

Bethesda and Rugby, Oro.—The new Congregational Church at Bethesda, Oro, was opened on Sabbath the 25th July. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. R. T. Thomas, of Toronto, who was before employed in preaching in Oro, during his vacation, when a student of the Congregational College.

On the Monday following, the dedication feast was held, when the building, which is capable of holding over 200 persons, was well filled. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Finch (Baptist), the Rev. J. Woodsworth (Wesleyan), Rev. R. T. Thomas, and the Pastor. It was quite a successful meeting; the most happy spirit prevailed, and the proceeds amounted to over \$50.

The building is 45 x 30 ft., and 18 feet posts—partly Gothic in style, and altogether a very pleasant and attractive house of worship. There is a debt of about \$150 still remaining, which the people hope to pay off this fall. It is intended to build a parsonage immediately after the debt on the church is removed.

The Rugby, Oro, Congregational Church having been enlarged, so as to accommodate 100 persons additional, was re-opened on Sabbath the 8th of August, by the Rev. Principal Lillie, D.D., who preached morning and evening to good congregations.

The building is now 50 x 24, and is capable of seating about 200 persons. The old part has been newly plastered, painted and shingled, so as to correspond with the new, and thus it has the appearance of a large new building. The amount necessary to pay the expense of this improvement has been subscribed by the congregation, and will be paid this Autumn. The burden has fallen upon a very few persons, but they have subscribed liberally and cheerfully the whole amount.

The Douglas Church.—DEAR BRO. WOOD,—I have no doubt but you will be glad to know how the work of chapel-building goes on in the village of Douglas. Owing to the wet weather, those who took the contracts of the stone and brick work were so hindered with other jobs that they could not commence ours till about a month after the time specified. This led some to suppose that we had abandoned the idea of building this season, if not for ever; but about the middle of August, the stone work was begun. On the 2nd inst., the bricklayer came on with a good force, and since that time, the walls have risen with great rapidity. In two weeks more, they will be ready for the roof, and the carpenters say it will then take them about eight days to make all things ready for the plasterer.

We are now able to say that all the work of drawing material will be done without one dollar of cash outlay.

We had intended to have the usual ceremony of laying the foundation stone, but the hurriedness of the season prevented; so we have concluded to have some public demonstration in a few days, at the setting of the "designation stone."

We are much obliged to you for the hint you gave our sister churches a few months ago, with reference to the practical sympathy you think we need; and in this connection, I would say that we have not gone far to seek such help yet, and that for several reasons, chiefly because, first, we were anxious to do what we could ourselves before asking aid from others; and secondly, we thought the feeling prevailed in some quarters that we were not in right good earnest about building at all.

I need scarcely say that we all feel greatly pleased with present prospects. When the "Head over all things to his Church" is the master-builder, who need fear?

I am yours, &c., &c.,

ROBERT BROWN.

West Garafraxa, Sept. 17th, 1869.