

the names of those who formed the committee of this branch, hoping the object for which it had been formed would be as fully carried out as the rise of the city had out of a forest. He stated that fifteen years ago the Bible was read in every school, whereas now it was almost a prohibited book. The resolution being put and carried, the meeting separated.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. J. WILSON.

We have been requested to publish the following correspondence:—

To the Rev. J. Wilson, Incumbent of St. George's Church, Grafton:

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—It is with feelings of the deepest thankfulness that we, the members of St. George's Church, have met this day to congratulate you on your return to us after a temporary absence. We sincerely hope your travels to your native land have proved beneficial to your health, and pray that you may be spared many years to minister unto us, and that your labours may be blessed in an especial manner in the promotion of true religion amongst us.

And we trust that the same good feeling and attachment which have hitherto existed between you and your flock may long continue.

We would also beg to tender to Mrs. Wilson and your daughter our kind regards and esteem, and best wishes for their health and happiness.

In conclusion, dear sir, we request your acceptance of the accompanying purse, as a small token of our sincere respect and affection.

We remain, Rev. and Dear Sir,
Your faithful and attached Parishioners,

JAMES G. ROGERS, }
CHAS. H. VERNON, } Churchwardens.
On behalf of the congregation.

Grafton, Oct. 27, 1856.

REPLY.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—The kind and affectionate address which you have done me the honor to present, demands from me a deeper acknowledgment than mere words can express; and I feel that the devotedness of my life to your best interests is the only adequate return for your many acts of kindness to myself and family, since my appointment to this and the neighbouring parish, nearly thirteen years ago.

Thus to be greeted on my return by kind words of welcome from those who have become endeared to me by their many excellent qualities, is, indeed, a comfort; and in the arduous and responsible duties of the ministry, it is cheering to my heart to feel that I labour amongst a people who can sympathize with me in any difficulties and trials which I may be called

upon to endure—and who are persuaded, that amidst many imperfections and shortcomings, my one sole aim and object ever has been, honestly and faithfully, to set before them “the great salvation,” purchased by a Saviour's precious blood, and so, by God's blessing, to guide them in “the right way that leadeth unto everlasting life.”

You will be gratified to hear, that in my various journeyings through Great Britain and Ireland, I was everywhere received with kindness and cordiality; and the fraternal feelings of regard with which I was greeted by the Clergy of our Mother Church, can never be otherwise than most grateful to my feelings. The Church, I am happy to say, is everywhere increasing her influence, and arousing herself to a sense of her duty to the thousands and millions who are looking up to her for spiritual instructions. And the Clergy, generally, as a body, are zealously devoted to their sacred calling; and they sympathize with us in our difficulties, and rejoice in the progress which we have already made.

And now, that God has graciously watched over and protected me, and restored me to my home, and my parish, I humbly hope that the benefits which I have derived by this temporary relaxation from duty, may enable me to be still more useful than I have hitherto been. And should it please God to prolong my life, my anxious desire is that that life may be spent in the service of His Church, and in the promotion of His glory.

Most sincerely do I thank you, my dear friends, for the purse of money which accompanies your address. And although it needed not this valuable gift to assure me of your good will, of which I have had abundant proofs in times past, yet I receive it with gratitude, as given for the sake of that Master whom we serve, and as “fruit that may abound to your account.” But, believe me, I value more highly than gold or silver, your affectionate regards, and your prayers for me that I may be found faithful.

Again thanking you for this additional mark of your confidence, and for your kind expressions of regard and good wishes on behalf of Mrs. Wilson and my daughter, and praying God to bless and prosper both you and yours, I beg to unite with you, in the earnest prayer, so well expressed in your address, that “my labours” poor and imperfect as they are) “may be blessed in an especial manner in the promotion of true religion amongst you.”

And, in conclusion, I would humbly hope that the same kindly feelings—the same sober and chastened piety—the same cheerful and happy dispositions, and the fruitfulness in all works of beneficence

and charity which have ever characterized the people of this parish—may, by God's blessing, ever continue to increase and prevail amongst us.

Believe me to remain,

My dear friends and parishioners,
Your affectionate Pastor,
J. WILSON.

To C. H. Vernon, Jas. J. Rogers,
and others, &c.
St. George's Parsonage,
Grafton, Oct. 27, 1856.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—Permit us, on behalf of your congregation of Trinity Church, Colborne, to address a few words of welcome to you on your return to this your country of adoption.

That the Almighty Disposer of Good has vouchsafed to hear our prayers, by protecting you during your absence from us, and permitting you to resume those duties which we would faintly desire the ability to appreciate even more highly than we do, awakens in us feelings of gratitude too deep and sincere for expression.

Although your temporary separation from your flock has been felt by us, yet the renovation of health which we trust has been effected, and the opportunities you have enjoyed of enlarging your store of experience and information, cannot, we feel assured, fail to be the means of important benefit to us.

And now that you have been graciously permitted to enjoy the blessing of a reunion with those most dear to you, be assured that our prayers will still be made for a long continuance of contentment and happiness to you and yours.

In conclusion, we would beg of you to accept this, not as a mere collection of words without meaning; for we know they can but illy express our feelings; but as the sincere tribute of that regard and esteem which we entertain for you.

Farewell, then, Reverend and dear Sir, and believe that this time we feel a lively gratification in using that word, for now it is as it were merely an adieu of to-day until to-morrow. Believe us to be most sincerely and faithfully yours,

J. D. GOSLEE,
G. S. BURRELL,

Churchwardens of Trinity Church.
The Rev. John Wilson,
Incumbent of Colborne and Grafton.
Colborne, 25th Oct., 1856.

REPLY.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—I beg to thank you most sincerely and gratefully for the kind and cordial address which you have done me the favor to present, on behalf of the congregation of Trinity Church, Colborne. It is cheering to the heart of your Minister, thus to feel that, after a tempor-