

*The Gore and Wellington District Branch of the Church Society, in account with H. C. BAKER, Treasurer.*

1850.	RECEIPTS.	Cs.
Feb. 26. By balance per statement this day 1851.		£65 14 1
Mar. 12. By cost of three shares in Gore District Building Society sold Profit on the above dividends and interest on balance.....		23 11 6
" " Collections for 1850, viz		29 16 9
" Hamilton Branch.....	£22 14 1	
" Guelph do.....	50 4 5	
" Dundas and Flamboro' West.....	41 17 4	
" Galt.....	30 0 0	
" Nelson and Wellington Square	30 0 0	
" Ancaster.....	18 5 0	
" Binbrook and Saltfleet.....	30 0 0	
" Oakville and Trafalgar.....	10 0 0	
" Mohawk and Tuscarora.....	13 17 6	
" Brantford.....	25 0 0	
" Paris.....	11 15 0	
" Elora.....	3 15 0	
" Milton.....	8 12 6	
" Upper Cayuga.....	6 8 9	
" Waterdown.....	5 5 0	
" Norval.....	3 10 0	
		£369 4 8
		£288 7 0
		£100 0 0
		85 0 0
		30 0 0
		£213 0 0

HUGH C. BAKER, Treasurer.  
Gore and Wellington District Branch.

Hamilton, March 12, 1851.

The Committee will now proceed, in accordance with their usual method, to give brief abstracts of the various parochial reports, from which will be easily gathered the progress of the Church Society in the Gore and Wellington Districts.

**GUELPH.**

This Association continues in a very prosperous state. The annual meeting held in the Court House was, as usual, very numerously and respectfully attended; the court-room being completely filled. The amount collected during the past year is £30 4s. 2d., exhibiting an increase in subscriptions of £2 over those of the year preceding. The amount reported at the previous annual meeting was £28 15s. 0d., of which £25 was a donation in Bibles and Prayer Books to that amount; while the only donation this year was £1 5s. 0d., so that, as regards actual subscriptions, there is an increase to the amount already stated.

The sales from the Depository were fourteen Bibles, eleven Testaments, fifteen Prayer Books, and six Hymn Books. During the past year this parish has acquired by purchase a piece of ground containing five and a half acres, for the purpose of a cemetery, at a cost of £217 15s. 0d.; and the wants of the congregation requiring the enlargement of the church, measures are now being adopted to add to the present building a portion of a new church to be completed at a future period, and to form for the present an enlargement of the present structure.

**DUNDAS AND WEST FLAMBOROUGH.**

The Parochial Committee of this Association beg leave to report that the amount collected during the past year is £41 17s. 4d., being £4 6s. 8d. less than the previous one; although the number of subscribers has not been materially changed. This deficiency is attributable to three causes: First, the removal from the parish, during the past year, of several of its largest subscribers; Secondly, the withdrawal of several subscribers the past year, about £75 was raised towards paying the last instalment upon the organ, and for furnishing lamps for the church. These things considered, your committee have no just cause for discouragement, but rather a ground for rejoicing, that this parish has been able to do so much for the interests of the Church during the past year.

**ANCASITER.**

The Committee of this Parochial Association beg leave to report that the amount of subscriptions for 1849 amounted to £17 5s. 0d., to which was added the thanksgiving collection. The amount this year exceeds that of the former by £1, being £18 5s. 0d. Your committee have reason to congratulate themselves that the interests of the Church Society have not been overlooked in this parish, and that they are enabled, year after year, to report a steady, though small increase in its funds.

**BRANTFORD.**

The Brantford Parochial Committee report the sum of £25, as the amount contributed to the general objects of the Church Society, during the past year, by the church in the town of Brantford. Last year the same sum was raised in the whole mission, including the collection made in the Hawley settlement, and that in the village of Mount Pleasant. As the church in the latter place is at present making an effort to raise part of the salary for a clergyman, and as the members of the Church in the Hawley Settlement have recently built a church, and have contributed to the Church Society an amount which will appear in the report of the travelling missionary, the report from Brantford indicates improvements; and the recent Annual Parochial Meeting evinced a general and warm interest in the progress and growing efficiency of the Church Society in this Diocese.

**GALT.**

The Committee of this Association have great pleasure in being able to report that the interest in the objects of the Church Society in this mission is still upon the increase. The amount contributed in the out stations, for this year: viz, Beverly, Preston, Doon Mills is larger in each than it was the year preceding; whilst the amount subscribed in Galt is equal to that of the former year.

The Depository in this Mission continues in a prosperous state; and the Churchmen here shew a readiness to assist in every way, in extending the Church and her ordinances to all these places which, are as yet unoccupied, in this Diocese.

The amount remitted to the Treasurer is £30.

**MOHAWK AND TUSCARORA.**

The Rev. Mr. Nelles has remitted the sum of £13 17s. 6d., and remarks that though the amount is rather less than that for the last year, he does not consider this branch of the Society less prosperous than formerly. There are several new subscribers, and several persons have withdrawn their subscriptions in order to contribute to other objects recommended by the Travelling Missionary. He is happy to say that there are more Indians who have contributed this year than any former one.

**NELSON AND WELLINGTON SQUARE.**

This Association has proceeded with its usual activity, and has remitted the sum of £29 to the Treasurer. The Rev. Mr. Greene regrets his inability to attend the meeting, owing to sickness in his family. He writes as follows:— "You may report of our branch

that it still continues to prosper, and to commend itself to the favourable consideration of the members of our Zion." He concludes by praying that the Father of mercies may be with you all, and that your meeting may enjoy seasonable refreshings from His presence.

**PARIS.**

The Rev. Mr. Ruttan remits £11 15s. 0d. from his Parochial Association, but states that their collections are not yet completed, but will probably amount to £14.

**ELORA.**

The Committee of this infant Association in remitting £3 15s. to the Treasurer, remark that the difficulties which they experience in common with all new Missions, preclude their dwelling at any length on past success, nevertheless reviewing what has been done, they would not despise the day of small things but would look forward with lively anticipation to the future, trusting that He who has hitherto blessed their exertions, will arouse all within the bounds of this mission to co-operate in this high and holy work—impressing upon all the high responsibilities which rest upon them as sheep of His flock, and members of His body, which is the Church.

**OAKVILLE.**

The Committee report that in consequence of the removal of our late estimable Minister at that particular period of the year when the operations of the Society require the direction of an experienced and influential Superintendent, and his successor having only recently taken charge of the Mission the working of the Association has in some measure been interfered with. The Committee are only able to report £10 as collected.

It would appear from the past operations of this Association that for several years the amount remitted to the District branch under the head of "Oakville" embraced the contributions of the whole of Trafalgar. No inconsiderable portion of this sum was derived from the rising villages of Horaby and Milton, situated in rear of the Township, but as the former has, by a temporary arrangement, been assigned to the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Fraser, resident Missionary for Essex, and the latter is visited by the Travelling Missionary for the District, the contributions of the friends of the Church in those localities find their way into the Treasury of the Society through other channels. If therefore the amount contributed this year by the Association should appear comparatively small, the Committee desire it to be borne in mind that the subscriptions have been confined to Oakville and its immediate vicinity.

**SALTFLEET AND BINBROOK.**

The Missionary at this station, the Rev. Mr. Alexander, deserves great credit for his exertions in behalf of the Church Society. He has remitted £20, to the Treasurer, which amount of subscriptions has not only been procured by his own exertions but the money actually advanced out of his own pocket on the credit of the Subscribers. His self-denial is the more apparent from the fact that in the time of his predecessor, no collections were made for the Church Society, but £33 contributed to the support of the Missionary. At present the Missionary receives but £5 per annum, from the people and he sends £20 to the funds of the Church Society.

The people of Saltfleet are determined as they do not expect any assistance from the Church Society, towards building a Church at Stoney Creek, to retain, for that purpose, all the collections they make among themselves this winter. They will avail themselves of the rule of the Society which permits them to designate the object they wish to contribute to; and thus make their contributions special donations for the above mentioned purpose. So that, I fear there will be a considerably smaller sum contributed from my mission for the year, than was raised among us last year for general purposes.

This selfish policy is not of my suggesting, nor is it approved by me. On the contrary I am resolved to fight against it.

The Church Building subscription paper is just out and will doubtless interfere with our annual collection; but if I could go about myself for a few weeks, I think I could realize the usual amount, notwithstanding.—He concludes by expressing his regret that he cannot have the pleasure of meeting us this year at either of our annual meetings, and that he is thus obliged to cast a shade of discouragement upon the prospects of our District Branch, but hoping and believing that it will be but a transient cloud, soon to be succeeded by the sunshine of brighter days.

**NORVAL MISSION.**

The Rev. Donald Fraser has transmitted two pounds ten shillings, being his own subscription for two years, and expresses his regret that in consequence of the great local exertions which are still necessary to liquidate debts contracted before he came into the Mission, he cannot apply for subscriptions to the members of the Church for other purposes at present.

**TRAVELLING MISSION.**

Much praise is due to the Travelling Missionary for his exertions in behalf of the Church Society. By forming parochial associations at three of his stations, he has been enabled to return no less a sum than £20, to the funds of the Society. The first St. Mary's Upper Cayuga numbers 41 subscribers and pays in £6 8s. 9d. The second, Milton, enrolls 63 members and subscribers £3 12s. 6d. The third Waterdown & East Flamboro, numbers 35 members and remits £5 5s. 0d.

The Missionary has drawn up an elaborate report of his operations, which if the members of the association desire it shall be read to the present audience.

**TRAVELLING MISSIONARY'S REPORT.**

In presenting his Second Annual Report, your Missionary has great pleasure in stating, that the prospects of the Travelling Mission are highly favourable, and calculated to afford encouragement to the Society and benefit to the Church. That the Mission is successful and likely to produce permanent results should be a cause of thankfulness to every member of our communion, and induce them to aid, not only by their aims but much more by their prayers, a work designed for the glory of God and the salvation of men. The work of Missions is, doubtless, the most important object of the Church Society; and to multiply these must be the concern of every member. By these means alone can we propagate in the remote settlements a knowledge of Christianity, reclaiming the wanderer, encouraging the lukewarm, strengthening the steadfast adherent, and so imparting health and vigour to the sickly members of Christ's body. It must be evident to all that this can be but feebly attempted in a

Travelling Mission; still we have confidence in knowing that "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds."

Having this assurance, your Missionary has prosecuted with steadiness and regularity the duties of his mission, with what success he will now proceed to narrate.

The appointments of last year are still kept up, with one exception, viz.—that at Mann's School-house, in the 5th concession of Ancaster. A regular monthly service was maintained at this station until October last, when it was removed to Newport, on the Grand River, near the borders of the Tuscarora township. This locality was found much more favourable than the former, the congregation being almost double, and the people more accessible and easier to be influenced by occasional ministrations of the Church. Taking these and other things into consideration, it seemed advisable to make the change which has accordingly been effected, and seems in every way to answer the Missionary's expectations.

Upper Cayuga or Hawley's School-house (as it is known in last year's Report) enjoying an afternoon service in connexion with the last mentioned place, your Missionary considers one of the most promising stations. Here a neat brick Church has been erected during the past year, at a cost of £337, by the voluntary offerings of the people, assisted only by a grant of £22 from the Christian Knowledge Society. The corner stone was laid on the 15th June, by the Ven. Archdeacon Bethune, with appropriate ceremonies; and on the 27th December the Church was opened for Divine service. It is still in an unfinished state, wanting seats and other furniture; but these will be supplied before many months. One great object has been to keep out of debt, and in this we have so far succeeded. The small additional sum of £25 (and that is not due for some time,) will ultimately enable the building committee to meet all their present engagements.

It is pleasing to relate of this congregation that notwithstanding the above large expenditure, they still remember the Church Society, and have forwarded to its Treasurer the sum of £6 8s. 9d. This may not appear so great when compared with what is raised in older parishes, but considering the means of the people and the demands lately made upon them, it speaks stronger than words in favour of their liberality and zeal, giving good hope for time to come. The congregation here is large, and fully averages one hundred, with every prospect of increasing under judicious management. Thanks are due to the Rev. Mr. Nelles, for providing a service once in eight weeks.

In last year's Report only a bare allusion was made to the township of Glanford. Your Missionary is now enabled to give a more lengthy notice of the infant congregation there formed, and can assert, that it has not been behind others in giving evidence of a desire secure more frequent ministrations. There are in this township from three to four hundred professed adherents of the Church of England, without any opportunity of worshipping according to the faith of their fathers or the dictates of their conscience, save when visited by the Travelling Missionary. At the present time they are as sheep without a shepherd, having none to gather them within the fold of Christ.

The best means of providing for the future. Until a Church can be built, a house has been lent for the monthly service, and there we are content to assemble at present for the purposes of prayer and praise. But we hope this is only temporary, and that during the coming summer another Church will mark the place where a congregation of faithful men are gathered and the sacraments duly ministered. To promote this praiseworthy object, an acre of land has been deeded to the Bishop in trust for the site of a Church and burying-ground, and a large sum of money subscribed sufficient to warrant the building committee in proceeding with the work. A suitable plan has been obtained from the committee in Toronto for building and enlarging Churches, which is distinctive in its character, and evidences a return to a better style than has hitherto been adopted in our buildings for religious purposes. It will be your Missionary's care to see that it is carried out as far as circumstances will admit; for he is firmly persuaded that external beauty and harmony of design contribute no little to promote reverence and foster religious feeling within the heart. Hence these matters, though comparatively little in themselves, cease to be so from their connection with the worship of Almighty God. The material of this Church will be of brick; and its completion for Divine service may be looked for towards the close of the present year.

That portion of Barton Township extending from the brow of the mountain to the Glanford line has also been visited by your missionary, with a view of re-organizing the old congregation which formerly assembled at the Barton Church. He entertains the most sanguine hopes that this attempt will prove successful. Sufficient land for a site has been obtained adjacent to the old burial ground, along with contributions to the amount of near £300, which sum, it is confidently expected, will receive large additions. It has been resolved to commence the work early in the ensuing spring, so as, if possible, to render the edifice fit for divine service by next autumn. And there can be no doubt but this may be looked forward to as a certainty, from the zeal manifested towards the undertaking by many Churchmen, whose subscriptions have been most liberal. That a house of prayer is needed in Barton, above the mountain, for those of our communion, will not be questioned by any one who is familiar with that part of the country. Many of the inhabitants attend no place of worship; others having none of their own, go elsewhere, and so the church is losing yearly those whom she formerly claimed. At all events, if the old people remain attached to the Church of their youthful days, their children have not the same associations to keep them in the right way, and consequently if they join not other Christian bodies, they become indifferent to all religious teaching, and lose sight of the great truths of the Gospel.

The churches in the townships of Barton and Glanford will probably be joined together, forming one mission—as the people in neither place can raise the necessary amount for the maintenance of a Clergyman without the assistance of the other. Thus they will both obtain that pastoral superintendance so much needed—and our communion, instead of decreasing, may be expected, with the divine blessing, to expand and enlarge, exhibiting to all around the beneficial effects of a Scriptural system, combining evangelical truth with apostolic order.

At Waterdown, in East Flamborough, some progress has also been made in those preliminary measures necessary before commencing a church, though your

missionary regrets to state, not equal to what has been done at other stations. From £60 to £70 are available to make a beginning, also a grant of £22 from the Christian Knowledge Society. This latter, however, cannot be had until the church approaches completion.

A branch of the Church Society has been formed in this township, under the name of the Waterdown and East Flamborough Branch, and the contributions for this year amount to £5 5s. 0d. There has been no diminution of the congregation at this station since last year, though your missionary cannot report much increase. Without doubt, a large number might be gathered, if an efficient system of visitation could be maintained, as the Church population numbers over 400, while, lamentable to relate, more than 200 of the inhabitants profess no form of the Christian religion. To reach all these, and attend to other duties, is manifestly out of the power of one whose labours are co-extensive with the district. The effort at this service has been continued with good effect. From its proceeds a surplice has been obtained for the use of the officiating minister, and the recent collections have been appropriated to the building fund of the new church.

After morning service at Waterdown, another station ten miles distant is taken up in the afternoon. Here there are materials for a good congregation if it was possible to visit from house to house; and your missionary deeply regrets that he cannot hold personal and familiar intercourse with the family of every person attending public worship. This is the only way of overcoming their prejudices, and attaching the people to the English Church. So deeply impressed is your missionary with this opinion, that nothing but urgent necessity prevents him from carrying into effect a systematic course of pastoral visitation throughout the mission. But the society is fully aware, that what is comparatively easy in a settled parish is altogether impracticable in such ministrations as are described in this report. At the Brock Road many infants have been baptized, and the people are generally attentive, orderly and anxious to obtain the means of grace more frequently.

Milton, in Trafalgar, always affords a large and devout congregation. It is a thriving settlement, and ought to have a church and clergyman to gather the people every Sunday. Your missionary hopes to see this good work taken in hand early in the ensuing summer. Subscriptions to the amount of £240 have been entered into, which, with a small additional sum, it is hoped, will be sufficient to erect a frame building suited to their present wants. The infant association of the Church Society, here organized, continues to increase. The contributions this year exceed those of last, and amount to £6 13s. 9d. Churchmen here see the need of supporting the Society, and the advantage they themselves derive from it; obtaining, as they do, the services of a missionary, and receiving back a portion of the funds.

With this, they last year obtained a surplice, and from the proceeds of this season they expect to derive service-books. On the whole your missionary cannot say that there is any decline in the prospects of our communion in this quarter since last year.

When at Milton in the morning, your missionary officiated at Palermo in the afternoon, thus enabling the Rev. Mr. Givins to visit Bronte, a station where a favourable opening presents itself for future usefulness.

The Onondaga Township is the last locality which your missionary visits in the Gore District. This new and rapidly increasing section of country is large, numbering 600, mostly new settlers and very poor. On that account it is most important to occupy the ground—and it is much to be regretted that a Clergyman cannot be specially employed for the spiritual instruction of those in this vicinity, as your Missionary is confident that the result would be more satisfactory than in an older settlement. The Service here is held in a small School-House, once a fortnight, though the kind assistance of the Rev. Mr. Elliot. It is well attended, especially in fine weather. The worshippers are very attentive and use their Prayer Books much better than at first. However such places as this require time to effect anything permanent. We must content ourselves with sowing the seed, tending it carefully, and waiting God's own time to bring it to maturity.

Your Missionary has admitted sixty-one persons into the Church by baptism, officiated at five burials, and solemnized one marriage. He has sold and distributed from seventy to eighty Prayer Books, besides a large number of tracts and other publications in accordance with the principles of the Church of England.

The Society is now in possession of information which will give some knowledge of the missionary labour performed in the District since the last annual meeting. They will perceive that the field is too large to be effectually worked by one Clergyman without subjecting him to such labour and exposure as few constitutions are able to bear. Your Missionary would therefore respectfully suggest either that another Clergyman be employed or that the present Incumbent be authorised to confine himself to one of the Counties of Wentworth or Halton, instead of being compelled to traverse them both. Such an arrangement will, in one point of view, afford great relief to your Missionary, though in another it will tend to increase those duties which are more directly of a pastoral character.

In laying the foregoing remarks before the Society, your Missionary is but too painfully sensible of their many imperfections, and of the small apparent result proceeding from his exertions he is able to point out. If good has been done the power to do it came of God—if men's hearts have been softened, it has been through the agency of the Holy Spirit; and if one single sinner has been saved, 'tis only through the merits of Christ. To the instrument there is left no cause for boasting, when upon looking around, he beholds so little done to stem the torrent of ungodliness, to promote humility and reverence, to root out pride and selfishness. Well may he call to mind an Apostle's words and say—"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God."

All which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT N. MERRITT, B.A.,  
Travelling Missionary in the Gore District.  
March 6th, 1851.

**HAMILTON.**

The Parochial Committee regret that their exertions this year in the cause of the Church Society have not been attended with greater success. They are fully aware, however, that the falling off in the funds can be satisfactorily accounted for, and that, under existing circumstances, it cannot be looked upon as an indication of diminished interest in the Society. In addition to the heavy demands made upon the members of the Church of England in this parish during the last year, towards erecting the new church, they have very recently contributed the handsome sum of £70 to the Assistant Minister, who, from letters recently received, appears to be deriving the benefit anticipated from a more genial climate; and who, it is hoped, will be