

just begun. It's all been said and now we're going home to do it." May we go away in that spirit. What do we want our branches to be? I sent some one to act as my substitute at the board-meeting last month, and she came back filled with enthusiasm for missions, overflowing with interest in what she had heard, making plans as to how she might be able to help, and adding, "I don't wonder that you are so interested in missions, when you go there every month. We want our members to come away from the parochial meetings just feeling like that. A stirring report of the Board meeting will be a help, whether written to the country or reported in town; a report which is not merely a recital of the facts heard—that such a missionary wants \$100, and such another would like clothes, and so on—but a report with life and fire in it, that will inspire those who read or hear it. Let every branch realize that they are expected to hear this report, and let every representative feel that she is bound to make it as interesting as possible.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF OUR BRANCHES?

"We meet every week to sew and to prepare garments to put in boxes to send out to the Indians; then, too, it is a pleasant time for talking and promoting sociability among the members of the congregation!" Is *that* our aim? I feel sure that everyone present would join me in saying, "No, emphatically, no," to such a definition of our aims. And yet I fear that some of our branches are so carried on as to suggest such an idea. "Miserable little sewing meetings," I have heard them called; and may there not be something in our mode of working them that warrants in some degree such a verdict from those not familiar with the work of the Woman's Auxiliary? The idea has grown out of our union with Dorcas work, which is essentially work for the bodies of men; but our aim is to reach the souls of men. We give help for the bodies that it may be a stepping-stone to that higher object. What we want is to carry out the command given by our Lord when He said to His disciples, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Eighteen hundred years have passed since then, and there are millions who have never heard it yet. We want to send the message of Christ's life, Christ's love, Christ's death and resurrection to those perishing men and women. To tell them of all the blessings thus obtained for them, as well as for us, of a heaven opened, of death being but the entrance there, of a never-failing and ever-present Friend, now with us, and yearning to save them, too. The good tidings are so sweet, we cannot keep them to ourselves; besides, the Master bade us tell them to every creature. We know, too, that His longed-for coming again is delayed until the number of His elect ones is made up; till

every nation shall have heard the Gospel; and we want to hasten His coming. We want to warn men away from sin; to woo men to Christ and to Heaven. This, I think, is a feeble expression of the grand aim which we set before us.

(To be continued).

OUR PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

NO. 74—ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BROCKVILLE.*



HE Town of Brockville is situated in the Township of Elizabethtown, in the County of Leeds.

The early history of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville may be said to be a part of the earliest history of Upper Canada under British rule. Possibly the settlements upon the shores of the Bay of Quinte and in the Niagara peninsula were in date prior to those in Elizabethtown, Augusta and Edwardsburgh, while those in the front townships of the old eastern district were contemporaneous or nearly so.

In Leavitt's History of Leeds and Grenville we are told that "at an early date attempts were made to establish an English Church in Elizabethtown. Service was held in private houses, and after its erection, in the old Court House. From a mutilated record of the proceedings of St. Peter's Church, Brockville, we learn that marriages were celebrated by a clergyman having charge of the spiritual welfare of the people in 1811. The clergyman at that time was not a resident, so far as we have been able to ascertain."

In "The Quebec Almanac and British American Royal Kalendar for the year 1810," at pages 72 and 73, is contained "A List of the Clergy of the Established Church in the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada." According to this list, the names and residences or parishes of the clergymen in Upper Canada were as follows:—Kingston, Upper Canada, the Rev. Dr. Stuart, Official of Upper Canada and Rector of Kingston; York, the Rev. Mr. Stuart, Rector; Niagara, the Rev. Mr. Addison, Rector; Fredricksburgh and Ernestown, the Rev. Mr. Langhorne, Rector; Cornwall, the Rev. Mr. Strachan, Rector; Sandwich, the Rev. Mr. Pollard, Rector.

Hence it would appear that at that time there was not any resident clergyman of the Church of England in Brockville or Elizabethtown.

To Leavitt's work, above referred to, we are indebted for the narrative following, down to and inclusive of the record of the dedication or consecration of St. Peter's Church, Brockville. The first clergyman in charge of St. Peter's

*For the valuable information contained in this article we are indebted to His Honor Judge McDonald, of Brockville.