

School Books from Depositary; Humber Mission, St. Annes's Parish, 20 Bibles and 40 Catechisms.

SUMMARY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS

(Corrected to June 16, 1887)

Rural Deanery.	Sta- tions.	No. Return.	No. S.S. Schools.	Teach- ers.	Scho- lars.
Toronto.....	29	1	2	35	797
West York.....	21	1	5	15	108
East York.....	27	8	3	18	126
Peel.....	19	3	4	12	85
South Simcoe.....	30	4	4	22	125
West Simcoe.....	20	3	2	15	121
East Simcoe.....	20	3	6	11	64
Durham.....	32	4	4	24	178
Northumberland..	25	6	3	16	127
Haliburton.....	27	19	..	8	25
	250	51	33	176	1755
					18062

The Chairman will move, seconded by Mr. C. R. W. Biggar:

"That the Synod adopt the report of the Sunday School and Book and Tract Committee, and express their approval of the recommendations therein contained."

NIAGARA.

Work at the Church of the Ascension is progressing as favorably as can be expected. A cellar (which is an improvement on the old structure) has been dug underneath the main portion of the building, and a considerable amount of the cut stone of the walls has been refaced and placed in position. The roof will be partially put on in the course of a short time, and it is expected the structure will be completed at the time specified in the contract.

ALDERSHOT.—The annual picnic in connection with St. Matthew's Church was held on Thursday, the 4th inst., at Bay View Park. Ample justice was done to the good things provided by the ladies of the congregation. During the afternoon the whole party went for a trip on Hamilton Bay in the pleasure steamer "Maggie Mason." This was greatly enjoyed, more especially as a cool place on shore was hard to find. Great credit is due to the teachers in the Sunday School, Mr. George Sinclair and Miss Kate Read, for the manner in which they worked to make the affair a success.

HURON.

Mrs. Boomer, Diocesan Treasurer for the Church-women's Jubilee offering to the W. and O. Fund of Algoma, begs to acknowledge the following contributions: From the Diocese of Ontario, \$543 52; from Quebec Diocese further sums of \$9, from Inverness; and \$9 from the Mission of New Ireland, making a total of \$433.72; Miss Frances Mockler, Durham, \$11; Miss A. Buchan, Walkerton, \$7.50; Miss Osler, of York Mills, \$2; Mrs. E. A. Taylor, London, \$2; Mrs. E. M. English, \$5, per Mrs. Beard, of Woodstock; collected in small sums, \$2.80, by Mrs. Welford, 70c.; Mrs. VanIngen, \$1; Mrs. Canfield, \$1; Mrs. W. Russell, Gorrie, \$4; Mrs. Welford, \$1; per Miss Pocock, Lucan, 50c. The donations from the Diocese of Huron, at this date, amount to \$571.67, but as much cordial co-operation is promised by a large number of parishes, still to be heard from, it is confidently believed that a large sum will be added to that by the date fixed by the Bishop of Algoma for closing the subscription lists, i.e., 1st November next. The total now in hand is \$1712, exclusive of Toronto, Montreal, Niagara and the Maritime provinces.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Consecration of Bishop Pinkham.—On Sunday, 7th Aug. the ceremony of consecrating Archdeacon Pinkham, Bishop of Saskatchewan, was performed at Winnipeg. The occasion was made memorable by the large number of Bishops who were present: Canadian, American, English, including the Bishops of Qu'Appelle, Athabasca, Northern Dakota, Huron, Moosonee, Rochester, Minnesota and the Metropolitan of Rupert's Land. Canon DuMoulin also took part in the service. The Epistle was read by the Bishop of Minnesota and the Gospel by the Bishop of Rochester. An eloquent sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Matheson from 1 Sam. x. 26, in the course of which he paid a touching tribute to the memory of the late Bishop Dr. McLean, and dwelt upon the work and prospects of his successor. The musical portions of the service were impressively rendered, and the whole occasion was one of great delight and encouragement to the Church people of Winnipeg, and to the visiting clergy from various parts of the North west.

FOREIGN.

The Venerable Archdeacon Bardsley, M.A., incumbent of S. Saviour's, Liverpool, will, it is expected, be consecrated bishop of Sodor and Man about the end of August.

Her Majesty the Queen has contributed the sum of £200 to the clergy distress fund, which now amounts to £352,50.

On July 8, the Lord Bishop of Ossory confirmed 28 candidates from the parishes of Killesk, Fethard and Tintern, in All-Saints' Church, Duncannon. The greater number of those confirmed were adults, four of them also being married people.

Baroness Burdett-Coutts has consented to present to the Queen a testimony of "love and loyalty" from the Ragged School Union, in the shape of an address, accompanied by a volume with the signatures of upwards of thirty thousand teachers and ragged-school children in the schools and missions in and around London.

An estimate of the number of teetotal clergymen in the Church of England gives it as 5,000, while temperance societies have been established in the majority of parishes. The proportion of abstainers among the town clergy is greater than among the country clergy.

The late Bishop Young, of Florida, bequeathed his whole estate, after the death of Mrs. Young, to the diocese of Florida, upon certain conditions, one of which is that when a cathedral is established it shall be endowed with this estate. The Bishop left a considerable fortune.

Bishop Huntingdon, of Central New York, says he has received into the ministry of the Church during his episcopate, four Methodists, one Presbyterian, one Congregationalist, three Baptists, five Universalists and Unitarians, and two Roman Catholics. He adds: "It is obvious to remark that no movement at all like this outward from us to any other Communion can be seen. The supply of young candidates from non-episcopal sources is in a much higher ratio still."

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Home Reunion Society, the Dean of Lichfield said he could testify to the extraordinary advances the Church of England was making at the present day, especially in the potteries and the iron districts in the diocese of Lichfield, where the change of attitude towards the Church of England during the last twenty years was wonderful, a change which he attributed chiefly to the increase of spirituality in the church.

For years the Church Missionary Society has been without accurate statistics of the native Maori Church, New Zealand; but at last Archdeacon Williams has secured fairly complete figures. They show that the baptized Maori Christians in the North Island number 18,240. There are 27 Maori clergy, and 280 voluntary teachers; and the congregations last year gave no less than \$7,350 to God's service.

The statistics of missions and missionary work in Japan for the year 1886 contain many cheering facts. During the year 3,640 adults were baptized, making a total membership of 14,815. There are now one hundred and ninety-three organized churches, sixty-four of them self-supporting; ninety-three native ministers and one hundred and sixty-nine theological students; \$26,886.01 were contributed by the native converts. It should be remembered that the average wages of a day laborer does not exceed twenty cents. One man gave \$10,000 to found a school under the care of the American Board of Missions.

The Imerina mission, Madagascar, of the London Missionary Society, reports for the year, 892 congregations, 765 native pastors, 102 evangelists, 3,709 native preachers, and 58,898 church members. In the 803 schools are 69,919 boys and girls. The churches, says the report, necessarily differ much in character. "Some of the more distant ones barely deserve the name of Christian churches at all, so dense is the ignorance of the great majority of the people of even the elements of Christianity, and so far are they from being obedient, not only to the law of Christ, but even to the demands of the most ordinary morality. Other churches again, especially perhaps those in and near Antananarivo, are in a comparatively strong and healthy condition, alive to their responsibilities, and vigorous in their endeavours to advance education and true religion in their midst."

The great want of the churches is a deeper spirituality, more reverence for God, more hatred of sin, and a stronger repulsion from impurity. The second and final revision of the Malagassy Bible is now well on toward completion. In the Betsileo Mission, which is carried on by the Imerina churches, there are 241 churches, 60 native pastors, 27 evangelists, 478 native preachers, and 2,796 members. Last year was not one of uninterrupted prosperity, but on the whole some progress was made. Some districts were ravaged by hordes of robbers. Reports are also given for three other missions, two of which have 548 church members and 106 native pastors and preachers.

THE WELSH CHURCH.—Since 1851 a great work has been accomplished to supply deficiencies of church accommodation; and to meet the growing wants of the people, 858 additional churches and licensed rooms have been provided.

In 274 parishes in the dioceses of Bangor and St. Asaph the total sum spent in ten years on church building and restoration, mission rooms, and increase in endowments from private liberality has been £404,135.

Llandaff spent in thirty-three years, up to 1886, £360,000 on the Cathedral and in the restoration and erection of 170 churches. Her Church Extension Fund, now three years old, has raised £24,000, and has made grants for twenty-nine churches and mission rooms. The last report says it was confidently predicted, when the erection of two churches in the Rhondda Valley was commenced, that, as the population there was composed entirely of Nonconformists, the money would be simply wasted. The large congregations gathered each Sunday in the four churches erected sufficiently prove not only the erroneousness of these predictions, but also that when opportunity afforded the people are not slow to avail themselves of the privileges and blessings the Church is commissioned to convey.

In St. David's diocese, in ten years, up to 1884, 33 churches were built, more than 40 restored, and 40 mission rooms licensed. On the report of a commission appointed there three or four years ago by the bishop to inquire into the spiritual needs of this rural deanery of Swansea and Gower East, a church extension fund has been established, and (including two sites) about £15,000 has been raised. In the mother-parish of Swansea, in the last two and a half years, two permanent churches have been built, one iron church, and three additional mission rooms opened, and an ecclesiastical district with a population of 7,000 separated. Another permanent church is to be finished in the autumn, and the parish of St. Mary's, Swansea, with 30,000 people, will then have five permanent churches, two iron churches and eight mission-rooms. The charge that these are erected with the checks of the wealthy, as evidence that the Church is not popular, is most unfounded as regards Swansea.

I have already stated that the number of clergy has grown in Wales during the last fifty years from 700 to 1,836. A still more satisfactory advance is the increase in the number of resident clergy. Non-residence has been reduced to a minimum.

In the diocese of Llandaff, the average ordinations of deacons has risen from seven in 1880, '81 and '82, to an average of 21 in the last three years.

In this diocese (St. David's), with a population of 485,000, in the triennial confirmations ending 1885, 7,258 persons were confirmed. The bishop has made a careful calculation that the proportion on the population is much the same as—perhaps a little in excess of—the proportion in several of the more populous English dioceses. In the triennial period up to last year, in Llandaff diocese the confirmations have risen from 6,599 in the former three years, to 8,592. Within the last three weeks the Bishop of Llandaff has confirmed at one place 114 candidates of whom 70 were formerly Nonconformists.

Although events in recent years have been unfavorable to the maintenance of voluntary schools in country parishes, the Church still educates about three-eighths of the whole number now attending public elementary schools in Wales and Monmouthshire. As proof that Nonconformists appreciate this work, out of over 1,300 children in Swansea Higher Grade National Schools for boys and girls, the head master says nearly one-half attend non-Church Sunday schools.

With regard to ministering to the people in Welsh, it appears that there is not a parish in the diocese of Bangor where there is not a Welsh service. Out of 315 parishes in the principality, in which the Church does not provide a Welsh service, there are only 66 instances in which Nonconformists do.

As to the hold of the Church on the people of Wales, I shall not venture here on the thorny question of denominational statistics, not because I have no clear ideas myself, but to avoid controversy. I will only say, if the statistics of the Church population which have been given by some are correct, then in proportion to the Church population the number of annual baptisms, confirmations, and percentage of