

to realize its scantiness. The average in the country parts is one Church family to eight square miles. Some missions are so extensive that a considerable number of the inhabitants cannot by any possibility attend the services of the Church. In fact, about one-third of the Anglican population are reported by the Clergy as unable to do so, owing to distance. Again, there are in the Diocese 786 School Districts, of which Winnipeg counts only as one, and some 630 schools with fewer than 20 pupils in each, while in most of the ordinary mixed settlements there are only about 10 families in each case. A great portion of the land is unoccupied, being held by railway companies, loan companies, and by government, so that it needs but few families to occupy the available land within travelling distance of an out station. This is the natural result of carrying railways through a country in advance of the population.

Then, an impression also prevails that the Church people in the Diocese of Rupert's Land and elsewhere in the West, are somewhat supine, and are quite willing that others should supply their spiritual needs. This is alike inaccurate and ungenerous. It must be remembered that there are few, if any, really wealthy people in the Province of Rupert's Land. The total amount contributed last year towards the Home Mission Fund by the Diocese in question was \$5,358.57, being an average per family of \$1.17, a most creditable proportion. The Church people of Winnipeg maintain six Parishes, are constantly opening out new work, and give \$2,000 per annum to country Missions. Churchmen in the Province, besides paying a large portion of the stipend of their Missionary or Rector (for the grant in aid never exceeds one-half of the income of the Missionary), raised last year \$5,000 for general Mission work. In every town where there are 200 resident Church people, it is held that the Parish ought to be self-supporting, and receive no aid from without. Last year the total amount raised in the Diocese for Church purposes reached the large sum of \$66,000. So much to prove the zeal of Rupert's Land Church people.

The Indian work in this Province was carried on for many years by the C.M.S. According to the Archbishop's statement \$3,000 are needed to carry on this branch of work satisfactorily, while the sum of \$5,000 or \$6,000 is needed for the efficient maintenance of the organized settlement Missions. This appears a formidable estimate, reckoned in addition to the needs of Algoma and the other Missionary Dioceses. But if our Church people become fully alive to the duty and privilege of giving, we think that the exigency can be met. The total amount raised in the Dominion for

Domestic Missions between August 1st, 1895, and July 31st, 1896, was \$3,126.07. We feel sure that this result can be improved upon. Granted that some of the Canadian Dioceses are not enjoying great financial prosperity, they could probably accomplish more than they are doing at present. It would be a reproach to the Canadian Church, if owing to her neglect, her children should be gradually absorbed by other religious bodies more energetic and more far-seeing than ourselves. Such a contingency appears imminent, and it can only be avoided by a prayerful and systematic devotion of our means to this great and holy cause. This pressing duty is binding on every individual. The scriptural practice of setting aside the *tenth* of our income for God's service suggests itself at once. All should aim at it. It is possible for many of us to carry it out, and some, blest with large means, can do even more. The apostolic injunction is that "on the first day of the week every one should lay by in store, as God hath prospered him." This precept invites our compliance, and, although there are many claims upon the resources of our generous laymen, we are confident that they will greatly exceed all their past efforts. If true love for the Chief Pastor of our souls, who gave Himself for us, burns in their hearts, they will not find giving an irksome task, or yield grudgingly to this appeal, but will give joyfully and readily, knowing that they are lending to the Lord, who will not only prosper them in this life, but will reward them in the world to come. For "God loveth a cheerful giver."

If you, then, wish God to *love* you, to love you because he *approves* of you, because you are *lovable*, you must strive to be ready to give and glad to distribute, to form in yourself the character which God loves. Who indeed is there that does *not* love a cheerful giver?

NOTE.—It is recommended that the offerings for this purpose be sent at as early a date as possible to the Secretary-Treasurer of each Diocese, to be by him transmitted to Mr. C. A. Eliot, General Treasurer, Ottawa.

The Secretary-Treasurers to whom all moneys are to be sent, are:—

*Nova Scotia*.—Rev. W. J. Ancient, Halifax, N. S.

*Quebec*.—George Lampson, Esq., Quebec, Que.

*Toronto*.—D. Kemp, Esq., Synod Office, Toronto, Ont.

*Fredericton*.—W. M. Jarvis, Esq., St. John, N. B.

*Montreal*.—Rev. Canon Empson, Montreal, Que.

*Huron*.—J. M. McWhinney, Esq., London, Ont.