

which ought to have been raised by the united association, (but which however will be found to be 2l. 11s. 6d. in advance of last year's amount), yet they feel assured that this does not arise from any want of confidence in the Society, or of interest in Christ's Holy Church. The subscriptions for general purposes amount to..... £11 6 10½
The donations do. 1 7 6
Special objects within the parish... 6 4 10½

£18 19 3

The parochial committee assure the district branch that great exertions are made to keep up the quarterly collections in this portion of the parish.

The Parish of Thorold reports, that owing to the failure of crops during the past year, and the stagnation of certain branches of business, on which some of the contributors to this parochial branch depend, strong fears were entertained that there would be a large decrease in the collections for the current year, they have therefore the greater pleasure in reporting that, owing to the faithfulness of several of the collectors, this large apprehended decrease has been changed into the considerable increase of 7l. 2s. 6d. above that of last year, the amount for the current year being 30l. 13s. 6d., while it is believed that other contributions will yet be received. When it is taken into consideration that the people of this parish are engaged in erecting a very substantial, elegant and costly church, it is hoped that this contribution to the funds of the Church Society will be received as a favorable omen of what will be done by them for the support of church institutions, when they shall have been more fully taught their duty in this respect, and shall have realized more fully than they have yet done their privileges and their duties as churchmen.

The Parochial Committee of Dunnville, Port Maitland and South Cayuga report, that a portion of the largest subscribers having left Dunnville, and the heavy local depression commercially, leaves the absolute amount less than last year, when a special effort was made, still it is a steady increase upon most former years, and the subscribers more general. Port Maitland shows, on the contrary, an increase of about one-third, and is again, I trust, beginning to revive after its severe suffering in former years from removals and deaths. The hopeful little congregation of St. John's Church, South Cayuga, has again nearly doubled any previous year's subscriptions. The amounts are—Dunnville, 8l. 0s. 2d., Port Maitland, 10l. 12s. 6d., South Cayuga, 17 15s. 7½d.

The Parish of Fort Erie reports, that the sum of 14l. has been collected during the past year.

The Parish of Louth reports the sum of 3l. 10s., including the Rector's contribution to the Widows and Orphans' Fund.

No report has been received from the parish of Grimsby for the two last years.

Appended is the Treasurer's Account of Receipts and Disbursements for the past year:

Niagara District Branch of the Diocesan Church Society in account current with George Rykert, Treasurer.

Dr.

1851, Dec. 9.—To paid Chairman's Check, dated in July last, in favor of the Rev. Mr. Grasett.....	£12 10 0
1855, Jan. 25.—14lto, do. do.....	12 10 0
Balance.....	56 8 2
	£81 8 2

Cr.	
1851, January.—By Balance per account.....	£28 18 3
March 17.—By Collections retained for Missionary purposes.....	52 0 11
	81 8 2
February 29.—By Balance brought down.....	£56 8 2
	Geo. RYKERT, Treasurer.
	St. Catharines, 26th Feb., 1855.

From this it will be seen that, though our finances are in a favourable condition, in consequence of not having any travelling missionary to support, they would be considerably reduced if we should be so fortunate as to secure the invaluable services of a clergyman to undertake that important duty; and that it is the part of wisdom to keep on hand, and producing a small income to the district branch, sufficient to meet the calls upon the branch for that purpose, independent of the current contributions for the year.

In conclusion, your managing committee would remark, that the duty of aiding the Church of Christ in endeavouring to extend the blessings of the Gospel throughout our country is pressed upon the members of our association by the love which they entertain for their fellow-Christians, by the consideration that, at the utmost, they are only stewards of what they possess, and that they themselves belong to God, by the assurance of holy writ, that the discharge of this sacred duty is noticed by the Most High, and is well-pleasing in His sight; by the grateful sense of the many mercies and blessings vouchsafed them; but, above all, by the self-sacrificing love borne towards our race by our adorable Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, "though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might become rich."

All which is respectfully submitted.

T. B. FULLER, Secretary.

Niagara, 1st March, 1766.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

1. Moved by Major Brown, seconded by the Hon. W. H. Dickson, seconded by Major Brown, That the report now read be adopted and printed in the Ecclesiastical Gazette, and that 400 copies of the number containing it be ordered by the Secretary, for circulation amongst the members of the district branch.

2. Moved by the Rev. E. Grasett, seconded by J. Powell, Esq., That this District Branch of the Diocesan Church Society feels it a privilege again publicly to acknowledge the goodness of God in the success which has hitherto attended their humble efforts to advance the interests of His Church, and to record their earnest prayer that He may still be pleased to vouchsafe to them his blessing.

3. Moved by John Simpson, Esq., seconded by the Rev. Adam Townley, That the recent act of the Provincial Legislature for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves imposes on every member of the Church the solemn responsibility of manifesting to all, that there is in our Holy Church a vital and Divine principle which, under the blessing of Almighty God, will enable her, independent of all extraneous aid, to fulfil her great mission in this colony.

4. Moved by the Rev. T. Creen, seconded by the Rev. C. L. Ingles, That the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, of which the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was made by the Imperial Act of 1840 the trustees for that part allotted thereby to the Church, having finally severed our district branch from all connection with the venerable Society, this meeting desires to express its deep sense of the heavy debt of gratitude due by the Church in this colony to that venerable society

for its first planting therein, and for a long continuance of nursing care and attention.

6. Moved by the Rev. T. B. Fuller, seconded by the Rev. H. N. Philipps, Whereas the best interests of the Church require, for the management of her affairs generally, and of her property in particular, a representative body, consisting of the clergy and laity representing parishes, presided over by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, and invested with corporate powers; and whereas the Diocesan Synod, so happily established, would present such a body, if the necessary corporate powers could be obtained for it—Resolved, therefore, that this District Branch Association, through its proper officers, petition the Legislature for an act conferring corporate powers on the Diocesan Synod.

6. That the thanks of this District Branch are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Secretary, Treasurer and Collectors, for their services during the past year; and that the Rev. T. B. Fuller be Secretary, the Rev. C. L. Ingles be Assistant Secretary, and George Rykert, Esq., Treasurer, for the ensuing year.

ENGLAND.

CLERICAL STATISTICS.—According to a calculation founded on the Clergy List the number of Clergy in England and Wales amounted at the commencement of the year 1854 to 18,420, at the commencement of 1855 it is 18,750, showing an increase of 330, which is about the excess of Ordinations over deaths notified in the Ecclesiastical Gazette.

A memorial is in course of signature at Manchester, calling upon the bishop to exert his episcopal authority and influence "to promote obedience to the law and the performance of a plain christian duty in having public prayers read daily, at hours convenient for the people, in all the churches in the parish, or those of them to which his lordship may deem it proper in the first instance to limit such requirements; and that his lordship will be further pleased to order that all churches may be left open during times at which service is not being performed, in order that all who wish may resort thither for private prayer."

DEED.

The Rev. Daniel Gavin, missionary at Sabrovois, near St. John's, C. E., died on the 18th day of April, of inflammation of the lungs. On the last day on which he preached, Easter Sunday, he had entered his fiftieth year, having laboured for the last seven years among the French Canadians at Sabrovois, with marked success.

Notwithstanding the almost impassable state of the roads, Mr. Gavin's remains were, on the following Monday, accompanied to the grave by between four and five hundred persons, principally French Canadians. The Burial Service was performed in English and French, by the Rev. Canon Townsend and Bancroft and the Rev. Mr. Duvernet, Mr. Fronteau, acting as Catechist, assisted. Clergymen from the neighbouring parishes, with their churchwardens and others, attended as mourners. Addresses were delivered in French and English by the Rev. Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Fronteau.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED TO MAY 15.

Rev. D. L., Frost Village, Shefford; Rev. C. B., St. John's, C. E.; Rev. F. E. J., St. John's, C. E.

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