

THE COLONIAL CHURCHMAN.

"BUILT UPON THE FOUNDATION OF THE APOSTLES AND PROPHETS, JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNER STONE..... Eph. 2 c. 20 v.

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Further Extracts from the Society's Reports.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

From the Rev. J. B. C. Lindsay.

Williamsburgh, Upper Canada, Jan. 19, 1835.

My Lord,—I cannot conclude this Report without mentioning to your Lordship the kindness and attention I have met with from the Episcopal families at Waddington, where I officiate occasionally, (a village on the American shore, where there is a handsome Episcopal church built, and a highly respectable congregation, but no resident clergyman.) Some of my congregation, either from Williamsburgh or Ma'ilda, generally accompany me over; and I trust, under God, these occasional services in that part of "the Lord's vineyard" are not altogether unprofitable. I always feel great satisfaction in preaching there, as there is generally a large and attentive congregation, excellent music (for they have an organ) and singing; and, indeed, the Apostolick precept, "Let every thing be done decently and in order," is strictly followed in every thing pertaining to the house and worship of God.

From the Rev. R. Flood.

Carradoc, Dec. 29, 1834.

My Lord,—I hope soon to be able to have my fourth place of preaching established among the Montee Indians, situated on the Thames, ten miles distant from this. These are all heathens, but many of them have already shown a predilection to attach themselves to the Church of England. Their superintendent, Colonel Clinch, has promised to procure me an interpreter from Moravian Town, to assist me in labouring among them. Their school-house is almost finished, and their school-master has arrived. "I pray that the Lord, by his word, may turn many of them from dumb idols to serve the living God." I cannot withhold mentioning one interesting fact connected with one of our lately established Sunday-schools, which serves to show how those little ones are made the instruments of opening the door, that the word of God may have free course. The children of a very dissolute character were induced lately by me to attend our Sunday-school at Delaware; I gave the little fellows Testaments, with some chosen tracts for their parents; and as they have to commit a portion of Scripture to memory, I advised them to read the same at home, and aloud, in the presence of their parents. I have every reason to think that their father, who is a most hardened wretch, never heard so much of divine things before; his character being notorious for Sabbath-breaking, drunkenness, and blasphemy. I was delighted beyond measure to witness this man's presence lately at divine worship, apparently most attentive, and who afterwards expressed his gratitude to me for giving his children such fine instruction, as he called it.

From the Rev. Henry Patton.

Kemptville, Township of Oxford, Upper Canada.
January 15, 1835.

My Lord,—Human life is a state in which we are subjected to many trials, for the exercise of our faith, the evidence of our constancy, and the proof of our devotion to the service of our heavenly Master. Such is the case, not only with the private Christian, but more especially with the christian minister. His ardour is often damped, and his hopes depressed, by witnessing the coldness and indifference of those in whose eternal welfare he feels a deep and abiding interest. It is, however, a cause of gratitude to the Giver of all good, that these seasons of trial are also occasionally cheered by gleams of sunshine, which dispel the shadow, and reveal a brighter prospect, thus filling the heart with gladness, at beholding the grace of God visibly displayed in communicating spiritual blessings and mercies to those over whom we

are placed. In common, I have no doubt, with the rest of my brethren, I have experienced these alterations of sorrow and gladness with reference to the state of my mission.

There are, indeed, circumstances which led to the humble hope, that, utterly unworthy and insufficient as I feel myself "for these things," God has been pleased, in some degree, to magnify his mercy among us. When the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered in Kemptville, five years ago, there were only thirteen communicants present, while, on Christmas-day last, forty-five partook of the sacred emblems of redeeming love in Kemptville. In Marlborough, the number of communicants on the 4th instant was twenty-five, thus making seventy in all. The number of communicants belonging to the Mission is about ninety-five. Since my appointment to the charge of this parish, one hundred and twenty persons have communicated as members of the Church of England, but death and removals have diminished the number.

From the Rev. R. Blakey.

Augusta, Jan. 22, 1835.

My Lord,—The intention of my writing at this time is to give you a short account of my mission and labours, which you will find are on the increase. In many points of view I have great cause of thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church, for having, in some measure, blessed my ministrations to the increase of piety, and the extension of that sound and godly form of public worship which is so well adapted to make men Christians, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

You are aware that when I first arrived at Prescott, the church was not finished, although begun; that the few who might be styled Churchmen had, previously to my arrival, attended the preaching of the Presbyterian minister, and that I officiated for some time in the school-house until our church was completed. After this period, there was a gradual increase to our ranks by accessions from the Presbyterian congregation, &c. and emigration. In consequence, our church became too small to contain us. We, therefore, enlarged it more than one-third, and it is now as well filled as it was before this addition. Till within the year past, I officiated at Prescott on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and at Maitland church on the Sunday afternoons. But I have since altered my plan, and have service in the morning and evening at Prescott on Sunday, and at Maitland on the afternoon of the same day, and on Wednesday evenings. Thus I have three services on Sunday, and one on Wednesday. These I intend to continue as long as the roads will permit; but they are generally so bad in the autumn and spring of the year, that I shall be compelled to omit the evening service at Prescott for at least two months, the distance between my churches being eight miles. The aggregate, therefore, of my services for the year, reckoning the occasional services of Christmas, Good Friday, &c. and the calls to distant funerals, may be said to be one hundred and eighty. The average number of persons who attend at Prescott is about two hundred, and at Maitland, seventy; but this congregation varies greatly from the distance many have to come. On Christmas day, when I administered the pledges of a Saviour's dying love, the number of those who partook at Prescott was fifty-four, and at Maitland twelve. The total number of communicants who at present reside in the parish is one hundred and four. Death has removed many from us, but circumstances more.

From Rev. R. H. D'Olier.

Peterborough, Upper Canada, March 1835.

My Lord,—The present Missionary is not without some pleasing and consoling testimonies with respect to his having been honoured as an instrument of good already in this place. His chief affliction is that so

much remains to be done which he is as yet unable to accomplish; but encumbered with a large and helpless family, and having the same temporal wants, cares, and anxieties, to embarrass him as any other settler, he is compelled by necessity to devote a portion of his time, and even personal labour, to agriculture, without which his income would be utterly incompetent for the decent maintenance of his family. Hitherto, however, he has forborne to make any personal application to the people for assistance. The purest motives are liable to be so often misconstrued by the world, that a desire to give himself wholly to the work of the ministry, and become more extensively useful to his fellow-creatures, might, in connexion with a pecuniary application, be imputed to avarice, and his character and subsequent usefulness be in consequence materially impaired. On the whole, however, he has reason to bless God, and continue to trust him for his promised assistance in all his labours; nor is it a little cheering to him, that, within these few days past, he has witnessed the glorious dying scene of a once gay and thoughtless youth, whom he was attending, but who, in the course of a long protracted illness, became a true Gospel penitent, and has now, greatly to the edification of his family and friends, exchanged the poor and perishing vanities of time for the riches of a happy eternity.

From the Rev. A. Bethune.

Cobourg, Jan. 12, 1835.

My Lord,—From the month of November to April, I give a monthly attendance on Friday evenings at a school-house about five miles west of Cobourg, where the attendance, comprising in its numbers a considerable proportion of persons who, from want of conveyance, &c. cannot conveniently attend at the churches either of Cobourg or Port Hope, averages more than fifty persons. These, with the exception of lectures in houses on the evenings of weeks days, during the same term of the year, and partaking rather of the character of family worship, embracing simple and practical expositions of a portion of Scripture, constitute the whole of the services which I think it necessary to detail to your Lordship. My whole number of services during the year, not enumerating lectures at private houses, nor occasions where I may be called upon suddenly, and on extraordinary occasions, to officiate, amount to about two hundred and forty, or somewhat more in the aggregate than four per week. To these I may add the duties of a general superintendence, and hitherto the exercise indeed of the office of a teacher in the Cobourg Sunday-school, which was formed in 1830, and with various success has continued without intermission to the present time. This averages about fifty scholars; and though I cannot revert to its progress with perfect satisfaction, I trust that, with the Divine blessing, we shall be enabled profitably to persevere.

Thus far, my Lord I have furnished, as it were, a statistical account of my charge. I may be allowed to indulge in a few further remarks, which may serve, perhaps more satisfactorily than a tabular statement, to evince the progress of the principles of the Church within my care. In 1828, a Committee was formed, in connexion with the society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, in order, to afford the means of distributing throughout the district those valuable books, including the Holy Scripture and the Common Prayer, which previously it was difficult, and often impossible to obtain. This has gone on with the most cheering success, and accompanied with the most obvious benefits, up to the present moment.

In the summer of 1829, the church of Cobourg was improved by the addition of nineteen feet to its length, affording a neat recess for a communion place, which had hitherto been defective, and an increase of eighteen pews. This improvement was prompted by a demand for pews, which, previous to that enlargement, could not be answered; and its importance