

REPORT OF THE REV. JOHN GEMLEY.

To the Directors of the Upper Canada Bible Society :—

GENTLEMEN.—In my record of duty in the agency field, which, in addition to my office work, was apportioned me for the year 1872-73, I have to state that this year, as last, I began at Orillia, the visitation of those branches which have been accustomed to hold their annual meetings during the summer months. On Sunday, the 27th July, 1872, I preached in the morning in the Canada Presbyterian Church; in the evening in the Wesleyan; congregations large. On the following day the public meeting was held in the Temperance Hall. If not as inviting a place, and if not as likely to secure as large a congregation as any of the churches would, yet it is thought, upon the whole, better to continue as in the past, to keep to the hall. The congregation was enthusiastic, and the cause well sustained by the ministers of the town. I spent Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, the 4th, 5th and 6th August, in Waverley and Penetanguishene. Preached on the Sunday in both places, which are eleven miles apart. The meeting of the former was held on Monday, the latter on Tuesday. The Penetanguishene Branch was formed last year and promises well. Waverley was organized during my present visit, and exhibits every indication of a prosperous future. The village is small, but is a prominent centre of usefulness. I attended the Bradford Anniversary Services, on the 3rd and 4th November. On Sunday, the 3rd, preached in the Canada Presbyterian and Wesleyan Churches. On the 4th, took part with the ministers of the town, in the public meeting in the Canada Presbyterian Church. Congregations on each occasion very large, and the services most cheering. Bradford is rapidly recovering from the effects of its destructive fire of last year; and the Branch, as its contributions show, is resolved again to take its becoming position in the ranks of our most liberal supporters.

I was to have attended the Galt Anniversary on Sunday and Monday, the 24th and 25th November, but God, in infinite wisdom, was pleased to visit me with the severe affliction of a sudden and terrible bereavement, and the duty of my visit to Galt was postponed until Wednesday, the 18th December. It took place in the Town Hall, and was one of interest. The ministers of the Gospel in this important town, always give their countenance and support to the Bible Society; when this is the case the Society must prosper; otherwise it cannot do so.

1873.—For the first time, I entered upon the visitation of the branches in the rich County of Waterloo, commencing on Monday, January 6th, with the flourishing Town of Berlin—a town which, for its population, has probably more churches than any other in Ontario. But, as the greater portion of the inhabitants is German, an English speaking agent is not to be favoured with an overflowing congregation. Yet we had an encouraging audience and pleasant meeting in the Wesleyan Church. On Tuesday, the 7th, I found my way to Elora, in the County of Wellington, in anticipation of taking part in the annual meeting there, but the error of a friend led me to find that I had had arrived a day too late. However, I was glad to learn that the meeting had been an excellent one. I shared in the blessings of a union prayer meeting accepted an invitation, God willing, to attend their meeting next year, and started next morning for Elmira, distance about twelve miles, and reached the comfortable home of Mr. Fear, President of the Branch, after one of the coldest drives I ever had. The meeting which was held in the Lutheran Church was large, unique, and very encouraging. We had German and English speakers, and two choirs—also German and English. The Branch required reorganizing. This was satisfactorily accomplished. We predict good results from this place. Hawksville meeting, held in the St. Andrew's Church, on Thursday, the 9th inst., was exceedingly gratifying. There was a good number present, especially of the fair sex, although it was one of the most bitterly cold evenings I ever witnessed. The day following was more, but