

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT BRANCH CHURCH SOCIETY.

Meetings of the Parochial Association of this Branch will be held as follows:—

- Wed., 5th Feb.,...11, a. m.,...Grafton.
- " " " " 7, p. m.,...Colborne.
- Thurs., 6th " " 3, p. m.,...Seymour.
- Annual Meeting, Ap'l 9th,....7.30, p. m.,...Cobourg.

H. BRENT,
Secretary.

DIOCESE OF TORONTO CHURCH SOCIETY.

Parochial Meetings will be held (D.V.) in the Home District according to the following plan. Clergymen wishing for alterations are requested to communicate with the secretary.

- Feb. 3, Mon. ...Mimico..... "
- " 4, Tues. ...Vaughan11 a.m.
- " " " " Thornhill 7 p.m.
- " 5, Wed. ...Oakridges.....11 a.m.
- " " " " King 7 p.m.
- " 6, Thurs. ...Holland Landing 7 p.m.

The Rev. H. Osler and the Rev. J. Carry will act as a deputation to the above meetings; and the Rev. G. C. Williams, Chaplain to Her Majesty's forces, with the Rev. G. Viner, to the meetings on the East side of Yonge Street, a list of which is in preparation.

H. C. COOPER,
Secretary, H. D.

Etobicoke, Nov. 26, 1861.

PAROCHIAL MEETINGS OF CHURCH SOCIETY IN THE MIDLAND DISTRICT FOR 1862.

- St. James', Kingston.....Monday, 10th February.
- St. John's, Portsmouth Tuesday, 11th "
- St. Mark's, Barrie field..Wednesday, 12th "
- St. George's, Kingston..Thursday, 13th "

A STEWART,
Secretary.

Parochial Meetings in the Home District, East of Yonge Street.

- Feb. 10th, Mon...Christ C. Scarboro'... 7 p.m.
- 11th, Tues...St. Jude's11 a.m.
- " " " " Duffin's Creek..... 7 p.m.
- 12th, Wed...Uxbridge 7 p.m.
- 13th, Thurs.Beaverton 2 p.m.
- " " " " Brock 7 p.m.
- 14th, Fri...Port Perry 7 p.m.
- 17th, Mon...Whitby 7 p.m.
- 18th, Tues...Columbus 11 a.m.
- " " " " Greenwood..... 7 p.m.
- 19th, Wed...Unionville11 a.m.
- " " " " Markham Village..... 7 p.m.

H. C. COOPER,
Secretary, H. D. B.

THE CENSUS OF 1861.

(From the Quebec Chronicle, Jan. 15.)

It is only just a year since the enumerators went round from house to house with the census schedules, yet we are enabled to lay before our readers the abstracts of the whole work. This fact is in itself the best answer to those who accused the government of wilful delay, and both the administration and the employees of the statistical bureau may point with justifiable pride to their work, and say that of all the countries which took their census at the same period last

year, among which are Great Britain and her various North American Colonies, Canada is the first thus to make ready and publish the detailed returns.

Each person in the province will peruse these important figures with interest. Our great decennial stock-taking is of importance to every one of us, for we see in what relation the province, the county, town, nationality or religious sect with which we are connected, stands towards the rest.

Our space is so much occupied to-day, that we cannot offer many comments on the tables. We will, however, mark out some of their most striking features now, reserving for a more convenient opportunity the rest.

First, as to the "origins" of our population:— Of the 2,506,755 inhabitants of Canada, 1,917,777 were born within the province. The native Canadians of British and those of French origin are nearly equal in their numbers, being 1,037,170 and 880,607 respectively. Next to these, the two most numerous classes of our population, comes the Irish, with 241,423, the English and Welsh, with 127,429; the Scotch with 111,952; the natives of the States, with 64,399, and the Germans and other Teutons, with 23,855. Among these are 11,413 coloured persons, almost all resident in Upper Canada. The rest are too few in number to have much weight in the community. It is noticeable, however, that there are only 12,717 Indians left among us, and that only 3,061 Frenchmen make Canada their home, of whom more than three-fourths are residents of Upper Canada.

Coming to the questions of religion, we perceive that 1,200,870 are Roman Catholics, and that the Church of England, with 374,887 followers, stands next. Then come the Methodists (the Wesleyans being the strongest branch) with 372,462; the Presbyterians with 346,991, of whom the members of the Free Church slightly outnumber those of the Kirk; and the Baptists with 69,310. It is not a little lamentable to find 18,750 professing no religion at all, and we hope these figures are to be referred to the indifference with which these certain individuals replied to the enumerators' queries.

Comparing our condition in 1861 with that in which we were in 1852, we note that the total population of the country has increased 36 per cent., from 1,842,265 to its present figure. The native Canadian population numbered then only 73 per cent. of the total; they are now 76 per cent., or more than three-quarters. The French Canadians were then 35 per cent. of the whole, they are now nearly 38 per cent., a proof of the common statements about the rapid natural increase of their race. The Church of Rome then counted 47 per cent. of our people within its folds. It now includes nearly 54 per cent. of them. Were it not now too long, it would be interesting to mark the increase or decrease of other nationalities and religions also.

If we compare our progress with that of other countries, we shall have every reason to be satisfied. Great Britain increased its population only about 18 per cent., from 1840 to 1850; our rate of interest is more than three times as much, and although the States augmented their figures from 23,191,876 in 1850 to 31,429,801; it will be seen that this is an increase of but 35 1/2 per cent., and therefore inferior to ours.

MONTREAL DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held last night in the Cathedral buildings. His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal in the chair. His

Lordship, in opening the proceedings, after prayer, said:—

We are met at this annual meeting of our Society to hear the report of last year's proceedings, and we hope to stir up our friends to support us in the work we are doing in furtherance of its great object. Its funds are devoted to the great Missionary work in this diocese, and are employed to plant clergymen where they do not now exist, and to give additional support to those who are already labouring in different parts of the country. We ought all to have a deep interest in the work. It is true that our church is not now commencing its operations, and there is, therefore, not that excitement which is naturally felt in connection with missions sent forth to some parts of the world where they have not hitherto existed. The church has been long established among us, and the energy and excitement which belongs to first efforts have been expended. We have come, therefore, to our most difficult period—to that time when it becomes necessary for us to take care and provide means lest many years of labour and the expenditure of much money should be wasted in consequence of our failure to give consistency to the church, and to impart life and energy to its work among us. We have the outline of the machinery in the organization of the ministry, in our synods, and in this very society, but what we want is to fill up the figure and give it boldness and fullness. We have a larger number of clergy than at any other period of our history; with less assistance from foreign aid for their support; but with a larger amount expended on them by the society. For this we may bless God; but we have an unbounded field still to occupy, and I have to call upon you not only to furnish the pecuniary means, but also to give me from among the laity as I have among the clergy, efficient labourers to accomplish the task before us. These are stirring times when people cannot go to sleep, and expect quietly to die in their nests. We see around us the upturning of the nations, and yet we have cause to thank and bless God that we are not likely at this time to have our peace disturbed by the breaking out of war, which as we know from what has taken place elsewhere, would not only bring desolation upon us, but would neutralize those influences by which we are endeavouring to carry on the evangelization of the people. Let us make use of the time thus given us, to work while it is called to-day. With this mercy we have had to mourn a great and afflictive dispensation—the death of His Royal Highness, the Prince Consort. In this room the committee of this society, this morning, agreed to an address of condolence to Her Majesty, and which I am sure all present would have joined, accompanied by a petition that God would continue to bless her, and give her long to reign over a loyal people, as a blessing to them.

The report of the society for the past year was then read by the Rev. Mr. Rogers. We make some extracts:—

The Treasurer's statement shows that for the general purposes of the Society, there was collected in Montreal, more than.....\$2000.00

The subscriptions, &c., received from the country, amount to..... 1249.00

Which, with the sum collected at General Annual Meetings, 1861, rents, interests, &c., make the entire amount for this year..... 3422.09

This, with balance of last year, proceeds of lands sold, &c., makes a total of..... 5403.21

Total expenditure of the year..... 4496.39

Balance on hand.....\$ 906.82