

among the large number of those who make no religious profession. The state of religion is in general, low, and indifference rapidly increasing from want of sacred ordinances. The Presbyterian population is pretty much scattered, except in Seymour, where they amount to about 340, and where perhaps £100 per annum might be subscribed. Mr. Ketchan thinks that three missionaries would suffice for the Presbytery of Kingston.

Mr. McDOWAL, states that in Fredericksburgh, Richmond, Ernesttown, and the townships in the rear of them, there is a very considerable number of Presbyterians well affected to our church, and anxious for ordinances; that there is ample scope for 8 settled ministers. At present there is only one minister of our church, and one Scotch independent, besides ministers of the Episcopalian and Methodist persuasions.

Mr. MACHAR, of Kingston, reports, in regard to the district of Frontenac, containing five townships and a population of 12,000 and upwards, that there are about 2,500 Presbyterians, with the exception of Kingston, much scattered; that a minister would be required for the townships of Portland, and Loughborough, and another for those of Pittsburgh, and Wolf Island, whose labours would be however missionary for some time, and that perhaps £50 per annum might be raised for each.

Mr. ROMANES writes, in regard to the townships of Elmsley, Kitley, Montague, and Wolfred that, besides his own stations, "there is no considerable settlement of Presbyterians which would require a settled Pastor, but one or more ministers might beneficially divide their labours among the several smaller settlements, that some support might be expected from them, but not to any adequate extent. There is, he says, "much spiritual destitution, and at the same time considerable desire for ordinances."

Mr. McISAAC, of Lochiel, states, that a great part of the population of the surrounding district have little access to religious instruction, and fears, that those who have been long deprived of the means of grace have become indifferent to them; but believes if the word were once brought to them they would afterwards seek it more earnestly than many. He thinks that the district in his own neighborhood would require three missionaries, though one, he says, would be a great blessing. Education and religious knowledge generally low.

Mr. MAM, of Chatham, Lower Canada, states, that there is around him a field for two or three missionaries. One station at Buckingham might raise £50, and another at the Augmentation of Grenville, where a Gaelic missionary is much wanted, could contribute a little.

Such are a few facts which these reports rendered have enabled us to place before you. It must at the same time be manifest how inadequately they exhibit either the general destitution of the Presbyterian and other

population of the colony, in regard to religious instruction and ordinances, or the spiritual wants of those particular districts to which they refer. The peculiar circumstances of a large proportion of the people of this colony will however, along with the utter insufficiency of the means of grace, enable you to form an idea of the condition of ignorance, and apathy, in which the rising generation especially is necessarily sunk. Having come to the country with the sole view of bettering their worldly condition, the inhabitants have too generally bestowed all their care on this one object. Many are debarred, at first of necessity, by their situation from the outward and public means of grace, and through constant toil, are tempted to put off till a more convenient season concern for their souls, and the use of the private means of instruction and of grace, and consequently, for the souls and spiritual welfare of their children; while they are removed in a great degree from the restraints of a religious society, and from observation in the solitariness of their forest abodes, sink by degrees into a state of practical infidelity, a total forgetfulness of God, and of the truth that they have immortal souls whose salvation ought to be the great end and object of their thoughts and endeavors. How grievous to think, that multitudes who have once tasted the good word of God, who have in solemn covenant dedicated themselves to him at his table, should thus fall away from the faith and sink again into the slavery of sin and Satan. Surely we do not overrate the christian benevolence of our kindred and friends whom we have left in the homes of our fathers, when we confide that they will exert themselves adequately to our necessities in affording us relief. And surely we may with no less confidence trust that among the number of the unemployed preachers of our church at home, the talents, the piety, and the zeal exist which will fit them for the work and incline them to engage in it. It is true we have only laborious exertion and small temporal remuneration, with many sacrifices to hold out to them; but if the Lord calls for laborers for his vineyard, what shall be thought of the profession of those who from fear of sacrifice draw back from the cause and turn a deaf ear to his call? We cannot estimate so low the christian principle of our young brethren in the church as to believe that even the destitution of their expatriated countrymen and their urgent calls for aid, properly represented to them, there would not be many who would press forward with ardor in the cause of christian benevolence, and count it even a privilege to be permitted to leave father and mother and sisters and brothers and houses and lands for the Lord's sake—for the salvation of perishing souls, and for ministering the motives, the hopes, the graces, and consolations of the gospel to those who in a weary and parched land are hungering and thirsting for the bread and water of life. Yet let them not overrate the hardships and difficulties. The liberality of a christian public at home, and the exertions of the religiously disposed here, will not permit them to go