

our former average, considering our decrease in numbers."

In regard to St. John's Church, South Cayuga, he says: "Here the congregation is small, but contains some valuable church families, and I trust that their leave, by the blessing of God, will in due time add to their numbers."

#### The Parish of Fort Erie.

This, the chairman of its parochial association reports the collections for the current year to be £9 1s. 8d.; donation to widows and orphans' fund £1; making £10 1s. 8d.

The Parish of Louth reports the Branch of the Church Society in this mission, which for a time lay dormant on account of the very heavy calls made on its members for other church purposes, has again revived. The amount of the collections is £8 10s., which sum is handed in full to the Treasurer. This sum is small, but in addition to it the members of the church in this mission have subscribed the sum of £114 towards extinguishing the debt on the church at Jordan, and for various other objects set forth in the appendix.

Niagara District Branch of the Diocesan Church Society in account with George Hykert, Treasurer.

1854.	Dr.		
January 20, to Chairman's order for		£25	0 0
Rev. C. L. Ingles			
January 20, to Chairman's order for		12	10 0
Rev. E. Grasett			
Balance		£37	10 0
		28	19 3
		£66	8 8
1853.	Cr.		
February 22, by balance per account		£2	6 4
March 21, collections for travelling		£58	12 4
March 29, do. do. do.		5	9 8
		64	1 11
		£66	8 3
By balance brought down		£28	13 3

Geo. HYKERT, Treasurer.

St. Catharines 9th March, 1854.

This statement shows that much more might have been done in this old and wealthy district than has been done during the year, and calls for renewed exertions on behalf of the clergy and leading laity in the several parishes, and shows the necessity for more frequent and better sustained meetings in the different parishes. Still as the decrease in amounts collected for the Church Society has been in most instances, where local objects of the first importance, as the purchase of an excellent parsonage at St. Catharines and the building of a very superior church at Elora, have called for large contributions from those who would otherwise have more than made up the deficiencies in those parishes: and as several of the reports show a decided increase, your managing committee see no cause for discouragement, but feel encouraged to make renewed exertions for the coming year.

#### MISSIONARY REPORTS

##### GORE AND WELLINGTON DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

##### OWEN SOUND SETTLEMENT.

Your missionary begs to state that he continues to perform service on Sundays, at the several stations which have been mentioned in last year's report, with one exception, viz., that at Mr. Grey's house in township of Artemesia, which is now a week-day station. By this change your missionary has been enabled to add two new Sunday stations to his list, viz., Mr. Kennedy's house in the township of Arran, and Mr. Barber's house in the 12th concession of the township of Derby, making in all ten Sunday and five week-day stations.

At Southampton, there has been an increase of the congregation since last year, and ex-

tions are being made to secure, if possible, the services of a resident clergyman. Towards the attainment of that object one gentleman has contributed the sum of £10, and promises to furnish all the lumber required for the erection of a church suited to their present wants. The population of the mission has more than doubled during the past year, which enforces importantly the appeal conveyed in your missionary's last report for an increase of missionary aid in behalf of the members of the church here. Your missionary's stations are so numerous and so far apart, that it is utterly impossible for him to attend to all the wants of this growing population; the result is, that many of the children die unbaptized, their dead are buried without the solemn ordinances which they crave, and some are tempted to join a less pure faith, the emissaries of which are ever at hand to beguile unstable souls.

A. H. R. MULLOILLAND,

Missionary.

Flora, November 29, 1853.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—Since my last report, a few changes have taken place in the mission, which make my stations, at present, as follows:

**Sunday Stations.**—Donaldson's S. H., Garrafraxa; Erinville, Erin; Woolwich, Woolwich; Rush's Meeting House (instead of Hawkesville), Wellesley; Alderville, Peel; Irwin's, Wellesley; Smith's, Egremont; Rooney's, Arthur; Smith's, Arthur. **Week-day Stations.**—McKee's S. H., Garrafraxa; Hawkesville, Wellesley; Hellenville, Maryboro'; Hay's S. H., Maryboro'; 8th line, Maryboro'; Brown's S. H., Egremont; Peel ch., Peel (Mr. Smithurst also visits this once a month, they have therefore service once a fortnight); 4th line Peel, and Bristean's, Woolwich, occasionally.

The last year has made rapid changes in the condition of the farmer in the back townships; and a few years more will free him from a great part of the difficulties always accompanying new settlements, and enable him to contribute to the support of those sent as missionaries among them.

The mission is at present so extended as to prevent a missionary being often in any one place, and great harm ensues from this; for generally, so soon as a missionary makes regular stations in a new township, to be visited every six weeks or two months, the Dissenters make that move especially their sphere of action, and by means of revivals, camp meetings, and other excitements, draw away many from the church. A desire for public worship having been created in the minds of the people, and not having the service of the church sufficiently often in any measure to satisfy this feeling, they are led to attend the meetings of dissenters, and gradually become joined with them. Another reason for defection is that, where regular service is performed every month or two, the people expect the missionary to visit them at their own homes, which is impossible in such extended missions; and their inability to do this makes the people look favourably on the Dissenters who, by means of their class-leaders and local preachers, stationed wherever there are a few families, are enabled to visit much oftener. For these reasons, it seems to be the opinion of the travelling missionaries that much more permanent good would be done by confining themselves to a smaller sphere, in which there would be regular services say once a fortnight, and that the more distant should be visited occasionally, say once every three or four months, in order to baptize the children and perform other occasional services of the church.

I remain, yours truly,

FRANCIS TREMAYNE.

#### ✓ EPISCOPAL FUND.

##### MEETING OF THE JOHNSTOWN DEANERY.

In compliance with the recommendation of his Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese, contained in his recent Pastoral, the Rev. Henry Patton, Rural Dean, called a meeting of the Johnstown Deanery in St. John's Church, Prescott, on Wednesday the 8th inst. The meeting was attended by nine of the Clergy, and by several Lay Delegates from different Parishes within the Deanery. The Clergy who were absent—viz. Messrs. Watkins, Tremayne and Morris—sent messages expressive of their regret at not being able to attend, but promised their zealous co-operation in carrying out whatever plans the meeting might adopt, for effecting the noble object proposed in the Bishop's Pastoral.

The Rural Dean, on taking the chair, proposed that solemn prayer should be offered to Almighty God for his blessing upon the great work in which the meeting was about to engage. He then addressed the meeting at some length upon the important subject which the Bishop's Pastoral had brought before the notice of the Church. He observed that they were not assembled for the purpose of discussing the necessity of sub-dividing the Diocese, or of raising an Episcopal Fund. Both these questions had been already decided by the unanimous voice of the Synod of the Church, in October last. They were therefore convened for the purpose of devising the best method for carrying into effect the decisions of the Synod, and especially to consider and adopt, as far as might be judged expedient, the plans proposed by his Lordship for that purpose.

He expatiated on the advantages that might be reasonably anticipated from the proposed division of the Diocese, illustrated his remarks by the experience of the past fifteen years, since the erection of the Diocese of Toronto, and referred also to the wonderful progress which in other Colonies of the Empire had, through God's blessing, attended the establishment of new Bishoprics, or the sub-division of former ones. At the close of his address he submitted for the consideration of the meeting a series of resolutions, which were subsequently adopted with some slight alteration. He then entered into various statistical details, the conclusion of which was that in order to carry out the noble project of the Pastoral, this Rural Deanery, in proportion to its population as compared with the remaining portion of the proposed new Diocese, would be required to contribute between 3 and £4000, and he submitted a scale rating the several Parishes and missions according to their supposed ability to contribute. At the conclusion of his address the Rev. J. Travers Lewis was requested to act as Secretary, and the following resolutions were proposed, and after discussion were finally adopted unanimously.

The following gentlemen form the committee:

The Reverend Robert Blakey, E. J. Boswell, J. T. Lewis, Wm. David, James Harris, H. E. Pless and H. Patton; Messrs. George Crawford, M. P. P., D. B. O. Ford, George C. Sherwood, Alfred Hooker, J. S. Merwin, Hy. Burritt, J. Bower, Cas. Holden, Wm. Humphries, John Hamilton, Hon. Philip Vankoughnet, G. C. Wood, J. J. Dickenson, John Archibald, E. F. Whitmarsh, and Benjamin Tett.

##### ✓ MEETING RESPECTING THE INCREASE OF THE EPISCOPATE.

A meeting was held in St. George's Church, St. Catharines, on Thursday the 10th of March, at 10 a. m. to take into consideration the best means for the Niagara District to raise its proportion of the Episcopal fund, according to the Pastoral of the Lord Bishop. Mr. Rural Dean