

in which they at present congregate. It must be discouraging to both minister and people to see numbers come to the door and turn away again for want of room. Efforts are being made here to supply this want, which we trust to see fully successful.

North Bay, under Mr. J. M. Goodwillie, is prospering as never before. The congregation at Pomassan rejoices in possession and occupation of a new church long needed. But while we here have this token for good, as well as in the fact of many being gathered into the fellowship of the Church, yet there is true cause for humiliation under the mighty hand of God. During the past nine months this section of country has suffered as it has seldom fallen to the lot of any portion of our fair Dominion. Diphtheria of a most malignant type was developed early last autumn in this and surrounding neighbourhood, since which time we may say this locality has been a *Bochim*, a place of mourners. In one burying ground, it has been stated, "sixty-four new graves were made this winter," and in a sparsely settled neighbourhood this means a great deal. At Nipissing, schools, church services, and all public meetings have been prohibited by the local Board of Health, so that since the middle of December till the present writing, our missionary on this field has been able to hold only three services at this point. All this means a disorganization of the work for the time being, but we trust a rich blessing in things spiritual may be enjoyed by those who have been so sorely tried.

At Rosseau, under Mr. I. Garrioch, a step in advance has been taken, an increasing interest being developed in the prosperity of the cause. A slight re-arrangement of the field here has been effected, which will be a benefit both to missionary and people. Mr. Hewitt, at Parry Sound, enjoys the comfort of seeing the work prosper with him. An addition to the church building has been found necessary to accommodate the increased attendance at public worship. These individual cases are referred to as showing the state of affairs over the whole field, want of space preventing a reference to each station or field individually. Financially, though the past year has been one of some depression, yet the contributions of the stations to the Schemes are somewhat in advance of last year. One means, by which the interest of the people is sustained and their liberality drawn forth, is by means of our *Record*, which, with its monthly tidings from the field, both at home and in foreign lands, goes to about 1,000 homes each month in these wide districts, keeping the people alive to the growing needs of the Church, and leading them to pass on the cup of which they have drank to those who are thirsting. Our Sabbath School work has also been greatly assisted by a very large donation of catechisms from Dr. Cochrane, Convener of Home Mission Committee, also of libraries from various Sabbath Schools, notably Collingwood and Orillia. Also of presents from Christmas trees during holiday season, in which Knox Church, Woodstock, and Campbellford took a leading part. And last, but not least, donations in cash to provide supplies, from Winchester Street School, Toronto, and the School in Barrie.

PRESBYTERY OF OWEN SOUND.

Missions.

In all our mission fields the work has progressed very favourably during the year. In some cases removals from weak fields have seriously hampered them in their efforts. We have never had such regular supply as we have had during the past winter. In the Indian Peninsula an effort is to be made this summer to have one or two churches built, so that our work may become more consolidated.

Augmentation.

We have not been able to reduce the claims on the Augmentation Fund during the year. Sarawak will be self-sustaining next year. Another congregation has promised to largely reduce its grant very soon.

PRESBYTERY OF SAUGEEN.

Missions.

Balaklava, Ayton, and East Normanby.—This group of stations has been supplied during the past year by Rev. Robt. Fairbairn, whose services are very acceptable. Good work is being done, but as the stations are far apart, the field is difficult to work.

Cotswold.—This station was supplied last summer by a student. During the winter Rev. M. C. Cameron, Harriston, preached every Sabbath afternoon.

Gordonville.—A student labouring under Rev. L. W. Thom, Arthur, and in connection with his congregation, supplied this station during last summer, and also did some pioneer work in a field about five miles distant. Steps are being taken to make Gordonville a part of the regular charge of Mr. Thom in connection with Arthur village.

Augmentation.

Cedarville and Esplin.—Steps are being taken to erect a new church at Esplin. This Presbytery is still far behind in its contributions to the Augmentation Fund.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.

Missions.

The mission stations in this Presbytery are the same as last year: Eden Mills, under the charge of Mr. Strachan, of Rockwood, and Elmira, under the charge of Mr. Hamilton, of Winterbourne; Hawkville and Linwood, Knox Church, Dragon, and Metz, supplied by students during the summer, and by such others as may be available during the winter.

Augmentation.

During the past year the Presbytery had no congregations on the Augmentation Fund. A neat and comfortable church was built during the winter at Waterloo, and the prospects are that the congregation will be self-sustaining and a pastor settled at an early date.