

Society, as the Lord Bishop had deputed Clergymen to make collections for Trinity College in all the parishes of the Diocese. Your Committee rejoice to learn that they succeeded in obtaining subscriptions and donations amounting to £1,000.

The income of the Branches so far as it can be ascertained amounted to £1,542 5. 3d., during the past year, of which £521 7 10, about one third was remitted to the Parent Society, previous to the closing of the accounts, and since that time, therefore not included in the accounts to be printed under the direction of the Auditors, a further sum of £22 18 3d. The gross amount included some special subscriptions to local objects, so that the proportion received by the Parent Society bears good testimony that it is only necessary to pay the affairs of the Society plainly before the people to ensure their hearty cooperation; some of the parishes voted one half of their collections and in addition, donations for special objects. The instances during the past year of congregations taking credit for making collections for the Church Society, and sending lists to the subscribers to be printed with our reports when the whole sum was applied to their own local wants, have happily been very few. Your Committee would suggest that as our reports are widely circulated not merely in the diocese, but also in other countries, every District Report should set forth what has been done for the Church during the year by the several clergymen within its bounds; for the idea has been industriously circulated that what is termed the income of the District Branches includes, all monies raised for Church purposes, whereas it would then be shown that much more is voluntarily contributed towards religious objects by the members of our communion, than by those who boast so widely of being advocates of the voluntary principle alone. Lists of the subscribers to the several objects enumerated in the reports, might be printed as addenda to the Society's lists, the small extra expense being borne by the several parishes desiring their insertion.

The following is a brief analysis of the several District reports received by the Secretary. More copious extracts will be given in the Report to be published by the Society.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT.

There are at present in connection with this Branch ten Parochial Associations, viz.:—Cobourg, Port Hope, Cavan, Clarke and Darlington, Grafton and Colborne, Rice Lake and Manvers. Meetings have been held in all these townships during the past year, and from the several reports more copious extracts of which will be printed in our annual report it will be seen that large sums in every parish have been expended on objects of a similar nature to those which the Church Society aims to effect; still the amount collected for the Society during the past year was £148 11s. 9d., of which in accordance with the present regulations £49 11s. 9d. was remitted to Toronto; at the Annual Meeting of this District Branch it was unanimously resolved that a larger proportion of the funds subscribed to the Church Society; than that which the present constitution renders obligatory, ought to be forwarded to the Parent Society.

COLBORNE DISTRICT.

The only Parochial Association at present in operation in this District is in the Township of Emily. The Rev. Mr. Harding in remitting the amount collected (£7 17s.) writes thus:—"It affords me great pleasure to be able to say, that our members have contributed this season with a readiness which bespeaks a better feeling, a growing attachment to the Church; and have evinced a hearty desire to contribute according to their ability in the extension of those privileges which they themselves enjoy, by consenting with one accord that the whole of their contributions should be remitted to the General Purposes fund of the Parent Society."

In addition to this, we have now ready to be paid into the Crown Lands Office between £16 and £17, being the fourth instalment on our glebe, besides different local improvements, which our intention is, with God's assistance to carry out during this ensuing summer."

MIDLAND AND VICTORIA DISTRICT.

From the report of this Branch we make the following brief extracts.

When your Committee consider the important objects which this association seeks to promote they cannot but express their feeling of disappointment at the partial support given to an Institution which is recommended by so many interesting circumstances, and such weighty claims.

There are in the city of Kingston 4,164 who according to the last census have enrolled themselves as members of the Church; now if these with all their circumstances of position and wealth are taken into account, how inadequate, is the amount contributed.

Without pledging themselves to all the propositions in a report lately published by a committee to whom was referred a return setting forth the various amounts which have been contributed by the several parishes in the Diocese to the Parent Society during the last three years, they cannot but acknowledge the propriety of excluding those parishes or missions from any participation in the benefits, which the Parent Society may have in its power to dispense; that have not established parochial Committees nor have contributed their quota towards the efficient working of the central government. Your Committee considers it of importance that the connection with the Parent Society should be maintained, and to this end would urge that 4th of all monies exclusive of the special collections, should be forwarded to the Treasurer for defraying the expenses of management incurred by the Parent Society at Toronto; which fourth your Committee consider quite sufficient under wise and prudent direction for its efficient working.

In connection with this association are more Branches than last year; in which most interesting meetings have been held, resulting it is hoped in an increased zeal and diligence and liberality.

Speaking of the Society's operations, it says,—"True it does not contemplate missions to the heathen, if we except its missions among the Indians. But it is a question whether it be not with missions at home, that we are called on to begin the great work of enlightening and reforming the world."

The St. Georges Church Parochial Branch contributed during the past year the sum of £92 10s. towards the maintenance of the mission at Portmouth, Wolfe Island and Barriefield.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

A meeting of this Association was held at Picton in the month of February, which was attended by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Kingston and all the Parochial Clergy resident within the bounds of the district. Your Committee would earnestly commend the following passage contained in the Report there read to all the members of our Church.—"Let us arise at once to a more resolute and persevering performance of our duty. This is no time for Churchmen to be unmindful of the sublime interests of the Gospel and the Church, or to fold their arms in listless indifference, and permit the bulwarks of divine truths to be battered to pieces, with no arm uplifted, no voice upraised to stay the wild work of awful desolation. May God forbid!"

The amount collected for the Society's objects in the parish of Picton during the past year amounted to £16 14 9d., independent of the special collections of which £5 was remitted to Toronto. In addition to this the Rector forwarded his own life subscription, £12 10. This Parish has appropriated from their funds the sum of £15 towards the support of a Missionary at Sophiasburg, and £17 10 for the purchase of prayer books. It has also generously undertaken to contribute the sum of £15 which was offered to the Society by the District Branch in the times of its adversity on certain conditions, of which £7 has been already remitted.

EASTERN DISTRICT BRANCH.

Reports have been received from both of the Branches which previous to the past year formed the Eastern District Branch; and we are gratified to learn that the trifling difference which caused the secession has been removed.

Three travelling Missionaries have been supported within the united Counties of Leeds and Grenville to which object nearly the whole of the available income has been applied. From Cornwall has been remitted as usual, to the parent Society, the sum of Five pounds. From Brockville the sum of £4 12 6 has been received for general purposes and £8 3 2 special donation to the Widow and Orphans' Fund, and from Prescott and Maitland one-fourth of all the annual subscription, £6 8 3.

The periodical collection for the special object of the Society have been regularly taken up, and from the statements which will appear in the printed Report it will be seen that the monies raised for all purposes have been very large.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

There are ten Parochial Associations in connection with this District. The total receipts as per the Treasurer statement amounted to £256 14s. 8d., of which £81 3d. was remitted to Toronto, and £58 12s. 3d. applied to the District Mission Fund.

From this report we make the following brief extracts:—

"Up to the middle of October the destitute portions of the District were favoured with the able and acceptable services of the Rev. James Godfrey, late travelling missionary therein; but at that time, owing to domestic claims upon him, he sought and obtained a resident mission, and was sent to that of Goulbourn; in the eastern portion of the Diocese. Owing to the great want of Clergymen to fill vacant parishes, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese has not as yet been able to supply his place; but your Committee trust, that after a special ordination in the spring, or the usual ordination in the fall, our District may again be favoured with the humble, but inextinguishable services of a travelling missionary."

In the Thorold Parochial Report there is mention made of a special donation for travelling missions in both townships, amounting to £2 10s.

The special donation is that of a young member of the Church, now deceased, who having kept school during the winter months, in order to enable him to pursue his studies during the summer months, preparatory to commencing the study of Medicine, found himself in the possession on his death-bed of the above sum, and requested his heart-broken mother (also since dead) to devote it to some holy missionary object.

We learn with much satisfaction that the Rector of Grimsby has succeeded in establishing a Parochial School in his parish.

One excellent regulation of the School, is, that the pupils are required to attend the Sunday School, and to accompany the Rector and teacher to Church on Sunday, Holidays and Fast, it is likewise stipulated that they sit with the teacher in Church. In order to do every justice to the institution, the Rector has secured the services of a teacher from the Oxford Diocesan Training School, a gentleman we understand, well qualified to conduct efficiently such an establishment.

With much interest shall we watch the progress of this, the first attempt to establish amongst an entirely rural population a parochial Seminary, in which the youth of our communion may be indoctrinated at once with religious and secular knowledge.

GORE AND WELLINGTON DISTRICTS.

From the report of this Branch we make the following brief extract.

Your Committee are happy to say that the operations of the past year are on the whole, even more satisfactory than on many former occasions. The Society appears through evil report and good report to retain the confidence and good wishes of the members of the communion.—The public meetings which have recently been held in the various parishes, were generally well attended; at all a lively interest was expressed, both by laymen and Clergy, in its prosperity, as a valuable hand-maid to the Church, and the amounts collected in aid of its funds, although in some parishes smaller than last year, owing to peculiar local claims upon the members, exhibit on the whole a large increase, nearly £50 on those of former years.

There are Provincial Associations included in this District Branch, in all of which meetings were held during the past year.

The receipts for the past year not including the sum of £12 10s., contributed by the Binbrook Branch applicable to the previous year, of which one half was remitted to the parent Society, amounted to £534 10 8d. of which £93 7 10d. was remitted to the parent Society, and £94 1 2d. paid to the travelling missionaries within the District.

There are at present two Missionaries employed within the bounds of this Association, the Rev. Wm. Mulholland at Owen Sound, and the Rev. Francis Tremayne whose mission lies between Elora and Owen Sound: copious extracts from the reports of these gentlemen will be embodied in the printed Report, and they will repay a careful perusal.

Subsequent to the receipt by the Secretary of the District Report, and Treasurer's accounts, the Rev. R. N. Merritt reported that the sum of £4 5s. had been collected in his parish, of which he remitted £2.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF BROCK DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

Your Committee feel satisfied that in order to secure a lively and sustained interest in our proceedings, the quarterly meetings as appointed by the Constitution of the Society, must be regularly held, and diligently and conscientiously attended. A measure of activity and cordial co-operation will thus be imposed, and the best results may be anticipated.

From the Treasurer's account it appears that the total amount of income of this Branch including the receipts of the several sermons for the past year was £38 0 7s. of which the sum of £9 18 9 was subscribed for the general purposes of the Society.

EXTRACT FROM THE HUNTINGFORD PAROCHIAL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee whilst humbly acknowledging the hand of Providence as the primary cause of all good and of any measure of success with which the Church may be blessed, would take this opportunity thankfully to acknowledge the disinterested liberality of the Rev. Thomas Huntingford of Kempford, Gloucestershire, England, who in addition to endowing the Church which was built some years since entirely through his exertions, and almost entirely at his expense, with 100 acres of land, has during the past year permanently invested £1000 sterling in this County, and placed the same in trust for the benefit of the Incumbent of the said Church. By thus ensuring the service of a resident minister, he has conferred a lasting benefit, which it is impossible rightly to estimate, not only upon this mission in particular, but upon the Diocese at large, and deserves as Your Committee feel assured he will obtain the heartfelt thanks of every true member of the Catholic Church of Christ.

LONDON, WESTERN AND HURON DISTRICTS.

It appears that the income of the London Parochial Branch, including some donations for special purposes, amounted to £120, of which sum £70 was remitted to the Parent Society for general purposes, and £3 special donation for the W. & O. F. Active Committees have been organized, and arrangements made for their meeting regularly, so that it is hoped that in future years this Parish will take that position amongst the parochial Associations which its position and wealth would lead one to expect.

A meeting was held at St. Thomas and an association formed.

The Bishop of Michigan kindly attended, and took part in the proceedings of the Western Branch, held at Sandwich; the meeting was a very interesting one in consequence. The Sandwich Parochial Branch have collected £10, and remitted half to the Parent Society.

A meeting was also held at Amherstburg. The good effects of which have been manifested in the amount of the sum collected, viz: £20, of which half was remitted to the Parent Society.

MOORE PAROCHIAL BRANCH.

The increase in the strength of this Branch since the last report is truly gratifying. The amount of subscriptions is nearly doubled, while the number of subscribers is augmented to a still greater extent, shewing that the increase of funds is contributed by the less opulent but more numerous class of the members of the Church, whose active co-operation it is highly important to enlist in the service of the Society. For two years the affairs of this branch appeared to be declining, partly from the removal by death or migration of some of its warmest friends and most liberal contributors, and partly from heavy local calls for the repair and embellishment of the Churches, on which upwards of £60 were expended, independently of the weekly collections at the offertory. The great increase of the present year, gives symptoms of fresh life and vigour, and argues well for our future success, added to this the evident desire of all parties to strengthen the hands of

the Parent Society, and not devote their money to local purposes, as evinced by two resolutions unanimously carried at the Annual Meeting:—

1. That one-half of the contributions be sent to the Parent Society, instead of one-fourth as heretofore.

2. That out of the balance in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of £5 be sent as a special donation to the Widows and Orphans' fund.

Contributions for the year ending
March 5th, £17 14 4
Sent to the Parent Society, 13 2 2

SARNIA PAROCHIAL BRANCH.

This Branch has been established during the present month, and by the active assistance of some Ladies, who have kindly acted as collectors, a good beginning has been made, with every reasonable prospect of increase. One-half of the contributions will be sent to the Parent Society. Sarnia, at present, can only be considered as a Station, one Service being held there every third week.

Amount of Contributions, £10 14 8
Sent to the Parent Society, 5 7 4

PLYMPTON REPORT.

This branch has lately been formed at a station where Divine Service is held on the first Wednesday in each month. The members of the Church here are few in number, and nearly all of the poorer class, burdened by the numerous calls which invariably await the early settlers in a new country. A neat and commodious church is in the course of erection, for the building of which nearly £70 have been subscribed during the present year, a large portion of which was contributed by the munificence of one family, numbering within its pale several affectionate and steady members of the Church. The collection, £2 10 (one half of which is sent to the parent Society) is but small, it was hurriedly made, and lessened by many adverse circumstances, besides the heavy local calls on the charity of our little community, but though small we esteem it a happy beginning, and confidently hope that it is but an earnest of better things to come.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF TALBOT DISTRICT.

If the success of the Church Society in the Talbot District were to be estimated by what has been done in the way of public meetings for the last three or four years, the preparation of a report would certainly be a superfluous labour. Happily, however, this is not the case, for, although Churchmen in the District may not have done as much as the country seems to call for, they have not been altogether unmindful of their duty.

The position of the Talbot District Branch of the Church Society is somewhat peculiar, different, it is presumed, from any other in the Diocese. It was deemed expedient in the year 1844 to sever the Talbot District from the London and Huron, and to form a distinct branch, and this was done in the expectation that additional resident Clergymen would soon be expected here, so that several Parochial Associations might be at work within the limits. This, however, has not yet been even partially effected, and the District is now, as it regards resident Clergymen, exactly in the same position in which it has been for the last fourteen years. Though dignified, therefore, by the name of a District Branch, it has been, in fact, little more than a Parochial Association, with small exceptions, all that has been effected, has been done within the immediate sphere of duty, of the Rector of Woodhouse.

The sum of £23 6s. 3d. has been collected, and the whole, after deducting a trifle for incidental expenses, has been remitted to the Parent Society for general purposes £10 4s. 11d.—for W. & O. F. £12 14s. 11d.

SIMCOE DISTRICT.—TECUMSETE AND WEST GUILIMBURY.

The following extract from a letter written to the Secretary by the Rev. F. L. Osler when he forwarded the Report of the operations of these Parochial Associations gives a concise and brief analysis of its contents.

Considering that in West Guilimbury the Rev. A. Hill is on the voluntary or paid for pound system with a new Church just built at Bradford, and another about to be built in the north of that Township, a subscription list to the amount of £18 4 6 speaks well for his mission.

In Tecumsete, my two Churches have had considerable sums expended on them during the past year, and I am building a new Church at Cooks Town, one of my outstations so that £30 8 11, may be considered a good collection for Tecumsete.

Both Mr. Hill and myself brought the claims of the Church Society before the people very prominently as a missionary Society, that the money given would be appropriated in aid of those poorer than ourselves, and the consequence has been that instead of about £24, the usual amount obtained, £48 12 6 has been received. Besides the one-fourth remitted to the Parent Society, we have engagements to the amount of £55 per annum, to help the members of our Church in the back Townships, that is £35 per annum to a Catechist, and £20 per annum for five years, to help the poor people of Nottawa-saga in supporting a Clergyman so soon as they can obtain one.

The present years appropriation of the Parochial subscription amounting to £48 12 7

Remitted to Toronto, 12 2 6
Last payment on West

Guilimbury Glebe, 15 9 0
The balance £21 10 14 will be applied to meet our engagement of £55, as before mentioned and

(See Supplement.)