

authorised to invest \$1000 of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund in the purchase of a certain brick building, in the Village of Holland Landing, referred to in the letter of the Rev. W. E. Cooper, to the secretary, provided that the solicitor of the society report favourably on the title, and that said committee think it in every respect a good investment, provided, also, that they can obtain a tenant at a rate of not less than £25 per annum, and the premium of insurance on £250 for a term of not less than 5 years, and collateral security from two parties of undoubted responsibility for the payment of the rent and premium aforesaid.

The Rev. A. Palmer gave notice,

That it is expedient that the by-law on the Mission Board be amended, by leaving out the third clause thereof, and by substituting the following:—

That the Board of Missions assumes the payment of their stipends to all missionaries who have been up to this date licensed by the Bishop to minister within the limits of any District Association of this Diocese, provided, the Committee of such District Association shall from time to time place the Board in possession of sufficient funds to cover the said stipends; or shall fulfil such stipulations as may have been in special cases entered into with the Board.

That the Board will be ready to assume the same obligation, in reference to such Missions, as have had promises made to them by any District Association, and have been accepted by the Board as having claims upon its consideration, before any other new Missions are provided for.

That after such Missionaries and Missions have been provided for by the Board, from the funds contributed by their respective District Associations—any surplus there may be, shall be applicable to the payment of Missionaries in any part of the Diocese, where the Bishop shall see fit to appoint a clergyman to minister in any Mission, recommended to his Lordship by the District Committee, through the Mission Board.

That Incumbents of settled parishes, which, shall pay or secure to the Board, through the District Committee, the stipends of their ministers, or any portion thereof, shall be entitled to draw the same amount from the Board.

That in no case shall the stipend of any clergyman, wholly paid by the Board, be less than £150 per annum, payable quarterly.

The Ven. A. BARNUM gave notice.

Resolved—That the following be added to Article XIX. of the Society:—

That, as it is expedient that the funds annually raised in aid of Theological Students, should be appropriated to the maintenance of exhibitions for the same in Trinity College, it be provided that the several district associations of the Church Society, may, through their central boards, nominate one or more persons as holders of such exhibitions.

Provided, that any district, thus nominating, shall undertake to remit annually to the Church Society a sum which shall cover the amount of the exhibition or exhibitions to which a nomination is made.

That any district, entering into such engagement, shall be entitled to appropriate to the maintenance of the exhibition or exhibitions, the proceeds of the annual collection made within the district for the Divinity Students' Fund.

That any surplus remaining to any district, after providing for its exhibition or exhibitions, shall be paid over to the Church Society, to be put to the credit of that district towards a provision for an additional exhibition.

The committee further recommend that persons thus nominated to exhibitions shall enjoy them subject, with only one exception, to no other conditions than those which are prescribed for

every candidate for admission into Trinity College.

These conditions are:

1. That he shall produce testimonials of good conduct.

2. That he shall pass the Matriculation Examination.

3. That he shall have entered on his sixteenth year.

The exception mentioned above respects this third condition of age. It will probably be thought desirable that every Divinity Exhibitioner shall have entered on his 19th year in order that his course of study may not be completed too long before the time at which he can receive Holy Orders.

That the minimum value of the exhibitions shall be £80 per annum.

That the exhibition shall be tenable for three years.

H. O'Reilly, Esq., of Watertown, was unanimously elected an incorporated member.

The Rev. J. G. Geddes nominated Wm. Powers, Jr., Esq., of Hamilton, for election.

The Rev. T. B. Read nominated the Rev. A. J. Fuller, of Cookstown.

The usual prayers were read, and the meeting adjourned.

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NIAGARA DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

The past year has been very eventful for the kingdom of this world, as well as for the kingdom of Christ.

While nations have been convulsed and governments overthrown, we have to bless God that our country and government have remained firm and steadfast; and although the political horizon has been dark and gloomy, yet we have gone on prosperously; and have been privileged to welcome within our midst the Heir Apparent to the Throne of England, the eldest son of our beloved Queen. He being the first royal visitor representing the Crown, to Canada, we may hopefully pray that much good may result, both to the people and the church in this favoured land.

From the reports we receive of the doings of the various missionary societies of the church in our Mother Country we at once, and thankfully perceive, that the Church of Christ was never more alive to her responsibilities than at the present moment.

Meetings are being constantly held to further some grand missionary effort among the still heathen portions of the known world. Particularly have we been cheered with the exertions which are being made in behalf of the unexplored regions of Africa, and the benighted races that therein exist. But this is not the only work of love that our mother church has undertaken during the past year. Her attention has been turned to various parts of the world—as for instance Australasia and the Islands of the South, British Columbia and the regions of the north, together with other places beyond the widely extended Empire of Great Britain.

While a great missionary work has been going on abroad, this, the XIX. Annual Report of the Niagara District Branch Association will, the committee venture to assert, show that we have not been wanting in some effort, but that in our small way something has been effected, and the cause of Christ and his church has not slumbered in our midst.

When this association last met, we were left in some uncertainty as to the result of the deliberations of a committee of the parent society which was then considering what alterations might be made in the constitution and working of

the society. Your committee have every reason to hope that the alterations proposed and since actually carried out will result in much benefit, not merely to the society itself, but also to the diocese generally. To some of these your committee would briefly allude. One alteration was the repealing that portion of Art. XVIII. of the Constitution which permitted three-fourths of the annual subscriptions and donations to be retained by the parish or district in which it was raised, and substituting in its place—that the entire amount contributed should be forwarded intact to the parent society, subject to whatever engagements the district branch had previously entered into, and subject also to the will of the donor. Another alteration is that quarterly meetings are henceforth substituted for the monthly meetings, to which the district branches are invited to send a clerical and lay delegate, and thus enlist the hearty co-operation of the whole diocese in the missionary and general objects of the society. Your committee would further hail as a harbinger of good the formation of the mission board, under whose management the whole missionary force of the diocese, whether settled or travelling, it is proposed should be placed. Your committee have reason to believe that this concentration of the mission fund will be of great and lasting benefit to the church, and enable the society to conduct with more energy and prospect of usefulness the missionary operations of the church. That these alterations have been well received, the following reports will show. The quarterly return made by our travelling missionary to the chairman is very encouraging.

THE TRAVELLING MISSION.

Welland, Dec. 19th, 1860.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

I see, by the rules of the Society, under the new arrangement, that I am required to give a quarterly report to the chairman of the district in which my mission is situated, and this day being the end of the quarter, according to my present engagement, I suppose I am right in addressing you at this time. Once I wrote my last report to the secretary, on Feb. 27th, the Rev. Mr. Holland, of Port Erie, has taken charge of Port Colborne, so that my Sunday services are now given to Welland, Marshville, and the gao!; and on week days I visit the scattered families of the church in four townships, catechising, &c. The congregations, as far as numbers and attention go, continue to give me much encouragement. The buildings we have to hold service in are, on fine days, crowded, and from all I can hear and see, much prejudice against the church has been removed. This is not done by my hiding any part of the counsel of God, but rather while using no railing towards one, I think it my duty to set forth the church in all her integrity, as the only scripturally authorised body which contains all the saving doctrines of salvation through the only saviour, and the only atonement for sin offered on the cross. During the last quarter forty-nine persons were prepared by me for confirmation, and forty-five were actually confirmed—twenty-nine in Welland, and sixteen in Marshville. We have also had a meeting of the people of Marshville to see what could be done to erect a church. A subscription paper was sent round, and about \$300 subscribed. Mr. Beatty, of Port Robinson, gives us an acre of land, and hoping to raise the remainder of the sum wanted (\$1,000) in the neighbourhood, I hope to commence a church early next summer. There is not, perhaps, a poorer place in Canada West than Marshville. We have lost one of our communicants by death, but judging from the faith and hope which she manifested during her long illness, we have no reason to mourn as those that are without hope.