

remaining debt, amounting to over \$3,000. At the same time it is strongly felt that even if this should be accomplished, the Mission Fund cannot be affirmed to be in a healthy condition, as its ordinary receipts have been insufficient for some time past to meet its current expenses, and it is owing to this cause that the indebtedness has so rapidly accumulated.

The Board have been most reluctant to contract operations which ought to be extended—to reduce the number of Missions which most urgently require to be increased, or to lessen the amount of its grants, which even now scarcely suffice to provide, with the contributions of the people, a bare subsistence for the missionaries. It will be necessary therefore that effectual measures should be taken with all promptitude, to increase the stated income of the Board. It is proposed to revise the apportionment to the several parishes or missions of their share in this important work, and any parish or mission which considers itself aggrieved by the existing apportionment, is invited to furnish data by which any injustice hitherto done it may be corrected. But when all possible means have been used to secure a fair distribution of the burden, the Board trusts that every parish and mission will hold it to be a sacred and indispensable duty to contribute the amount assigned it. It may be necessary to give some time and labour to secure this end, and lay members of the Church will be doing good service by assisting their clergymen in apportioning to the several families of the congregation their respective share of the sum required. Time and labour may be most profitably bestowed, by those who can contribute little in the way of pecuniary offerings, in increasing the number of those who in every congregation contribute to Church purposes, and in bringing home to each, in a loving and friendly spirit, a sense of his individual duty.

More especially in large cities like Toronto does the Board feel that a good work might be done by our lay members, by collecting on a systematic plan, and at short intervals, the contributions of the poorer as well as of the richer members of our Church. In order to inform the laity more fully of the present operations of the Mission Board and of the work which still lies before it, the several Rural Deans have been requested to send in statements from their respective Deaneries, abstracts of which are here given.

RURAL DEANERY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

The missions in this Deanery receiving grants from the Board are the following: 1. Gore's Landing and Harwood; 2. Hastings and Alnwick; 3. Norwood, Westwood, and Belmont; 4. Seymour and Percy; 5. Lakefield (or North Douro).

At Harwood a very neat brick church has been erected, costing about \$1500, of which \$1200 have been already collected by the untiring zeal and exertions of the Missionary, the Rev. W. H. Wadleigh.

A division of the Mission of Colborne and Brighton is strongly recommended, by which means Brighton would again enjoy the benefit of a resident clergyman, and Divine service might again be resumed in two churches which have long been closed: St. Luke's church in the parish of Cobourg, and the church at Castleton properly belonging to Colborne. There is abundant work for two clergymen in the three townships in which the Rev. H. D. Cooper has been hitherto labouring.

EAST SIMCOE RURAL DEANERY.

Missions receiving grants in aid:

Craighurst, T. G. Porter.....	\$300
North Orillia, J. H. Harris.....	300
Shanty Bay, Joseph Fletcher.....	200
Vespra, A. B. Chafee.....	300

\$1100

TOWNSHIPS IN WHICH NO CHURCH SERVICES ARE HELD.

West of Lake Couchiching.—Matchedash, North Orillia.

East of the Lake.—Rama, Thornah, Dalton, Carden, Eldon—Seven Townships.

There is a station in Mara, at Atherley, where services are held.