

which is fertile land available for agricultural purposes. The population is at present calculated at 402,681, a large proportion of these are members of the united Church of England and Ireland, and there are many who belong to no Christian body, who have never attached themselves to any Church. Amongst this latter class there is a wide field for missionary exertion. The entire number of the Clergy in the Diocese, including the Bishop, the Parochial Clergy, Travelling Missionaries, Missionaries to the Indians and the fugitive slaves is fifty-seven. This comprises two superannuated Clergymen, and one master of a county grammar school.

At the time of the division of the Diocese of Toronto there were forty-three Clergymen in this section of it, seven have been received since from other Dioceses, and fifteen ordained, making a total of sixty-five. But we are to set against this seven who have left the Diocese, and one removed by death, leaving the present number of the Clergy fifty-seven. If we subtract from this number nineteen who are exclusively occupied in towns and villages, two superannuated Clergymen, and one master of a grammar School, it leaves thirty-five Missionaries to minister to our brethren scattered through 137 townships, to seek to bring the Gospel to the Aborigines of the country who look to us for instruction, and to labour amongst the fugitive slaves, who have taken refuge in this country, many of whom are as ignorant of Christ and His salvation as their brethren who yet remain in heathen darkness on the Continent of Africa. Since April, 1868, I have visited eighty-four congregations in the Diocese, and preached 130 sermons; I have confirmed 1,458 candidates, consecrated five churches and two burial grounds, ordained fifteen Deacons and three Priests, and travelled in the discharge of these duties 2,452 miles. It pleased God that, for some time last autumn, my duties were interrupted by an attack of remittent fever, which confined me for several weeks; however, during the past winter, I was able to visit the northern part of the Diocese, and though the disease has returned this spring in the form of ague, I hope, through the Divine blessing, I shall be enabled to visit several Missions where candidates for confirmation have been prepared, and where my presence is required. It is well to state, as many may be ignorant of the fact, that there are within the limits of this Diocese, and conducted by our Clergy, five Missions to the Aborigines\*. Two of these have been supported for many years by the New England Society, and have conferred incalculable blessings upon the remnant of the Six Nations, once so famous in the annals of the country. Last July I visited both these Missions, and was truly gratified with what I witnessed amongst this interesting people. I confirmed at St. Paul's Church, in the Mohawk village on the Grand River, fifty-eight candidates, and at St. John's Church, Tuscarora, forty-three candidates. The success which has attended the labours of the Missionaries in both these settlements, proves that well directed efforts faithfully persevered in, will, with the Divine blessing, succeed with the native Indians of this continent; and that, notwithstanding all that learned infidelity may say to the contrary, the blessings of civilization and Christianity may be enjoyed by them equally as by their white brethren. The Mission on Walpole Island furnishes another proof, that they, who sow in faith and patience amongst the Indians, shall reap if they faint not. I visited the Island in October, and confirmed forty candidates. This Mission, it is to be feared, will be discontinued, as I have been informed that the assistance heretofore given by the government

is about to be withdrawn. I have made application to some of the societies in England, and I hope that something will be done towards supporting this and the other Missions to the Aborigines, which are similarly circumstanced. There is a Mission to the Muncey town and Oneida Indians, on the River Thames, which I regret to say is placed in the same position with that on Walpole Island. The small salary heretofore given to the Missionary is about to be withdrawn, and the Mission will be allowed to lapse altogether, if funds are not provided by Christian benevolence to sustain it. I visited both the stations of this Mission in August last, and confirmed fifteen candidates. There are no Pagans now remaining among the Muncey Indians, all profess Christianity, and many of them adorn their profession by a blameless life and godly conversation. A few pagans are still found among the Oneidas, but we hope the day is not far distant when they too shall be added to the Church. Surely the remnant of the tribes which once possessed the vast forests around us, from one of which we have borrowed the name by which our Diocese is known, should call forth our Christian sympathy, and we should never cease to labour and plead in their behalf, until every trace of pagan superstition has been eradicated from amongst them, and they have been made partakers of the fulness of the blessings of the Gospel of Christ. †

In order to meet, in some degree, the spiritual wants of the Diocese, it will be necessary that the members of the Church should strenuously exert themselves, and liberally contribute of their substance "as the Lord has prospered them." Our Church Society, which is now incorporated and capable of holding and administering the funds contributed by the people for religious purposes, furnishes the most suitable channel through which the religious offerings of the people may be poured into the treasury of the Lord. By its constitution it is open to all members of our Church. The contribution of £1 6s. per annum qualifies the donor to be elected a member of the Corporation, and all the business of the Society is transacted at open meetings, where every incorporated member is entitled to be present, and to take part in all the proceedings.

The peculiar organization of the Society renders it eminently fitted to keep the wants of the Diocese before the minds of our people, and to remind them from time to time of their duty towards their fellow men and fellow Christians. The four quarterly sermons to be preached in every Church and station in the Diocese furnish opportunities to the Clergy to bring before their congregations in the most unexceptionable way, and to press upon them their duty to give of their substance to promote the cause of God in the land. And the Annual Meeting of each Parochial Association, enables the advocates of the Society to stir up the minds of the people by setting before them the progress which the Society has made, and the necessity which still exists for exertion on the part of the members of the Church. Heretofore the collections made for our Society, with the exception of one, have been devoted to the missionary cause. This being the most urgent want felt in all parts of the Diocese. But we hope that ere long the Society will be placed in a position to take up some, if not all, of the other excellent objects proposed in its constitution.

I would, therefore, press upon the Clergy the necessity of supporting the Church Society of the Diocese, by every means in their power; upon it, in a very great degree, under God, depends the success of our efforts for the propagation of the

Gospel amongst the people, and the supply of additional missionaries to labour in those parts of the Diocese where the people are as yet unable to support their own Clergymen. Were we required only to meet and provide for the natural increase of the population in the older settlements of the Diocese, I think this might be effected through the efforts of the Church Society. But inasmuch as large numbers of the adult emigrants are yearly introduced into the Diocese from Great Britain and Ireland, it has become an imperative duty to apply to religious societies at home to assist us in providing the means of grace for their poor fellow countrymen who yearly come amongst us. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has granted £400 sterling per annum for the support of missionaries in that new tract of country which lies at the northern and western extremity of the Diocese. This grant is only for three years, but we hope that when the real state of the country is known to that benevolent society, which has, for so many years, liberally contributed to the wants of Canada, the grant will not only be extended, but enlarged. By the kind liberality of the Society for the Promoting Christian Knowledge, I have been enabled to assist in the completion of fifteen Churches in the Diocese, and a second grant of £300, which I have just received from the same venerable body, place sit in my power to render assistance to several new Churches which are being erected in remote parts of the Diocese. The Service Books and Prayer Books granted by the same Society have been most gratefully received. The Colonial Church and School Society has also contributed towards the supply of our necessities, and I desire to express my deep sense of the valuable assistance which I have received from that excellent Society. The Mission to the Fugitive Slaves in Canada, which is conducted under the auspices of this Society, carries on its operations within the limits of this Diocese, and every well wisher of our race will rejoice to learn, that enlightened and well directed efforts are made to bring the knowledge of salvation to this downtrodden people.

So long as slavery is upheld by the laws of the neighbouring republic, so long will the degraded and enslaved African, who hears of Canada as a land of freedom and a refuge from cruelty and oppression, seek to escape from a country in which the first rights of manhood are denied him, and to reach these shores, where, sheltered beneath the flag under which no slave can live, he may carry himself erect as an immortal being and experience the protection of those laws which recognize no difference between man and man, but extend to all whom God has created in his own image, the privileges which belong alike to all the heirs of immortality.

Having now set before you, my Reverend Brethren, such statistical statements as I conceive to be necessary at the present time, and having briefly glanced at some other subjects of interest, I will proceed, humbly invoking the Divine blessing, to direct your attention to some questions of a purely spiritual character, the consideration of which may be profitable to us all.

And, first, with reference to the high and holy office which has been committed to us. This office is thus described in the exhortation of the Bishop to such as are admitted to the higher order of the Ministry in our Church, in which we find the following solemn words: "And now again we exhort you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you have in remembrance into how high a dignity, and to how weighty an office and charge ye are called, that is to say, to be Messengers, Watchmen, and Stewards of the Lord; to teach and to premonish, to feed and provide for

\* See Appendix note A.  
† See Appendix note B.

‡ See Appendix note C.  
§ See Appendix note D.  
¶ See Appendix note E.