

pect it will exceed \$40, or at most \$50, instead of \$60, their last year's collection.

At the same time they do not consider that this falling off in this branch, for the current year, ought to be viewed as discouraging by the other members of the District or Parent Societies. The cause of the Society has not become less popular, and by a more perfect organization, and thorough canvass, which has been resolved upon, by four distinct committees, one at each of the four Stations which will soon be opened in the Mission, instead of by one General Committee, as heretofore, the amount collected, it is confidently believed, will be much increased. The burden of collecting has hitherto depended upon the Missionary, aided by only one or two lay members, and he being over-taxed with other duties, has never been able to carry out the business of collecting so far as it might have been carried.

In conclusion, the Committee beg to observe that their omitting to send a Report to the District Secretary, for the last two or three years, was not from disregard to the rules of the District Branch with which they are connected, but owing to a cause already mentioned, namely, want of perfect organization, partly, also to their want of practice and skill in drawing up formal reports, as well as their absence of ambition to exhibit publicly any detailed statement of their proceedings. Indeed they consider their operations, so far, too unimportant to merit particular attention at a public meeting, or to be mixed among the Reports of the larger parishes. And, therefore, they were content, on some occasions, when their collections were small, to confine themselves to what they conceived the most essential part of their duty, namely, forwarding the cash to the District Treasurer; in which (although they confess the amount was much less than it ought to have been,) they trust they have not been less forward, or less liberal, according to their means and numbers, than other Committees.

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, HAMILTON.

The Parochial Committee of this Association rejoice that, in submitting to their friends their Sixth Annual Report, they have not to notice a falling off in their subscription lists, and which they had feared, in consequence of the large amount raised by their congregation last year, to cover the expense of a boundary wall and iron fence, with which their church and its grounds have lately been inclosed. This heavy outlay, exceeding the sum of £700, has not served to lessen the interest of their Association in the prosperity of the District Branch of the Church Society. On the contrary, the Committee have to acknowledge the greatly augmented readiness to give which their collectors observed in their canvass. The Committee believe that this circumstance is altogether owing to the fact, that a large proportion of the funds to be raised by the Parochial Associations were required for the maintenance of Missionaries in destitute sections of the Diocese.

The Committee have to Report as subscribed by their Association to the GENERAL funds of the Society, the sum of £66 10s., against £42 12s. 6d. last year. This increase is, no doubt, attributable to the cause above assigned, from the further circumstance, that a proportionate diminution has taken place in the amount received by their collectors for SPECIAL purposes; this being for the present year £71 13s. 9d., against £83 3s. 9d. for the past. They would express a hope that they may regard the result of the year as an indication that the congregation they represent do not forget, in the midst of their own

pressing wants, the urgent need of their brethren in the common faith.

CHRIST CHURCH.

The Parochial Committee Report, as the result of their exertions, the sum of £123, and remark that the deficiency as compared with the receipts of last year, has arisen from the fact that the collectors deferred their visits to the subscribers as usual, to within a few weeks of the time for sending in their returns; and then the occurrence of that fearful disaster which carried death into so many families in this community, and engrossed the thoughts and time of their fellow-citizens, rendered it impossible to complete their work, so that many of the subscribers have not been called upon, and one or two of the collectors have made no Report.

The amount returned for local expenditure was appropriated under the sanction of the Parochial Committee, as follows:—

Repairs to St. Matthew's Chapel	£ 1 15 0
On account of Seats for do.	0 16 7½
Rev. Mr. Butler, for services.....	25 0 0
Freight of Reports.....	0 5 0
	£27 10 7½

Efforts are likewise now making to finish the Parish Church—a work of some magnitude, requiring an outlay of not less than £10,000. A beginning has been already made by two munificent subscriptions, each of £500, besides a number of £100 each. If this work is carried out with the energy and liberality which is anticipated, the amount of our annual collections for the Church Society may not, perhaps, exhibit any very large increase, but the congregation will never be backward in contributing a fair proportion of the means required to prosecute the Missionary undertakings of this Association with vigor and success.

A new place of worship, in connection with Christ's Church (St. Thomas' Chapel,) is just being completed in the eastern limits of the Parish, and will probably be opened for Divine Service by Easter Sunday. This building has been erected at an expense of about £600, and a considerable portion of this amount remains to be collected.

It is also in contemplation to erect another chapel at the west end, where Sunday Services are at present performed by the Rev. Mr. Butler. A site has been given for the building, and several subscriptions already promised.

The Committee, in conclusion, may be allowed to incorporate with their Report the following Resolution, which was adopted this day, convinced as they are that it will find a deep response in the heart of every individual present, and of all to whom it may be communicated.

"That the Church Society of the Gore and Wellington Districts desires to bow with deep submission to that awful chastisement, which Almighty God permitted to befall this neighborhood, in the late lamentable railway accident; and at the same time would express their deep sorrow at the sudden death thereby occasioned, of their beloved and respected brother, the Rev. Dr. Heise, whose earnest labours in this city for the spiritual welfare of his German countrymen, are hereby sincerely acknowledged."

They may likewise refer to a Resolution of a similar nature, adopted in October last, and which they desire to appear in their Annual Report.

"That this Committee desire to avail themselves of this their first opportunity, of expressing the deep regret they feel at the distressing cala-

mity, which has recently deprived the Church in this District of one of her most zealous and devoted Missionaries—the Church Society of a warm supporter,—and the members of this Committee individually of an amiable and highly-valued friend. They allude to the melancholy death of the Rev. Thomas W. March, who, in the mysterious Providence of God, was suddenly removed, when on the eve of landing on the shores of his native country, by a draught of poison inadvertently administered. They desire to tender their deepest sympathy to the bereaved widow and her family under this most trying dispensation."

Your Committee are thus reminded that the days of their own stewardship may be few, and that what remains to be done must be done with all their might, for there is neither wisdom, nor knowledge, nor device in the grave whither we are going.

J. GAMBLE GEDDES,
Secretary.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.

(From the Montreal Transcript, May 22.)

This solemn and interesting ceremony was performed yesterday by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by a great number of the Clergy, and in the presence of an immense concourse of people. The day was beautifully fine. In the morning—it being Ascension Day—full service with the Holy Communion was celebrated at St. John's Chapel.

We regret that our limits will not allow us even to give an outline of the sermon, which was a very appropriate and highly edifying one. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock, a procession was formed, consisting of the Bishop and twenty-five of the Clergy in their robes, the children connected with schools belonging to the Church, the Officers of the Garrison, Staff Officers and Officers of the 30th Regt., and the Members of the congregation. They immediately proceeded to the site of the new Cathedral where the ritual was performed. It consisted of the usual office for the laying of a corner stone. The Rev. Mr. Gilson read the first part of the service, invoking the Saviour to "Bless this stone which is now to be laid in Thy Name. Be Thou, we pray Thee, the beginning and end of this work, which we take in hand to the praise and glory of Thy Name; and grant that whosoever, with pure and devout mind, shall render assistance in this good work, may receive Thy heavenly benediction, who, with the Father and Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end."

Mr. Scott, the Architect, then read the following scroll:—

TO THE GLORY OF ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST.—This foundation stone of Christ Church, the Parish Church of Montreal, and Cathedral of the Diocese of Montreal, was laid by the Right Rev. Father in God, Francis, by Divine permission Lord Bishop of Montreal, the first Bishop of this Diocese, on the twenty-first day of May, being Ascension Day, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, in the seventh year of his consecration, and in the twentieth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. His Excellency

SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Baronet,
being Governor General of British North America.