

In entering upon the subject of our own Diocese, I think it desirable to lay before you such statistical information as may enable you to form just ideas concerning the position and the wants of our Church in this part of Canada.

When the division of the former Diocese of Toronto took place, thirteen counties were separated from it, and became the Diocese of Huron. These counties comprise the western part of what was formerly known as Upper Canada. They contain 137 townships, averaging 144 square miles each, many of which have only recently been surveyed, and are now rapidly filling with settlers from Great Britain and Ireland, and from the North American Colonies. The Diocese is an irregular figure, extending from east to west about 180 miles, and from north to south about 190 miles. It contains as nearly as it can be estimated about 20,000 square miles, by far the greater part of which is fertile land available for agricultural purposes. The population is at present calculated at 402,581, a large proportion of these are members of the United Church of England and Ireland, and there are many who belong to no Christian body, who have never attached themselves to any Church. Amongst this latter class there is a wide field for missionary exertion. The entire number of the Clergy in the Diocese, including the Bishop, the Parochial Clergy, Travelling Missionaries, Missionaries to the Indians and the fugitive slaves, is fifty-seven. This comprises two superannuated Clergymen, and one master of a country grammar school.

At the time of the division of the Diocese of Toronto there were forty-three Clergymen in this section of it, seven have been received since from other Dioceses, and fifteen ordained, making a total of sixty-five. But we are to set against this seven who have left the Diocese, and one removed by death, leaving the present number of the Clergy fifty-seven. If we subtract from this number nineteen who are exclusively occupied in towns and villages, two superannuated Clergymen, and one master of a grammar school, it leaves thirty-