

branch of the society and the increase of its funds.

Four years since when the county branch was formed; its income was under \$400; each year has shown a large increase, and the amount reported for April, 1862, is \$1620 collected, with \$100 still to be sent in from Mono, making a total of \$1620, being four times the amount collected at the period first named.

During the month of January, public meetings were held in twenty places, at all of which some of the county clergy attended, and at some, the Rev. T. S. Kennedy, Sec. P. S., was also kindly assisting, a continued interest was every where manifested, and in many places a great desire for increased ministrations of the church.

In October last, the Rev. A. J. Fidler, who for the previous year had been labouring successfully as travelling missionary in the South Riding of the county, was appointed as resident missionary of Cookstown and West Essa, (a portion of his former charge,) these places having given bonds to the Board of Missions for \$400 per annum, for his salary for five years. The Bishop having no clergyman at his disposal, the travelling mission has since remained vacant, and consequently it was found to be inexpedient to make collections at Creemore, Nottowasaga Station and Mulmer, until such time as the vacancy can be filled, but when this much to be desired object is accomplished, these places will no doubt contribute to the funds of the society with the same readiness shown last year, and in proportion also to their increased privileges. The people in Mulmer have given bonds to the Board of Missions for the yearly payment of \$400 in order to secure the services of a clergyman for the churches and stations of that township. St. Luke's Church, which is perhaps the central position, is a very neat substantial stone building, quite ecclesiastical in its appearance, and reflecting great credit upon the former churchmen of that part of Mulmer.

The church people of West Essa, under the zealous superintendence of Rev. A. J. Fidler, have during the past year erected a very church-like and commodious frame building, which will soon be completed for divine service.

The Rev. W. M. Ross continues his duties as missionary in the North Riding, though the distribution of his services has been somewhat changed principally in consequence of Rev. T. B. Read, in October last, having secured the services of Rev. J. Creighton as assistant minister of Orillia, &c., with stipend from Colonial Church School Society, after which time the travelling missionary was relieved from attendance at some places which he had partially served. He was also relieved from visiting the now Muskoka territory, where Mr. Creighton now performs a Sunday service once a month. St. George's Church Medonte, and the new Church at the village of Coldwater, hitherto in charge of Rev. T. B. Read, and of late jointly served by Rev. W. M. Ross, were at the same time placed under his care, as also Myer's Church, on Penetanguishene Road, which was unprovided for in consequence of the removal to Toronto of Rev. W. Checkly, Principal of Barrie Grammar School, who for some time passed had kindly performed a service there.

In connexion with this part of the country, too much credit cannot be given to Mrs. H. Charles, of Coldwater village, for her unflagging zeal in securing the erection of a small but pretty church in that village.

In conclusion, your committee cannot help adopting the satisfactory conviction that there is a marked and growing interest in the church spreading throughout the country, and a corresponding

desire for her ministrations. Let the sons of the church remember their duty to be earnest and constant in their prayers that the Great Head of the church would send more labourers into his vineyard, and pour out upon all employed in the solemn work a larger measure of his Holy Spirit, that they may go on in the work of faith and love, to the glory of God, and the increase of his faithful people.

T. BOLTON READ,
Sec. for County Simcoe.

CANONS.

The Committee appointed to examine into the existing Canons of the United Church of England and Ireland, and the laws of the United Kingdom applicable to the said Church, and to report on such canons as, with or without change, it may be desirable that the Synod should declare to be in full force in this diocese, and on such laws as appear to be in force at present, or may be desirable to be enacted as rules of order or discipline in this diocese, beg leave to report as follows:

They have examined the canons of the Province of Canterbury of the year 1603, which is the body of canons generally accepted by the bishops and clergy of the United Church, and quoted as of authority in the English Ecclesiastical Courts; and they find them divided into the following heads:

1. The King's Supremacy over the Church of England, in causes ecclesiastical, to be maintained.
2. Of Divine Service and administration of the Sacraments.
3. Ministers, their ordination, function and charge.
4. School-masters.
5. Things appertaining to churches.
6. Churchwardens, of Questmen and Sidesmen or Assistants.
7. Parish Clerks.
8. Ecclesiastical Courts, belonging to the Archbishop's jurisdiction.
9. Ecclesiastical Courts, belonging to the jurisdiction of Bishops and Archdeacons.
10. Judges ecclesiastical and their surrogates.
11. Probates.
12. Registrars.
13. Apparitors.
14. Authority of Synods.

Of these the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, consist wholly of matter, which is either inapplicable in this colony, or with which a Diocesan Synod has nothing to do. The rest contains more or less matter, which it may be advisable to re-adopt and declare to be in force in this Diocese, either wholly or in part, with modifications.

The committee have examined the canons contained in them with great care, and beg leave to present them for the adoption of the Synod in the following form. They have likewise added three canons of ecclesiastical discipline, derived chiefly from existing canons of the Church in the United States, with modifications in order to adapt them to our own circumstances.

I.—OF THE QUEEN'S SUPREMACY.

(1*) All foreign ecclesiastical power (inasmuch as the same hath no establishment or ground by the law of God) is for most just causes taken away and abolished: and therefore no manner of obedience or subjection, within her Majesty's

realms and dominions, is due unto any such foreign power; but the Queen's power, within her realms of England, Scotland and Ireland, and all other her dominions or countries, is the highest power under God; to whom all men, as well inhabitants as born within the same, do by God's law owe most loyalty and obedience, afore and above all other powers and potentates in earth.

II.—OF DIVINE SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS.

1. (13.) All manner of persons within the Church in this Diocese, shall from henceforth celebrate and keep the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday, and other Holy-days, according to God's holy will and pleasure, and the order of the Church of England prescribed in that behalf; that is in hearing the word of God read and taught in private and in public prayers; in acknowledging their offences to God, and amendment of the same; in reconciling themselves charitably to their neighbours, where displeasure hath been; in oftentimes receiving the communion of the body and blood of Christ; in visiting of the poor and sick; using all godly and sober conversation.

2. (14.) The Common Prayer shall be said or sung distinctly and reverently, upon such days as are appointed to be kept holy by the Book of Common Prayer, and their Eves; and at convenient and usual times of those days, and in such place of every Church as the Bishop shall think meet, so as the people may be most edified. All Ministers likewise shall observe the Orders, Rites and Ceremonies, prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, as well as in reading the Holy Scriptures, and saying of prayers, as in the administration of the Sacraments; without either diminishing, in regard of preaching, or in any other respect, or adding any thing in the matter or form thereof, without the sanction of the Bishop.

3. (16.) In the whole Divine Service, and administration of the Holy Communion, in Trinity College, or in any other College under the jurisdiction of the Bishop, the Order, Form and Ceremonies shall be duly observed, as they are set down in the Book of Common Prayer, without any omission or alteration.

4. (17.) All Members of Colleges shall, in their chapels, upon all Sundays, Holy-days, and their Eves, at the time of Divine Service, wear surplices, according to the order of the Church of England; and such as are graduates shall agreeably wear with their surplices such hoods as do severally appertain to their degree; and all Priests shall wear a scarf or stole of black silk.

5. (18.) In the time of Divine Service, and in every part thereof, all due reverence is to be used. No man shall cover his head in time of Divine Service, except he have some infirmity; and then not with such a covering as he uses to wear in the open air. All manner of persons then present shall reverently kneel upon their knees, when the general Confession, Litany and other prayers are read; and shall stand up at the saying of the Belief, and at the singing or saying of Psalms, Anthems or Hymns, and the Ascription of Glory to God at the end of sermons; according to the rules in that behalf prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, and the devout and ancient customs of the Church; and likewise when in the time of Divine Service the Lord Jesus shall be mentioned, due and slowly reverence shall be done by all persons present, as hath been accustomed; testifying by these outward ceremonies and gestures their inward humility, Christian resolution, and due acknowledgment that the Lord Jesus Christ, the true eternal Son of God, is the only Saviour of the world; in whom alone all the mercies, graces and promises of God to mankind, for this

* The numbers in brackets are those of the original Canons. The words and pages printed in italics are alterations or additions to the original Canons. The omissions are not noted.