

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY NOTICES,

AUGUST 1st, 1870.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

THIS branch of the Society's work bears intimately upon the welfare of thousands who forsake old and long-established comfortable homes, and hew out for themselves and growing families a dwelling-place in the wilderness, where the axe and the plough, in the course of a few years, prepare broad acres of fertile lands for the "seed of the sower," and plenteously yield "bread for the eater." There are many wealthy sections in the Province of Ontario where are to be found flourishing Circuits, with their parsonages and fine churches, originally fostered by Missionary Funds, now returning to the same source hundreds of dollars annually, beside the maintenance of their own ministers and ordinances, to extend to new and destitute settlements the same gospel which blessed and cheered their fathers in their early toils and sacrifices. Great openings and loud calls are seen and heard around us for Missionary pioneers; money and men are both wanted to keep pace with the movements of immigrants to the Northern and Western sections of the Dominion. The following letter refers to some places which but a few years since were in their native grandeur, but now contain rising villages and promising rural homes:—

Letter from the REV. F. BERRY, Chairman of the Barrie District.

According to your request, I give you a few lines on our work on this District.

The Barrie District is almost wholly a Mission District, Barrie Circuit alone is self-sustaining. The district extends from Barrie on the South, to the Sault Ste. Marie on the North-west, and from Osprey on the South-west to Muskoka on the North-east. Within the bounds of this district are found some of our most important missions, both Indian and Domestic.

I only now refer to the Domestic Missions. VESPRÁ, till recently a part of the Barrie Circuit, bids fair soon to take its place amongst the self-sustaining circuits. A beautiful new parson-

age just erected by the Rev. J. Woodworth, in a pleasant situation eight miles from Barrie, will contribute much to this end.

This mission is mainly situated in the Township of Vespra, with an appointment or two in Oro. CRAIGHURST, occupied by Rev. J. W. Wicher, joins Vespra on the north, and has a parsonage very conveniently situated on the Barrie and Penetanguishene road, thirteen miles from the former place. This mission occupies a part of the Townships of Vespra, Oro, Medonte and Flos, and has within its bounds a quality of land, and other material resources, which, with the influence which our Church is gaining, promise