were engaged most interesting.

The amount received by me towards the free Church in Welland, (the whole mission having to raise \$400 a year besides towards my support, and not including the sum realised at a bazaar,) was \$241.65; this includes the offertory to the 26th February, 1860, and the note of D. P. Brown, Esq., for \$100. The sacramental alms usually given to the poor come to \$11.14. For the Church Society, including subscriptions and quarterly collections in the whole mission, \$32.16 was received and paid to the Society. My ladies have just collected about \$15 towards a small bell. I verily believe that much more would have been collected if the times had not been so extremely bad.

48 baptisms have been performed since the first of January, 1859, and 6 burials.

It is a great pity that we have not more missionaries employed in these townships, I really believe that with a proper staff of sound and earnest clergy a congregation could be formed every four or five miles all through this part of the country; but they should have all the means necessary to work with. The work of Church missions is impeded for want of means. What are two services every Lord's day in four townships with an area of nearly 400 square miles, and the whole thickly inhabited? Oh may "the Lord of the harvest send forth more labourers into his harvest."

I remain, Rev. and dear Sir,

Yours truly,

JOHN STANNAGE.

To Rev. C. L. Ingles, Secretary.

Thus your Committee have every reason to think that the Church of God is advancing, and that through the too scanty means placed by this Branch Association at their disposal, they have been enabled to send the glorious truths of the Gospel into some of the "waste places." Thankful are they to find that through the exertions of your present indefatigable Missionary a very beautiful little church has been erected at Welland; and further, that he has prospect of commencing one at Port Colborne and Marshville, should he succeed in his present application to the Government for the Wainfleet glebes. Your

Committee would here notice that from the report of the Parent Society there appears to be a falling off in its funds during the year ending last April. This is much to be regretted, as on that account there appears to be but a very small amount expended in purely missionary work. This in some measure is made up when we remember that several of the District Branches support their own missionary, and one Branch employs three, and thus take out of the hands of the Parent Society much of the actual work; how far this is advisable your Committee are not at present prepared to say. They rejoice, however, in learning that the committee appointed last autumn to consider and report upon what alterations would be necessary in the constitution and working of the Society, (the Diocese now being divided and the Society's funds and field of operations being much curtailed) are doing their work in an efficient manner, and they have every reason to hope that no trouble will be spared and no time be lost in the endeavour to make the Society under its new aspect worthy of the united cordial support of the entire Diocese being (to use the language of the last report) "the only machinery which our Branch of the Church has for the propagation of the Gospel within the bounds assigned her by our Lord and Master; the several Parochial Branches within the bounds of this District Association report as follows:

Welland ..... \$11.00  
Port Erie ..... 46.35

Chippawa reports the same as last year viz., \$124 for general purposes and \$60 for the Widows and Orphans' Fund. This sum shows a falling off to a considerable amount when compared with some former years.

The Committee of the Thorold Parochial Branch of the Diocesan Church Society, have much pleasure in reporting the collections in their parish for this year at \$109.20.

From the great depression pervading the country, from the entire cessation of expenditure on public works, to which Thorold has till this year been so much indebted, it was feared that the collections would fall far short of the usual amount. But such has not been the case, as they have considerably exceeded those of most years, and are only some forty-three dollars below the highest amount collected, which was last year, which included forty dollars contributed by the late excellent George Keefer, Esq., on his death bed.

The success that has attended the zealous labours of the collectors is to be attributed in a great measure, (under God,) to the excellent meetings held in the parish on behalf of the Society, which were well attended, at which admirable addresses were delivered by the neighbouring clergy and others.

The Committee of this Parochial Branch would strongly recommend the adoption by others of the practice which has been found to work very well in this parish for the last two years, of sending persons throughout the meetings with a book specially to take down the names of contributors just before the close of the meetings. This plan saves the collectors a great deal of trouble as well as time, and turns the meetings to an immediate practical purpose by affording to those present an opportunity of contributing to God's service whilst their hearts are interested in the cause. But the Committee would strongly recommend that the meetings throughout the District should in future be held in October, and all the collections be made before the beginning of December, as at that time the farmers have generally made market of their produce, and the proceeds thereof have been diffused through all classes of the community; whereas at this time

of the year, the farmer's barns and granaries are empty, and there is very little money in circulation."

T. B. FULLER,

Thorold, 6th March, 1860.

Chairman.

Dunnville reports.....	\$41 00
Louth ".....	45 00
St. Catharines, amount of annual subs..	\$262 00
Special for Mission Fund.....	\$2 00
" " W. & O Fund.....	7 00 9 00

Total .....	\$261 00
Add to the above four quarterly collections and two special collections amounting to .....	270 72

\$531 72

being total amount collected within the parish for Church Society and missionary objects, and if to the above we again add the sum of \$142.60 collected within the same period for the Irish Society, we shall have a grand total of \$674 41 or £168 12s. 1d., raised in this parish for church objects, (over and above its ordinary church obligations,) in a year, too, of unprecedented depression.

NIAGARA.

The parish of Niagara reports that the sum collected amounts to \$120 63. The amount would have exceeded that of last year, had not a circumstance arisen in the parish, just at the time the parochial collections were being made, which called for a special collection to meet the salary of the organist, and which resulted in \$141 being raised. This affected the collections for the Church Society very considerably, but it was unavoidable.

In addition to this, the constant removals of subscribers from the parish, and the cost of erecting the parsonage, which is still felt by the parishioners, and will continue to be so, until the whole debt is paid, must in the meantime materially affect the parochial subscriptions; the returns, however, are not yet completed.

Drummondville and Stamford within the parish of Chippawa report whole amount of subscriptions and donations for the year now closed \$68.60; made up as follows:

Clergyman's subscriptions.....	\$ 5.00
Donations, ".....	3.25
Tract Fund .....	2.50
Mission Fund .....	9.50
Incorporated Member.....	5.00
General Purposes .....	43.25

\$68.60

Also they report, in accordance with resolution of District Branch, the whole amount collected, for all Church purposes up to Easter, 1859, was \$518.30.

Thus the aggregate of the subscriptions for this year amounts to \$912.68.

Though there is something encouraging in these reports, yet when we consider that this is purely a Diocesan Home Missionary Society, although embracing many other objects, which, however, may be looked upon as necessary adjuncts thereto, it seeks at the hands of the faithful of our Zion a support commensurate with its claims. If every one would consider that the Body of Christ calls for aid, they would surely be more ready to give, the rich of their abundance, and the poor of their penury into the offerings of God. There is a great work still to be done; we have heathen at our very doors, and should we not strain every nerve to bring them under the benign influence of the Gospel? We can do more,—the missionary cause is suffering in our very midst. Let not the cry "come over and help us" be heard from every quarter without being answered. Let all work, believing that as