

News of the Churches.

NOTES OF A MISSIONARY TOUR.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

Watford, on the Sarnia branch of the Great Western, is a thriving village that has almost doubled itself within the past year, having now four mills, all driven by steam; upwards of twenty stores, and other branches of industry in proportion. They want only their newspaper, which they are about securing, to bring their village into note. There are four places of worship, either in the village, or in close proximity to it—C. Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Wesleyan, and Congregational. The last named is a neat frame building finished throughout, erected a little more than a year ago. It was filled at our Missionary Meeting; and the interest manifested reminded one of the good old times when the annual Missionary Meeting was regarded as *the event* of the year. Brother Dickson, of London, for reasons unknown, came not with us "to the work;" but, with George Harrower, Esq., in the chair, addresses were given by Rev. J. Salmon, pastor; Rev. E. Bauld, of the C. P. church, and the members of the deputation on hand—Revs. Wm. Hay and E. Barker. The collections and subscriptions were about \$15—nearly double last year's amount. Prosperity to this growing interest!

Dragged to the *Warwick* brick church next day, through the mud, where was a very good audience, notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances without, J. D. Eccles, Esq., in the chair; same deputation as on the evening before. Collections and subscriptions also in advance of last year. Everything looks up here—a beautiful building, a growing church, large congregations, in a fine old settlement.

Assisted on our way by the chairman of last evening, to *Robinson's Settlement*, a few miles further, we had a meeting on Wednesday afternoon, in the new and neat frame Congregational church there. This meeting was not arranged by the District Committee, but should have been, both for the sake of the friends there, and of what they gave us—a collection of \$3 75, besides their subscriptions. Mr. Joseph Little, a Wesleyan local preacher, and a general religious institution of that part of the country, more worthy of the *Rev. or Father* than many who have received the *imposition* of holy hands, presided on the occasion.

Five miles further north-west, and we were at the thriving village of *Forest*, on the Grand Trunk, a worthy rival of Watford, though but yesterday what its name implies—*forest*. As the Congregational church was undergoing a renovation, in the way of painting, &c., the neat C. P. church was loaned to us for our meeting, and a good meeting we had. J. D. Eccles, Esq., whom, for the sake of his conveyance and his services at the meetings, we were happy to constitute a member of the deputation, again presided. Brother Salmon has had a neat frame parsonage, finished without and within, erected for him during the past year. Besides these four stations of his, which the deputation visited, he has another at the Lake Shore, which is worthy of a visit, but for which there was no appointment. District Committee will please take notice. Brother Salmon's field is altogether too large for any one man to attend to, especially with the amount of work that is now-a-days required of pastors. Two men are required; and the slightly increased missionary expenditure, that would be necessary at first, would probably bring a speedy return, with such a blessing as the Lord has bestowed the past year or two.

According to appointment, we found ourselves, on Thursday evening, in *Sarnia*, almost wondering why we were sent to a place that is obliged to look up its church from one missionary meeting to another. But we began to find