

PARRY SOUND AND MUSKOKA.

In 1871, the Society commenced work in the districts lying to the east of the Georgian Bay, by sending a missionary to Parry Sound. The work was continued and extended each successive year, as the district was opened up by settlers, till now there are ten missionaries in this region. Five of these are supported by the Students' Society.

PARRY SOUND.

Originally established by our missionaries, this field has been, for some years past, under the care of the Presbytery of the bounds; but, owing to the removal of a number of families, caused by the depression in the lumber trade, it became weakened financially, and application for supply was made to the Society; accordingly, a missionary was sent to labour there during the summer.

NIPISING.

This field, which lies in the north-east part of the district, was occupied and extended. Service was held fortnightly at four stations, two of which, Powassan and Nipissing, have been regularly organized. At Commanda Creek a new union church has been erected. Occasional service was held at Calendar, a promising village which is situated on the south-east bay of Lake Nipissing. The superior quality of the land in the whole of this field, and prospective railway facilities, will doubtless attract many additional settlers, so that the congregations within a few years will be able, with little assistance, to support ordinances among themselves.

STRONG.

The work commenced here during the previous year was continued. Mecumoma, Eagle Lake, Strong, and Stony Lake received supply once a fortnight; each was organized during the summer, and steps were taken to secure suitable places for worship. A union Sabbath school was organized at Strong, and occasional services were conducted at two other points.

KATRINE AND EMSDALE.

In this field there are six stations, five of which enjoyed Sabbath services more or less frequently, while a fortnightly meeting was held at the sixth on a week-day evening. The sacrament of the Lord's supper was dispensed at three of the places, at one of which there was a weekly meeting for prayer. A church has been erected at Emsdale which, though not completed, is in a state fit for summer use, and is almost clear of debt.

HAYSVILLE.

formerly under the care of the Barrie Presbytery, was entrusted to the Society, and from it received a missionary in 1879. The results of the first summer's work were such as to lead to its continuance, and now the number of settlers throughout the district has so increased that it has been deemed expedient to divide the field for the coming year. During the past summer six were added to the membership of the church. At Hamilton's, one of its four stations, a Sabbath school was established; and at Uffington, another station, two elders were elected and ordained. An effort is being made to erect a church at the latter place, for which a considerable sum has already been collected.

WAUBAUSHENE.

To this field, as in past years, a missionary was sent. Depending almost exclusively upon the lumber trade, the population is somewhat fluctuating. For this reason there is little hope of establishing a permanent congregation at any of the places, yet, during the past summer, the results of the missionary's labours were of a very encouraging nature. At the request of the people, supply was granted to them weekly, during the Christmas vacation, and fortnightly, by students from the College, during the session.

As in former years, the Rev. A. Findlay, of Bracebridge, took a deep interest in the Society's work in Muskoka, dispensing the sacraments at the various stations, and organizing new congregations.

ALGOMA DISTRICT.

MANITOULIN.

The Society has been prosecuting its labours on this island for the past nine years. At first only one missionary was sent, but settlement took place so rapidly that a second was soon required, and now, in addition to the labours of the Rev. H. McKay, it enjoys the services of three missionaries, two of whom are employed by the Society. Churches have been erected at Manitowaning, Gore Bay, and a union church at Bassingthwaite's settlement. Congregations have been also organized at other important points.

THE MICHAEL'S BAY FIELD.

situated on the south side of the island, includes six stations, at each of which service was held every two weeks. Besides these, other points received occasional visits. Nine new members were added to the church during the past year; and steps were taken toward the erection of a place of worship at Providence Bay. The prospects on this part of the island are very encouraging.

THE LITTLE CURRENT FIELD.

is situated on the north side, and embraces the three townships of Holland, Sheguindah and Bidwell. At seven points in these townships Sabbath services were regularly conducted, and a weekly prayer meeting was held at one of them.

ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND.

situated near the head of Lake Huron, is twenty-two miles long by twelve wide. The immigration during the last four years has been so great that now its population amounts to upwards of 2,000. There are four stations on the island, at each of which services were conducted on alternate Sabbaths with such results as to encourage the Society to continue the work.

BRUCE MINES.

situated on the north shore of Lake Huron, about forty miles south-east of Sault Ste. Marie, is a new and important field. It comprises four stations, viz.:—Bruce Mines, McCrae's

Settlement, Day's Settlement, and Rock Lake. At the last mentioned place a church was erected and opened for divine service early in the summer, and, through the liberality of Mr. Day, one to be used by all denominations was also provided in the settlement which bears his name. The missionary who laboured in this district reports very favourably of its future prospects, and, upon his recommendation, the Society proposes to extend the work by sending an additional missionary, who will make Thessalon, a place to the south-east, the centre of his labours.

MANITOBA.

Seven years ago, the Society was so impressed with the importance of Manitoba as a field for missionary labour, that it sent out two of the graduating class to engage in the work. In the following year, also, it had a labourer in the North-West, but since then, for various reasons, notwithstanding its deep interest in the country, it felt constrained to leave its evangelisation to other agencies. Towards the close of last session, however, the reports of the rapidity with which the new territories were being settled, and a consequent need for missionaries, awakened a new interest, and the Society's increased revenue rendered it possible to manifest this interest by sending a missionary.

The field chosen was

ROCK LAKE DISTRICT.

which lies in the south-western corner of the Province of Manitoba. For mission purposes, its boundaries are rather indefinite, but within it there is ample scope for the labours of two missionaries. Two years before the Society's missionary entered the field, the first settler erected his dwelling, then forty miles from the nearest settlement. A year from that date, most of the land had passed into the hands of actual settlers, and a considerable number of houses were scattered over the prairie. During that summer a Methodist minister was appointed for the district, and in the fall the Rev. J. Borthwick was sent by the Presbytery of Manitoba. Six months from that date the field was given into the care of the Students' Society.

The largest Presbyterian settlement in the district is the Parsley colony, in some part of which service was held almost every Sabbath during the summer. In the fall, Prof. Bryce organized the station and dispensed the communion to thirty-one members. A prayer meeting was held, and a union Sabbath school conducted with gratifying results. At several other smaller places services were held occasionally, and two of them were organized as mission stations. Although unable to contribute largely to the funds of the Society, it is gratifying to know that the district has subscribed upwards of \$300 for the support of a minister; hence it passes out of the Society's care in a position to become a regularly settled, although supplemented, congregation.

Mention need only be made of the mission work done in and around the city during College session. Brockton and Davenport have been regularly supplied with Sabbath service. Assistance has been rendered in connection with the mission work at the Gaol, Central Prison, and the Home for Incurables.

SUMMARY.

Fields, 11; Missionaries, 11; Preaching Stations, 59; Communicants, 426; Bible Classes, 7; Sabbath Schools, 25; Prayer Meetings, 9; Revenue from Society's Fields, \$873 88; from other sources, \$958 71; Total Revenue, \$1,817 59.

The number of missionaries for 1881 is 12.

THE FOLLOWING SUMS HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTED BY FRIENDS OF THE SOCIETY OUTSIDE ITS FIELDS:

Table listing contributions from various congregations and individuals, including Salem Congregation, Elderslie, Fergus, Knox Church, Toronto, Leaskdale, Harrington, Hillsburgh, Mount Albert, Ballantrae, Eden Mills, Ratho and Innerkip, Sandhill, Beverly, Scotch Block, Ancaster, Barton, Chatham, Tilbury East, West King, Strabane, Primrose, Woodville, Sabbath School, Bracebridge, St. Thomas, Campbellville, Brucefield Union Church, Brucefield, Rev. J. Ross' Congregation, Douglas, Second Church, Hamilton, Brantford, Arthur, St. Catharines, Blackheath and Seneca, Caledon East, Bolton, Erskine Sabbath School, Hamilton, Friend, Albany, Knox Church Sabbath School, Hamilton, Central Church Sabbath School, Hamilton, Guelph, College Street Sabbath School, Toronto, Haynes' Avenue, St. Catharines, Smaller sums, Students, Toronto, and a Total of \$958 71.

Sums received last spring, but too late for insertion in the last Annual Report:

Table listing contributions from Wick and Greenbank, Friend, Albany, Brockton Sabbath School, College Street Church, Toronto, Parkdale, College Street Sabbath School, Toronto, Michael's Bay, and Smaller sums, totaling \$5 00.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

The following abbreviations are used: W, Weekly; F, Fortnightly; O, Occasionally; S.S., Sabbath School; B.C., Bible Class; P.M., Prayer Meeting; U.S.S., Union Sabbath School.

Large statistical table with columns: FIELDS AND STATIONS, Frequency of Ser. (W, F, O), Average Attendance, Other Meetings, Average Attendance, Members, Contributions. Rows include PARRY SOUND, NIPISING, STRONG, KATRINE AND EMSDALE, HAYSVILLE, WAUBAUSHENE, M. MICHAEL'S BAY, LITTLE CURRENT, ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND, BRUCE MINES, and MANITOBA.

The society records with pleasure its thanks due to Mrs. Lyons, of Michael's Bay; Messrs. Richards and Fisher, of St. Joseph's Island; Mr. Finlayson, of Bruce Mines; Mr. Shaughnessy, of Eagle Lake; Mr. Smith, of Stony Lake; Mr. Peter Christie, of Sturgeon Bay; and the Georgian Bay Lumbering Co., of Waubausene, for boarding its missionaries in their respective fields free of charge; and to other friends, who have assisted in the work by their contributions.

In concluding this report, our prayer would be to Him whose glory we seek to advance, that He would even yet more abundantly bless our efforts in the future than in the past in the conversion of souls and the upbuilding of His kingdom.

JOSEPH BUILDER, Recording Secretary. JAMES FARQUHARSON, President. Knox College, March, 1881.