

of these churches was formed in 1803, called first, Thurlow, and then Haldimand. But many of the settlers moved away and most of the churches changed their names, or became extinct. The oldest church west of this city, is I think Vittoria, (Beamsville is about of the same age), which was founded in 1804. If we draw a line due north from this city, then all the Baptist communicants west of that line did not, in 1829, number quite one thousand. Now the same area contains at least fifteen thousand ; more than fifteen times as many. Forty-six years ago the two provinces of Ontario and Quebec, contained about fifteen hundred Baptist communicants, now they contain at least twenty-three thousand ; more than fifteen times as many. Or let us compare the growth of the whole denomination, during the last sixteen years, with the growth of the Baptists in this city during the same time. In 1859, the members of our churches in Ontario and Quebec numbered a little over twelve thousand five hundred ; in 1869, they had increased to a very little over sixteen thousand, an increase of only 28 per cent. in ten years. From sixteen thousand in 1869, they have now become twenty three thousand, that is a gain of fully forty-four per cent. in six years. This is not equal to their growth in this city, during the past six years, still it is great and encouraging progress.

No statement of the comparative amounts contributed for objects of benevolence by the denomination at different periods of its history, can be given ; nor