

two to our Clerical staff; but, on the other hand, we have felt obliged to give up the attempt to have a resident Priest at Beebe Plain, which is now, therefore, once more placed under the personal care of the Rector of Stanstead, who no longer has an Assistant. And we also have one Missionary less, owing to the fact that now, the Rector of S. Paul's, Quebec City, ministers also to Montmorency and Lake Beauport, while Stoneham is counted as part of the Mission of Vauclartier. At the present moment, moreover, we have only one ordained Missionary (1) on the Labrador, (2) on the Magdalen Islands, (3) in the Parish of Ireland, although the work of these three Assistants is being performed, as far as it can be, by duly qualified Lay Readers. The work, too, of the Swedish Assistant Priest at Waterville, as we hinted at our last Synod, would probably be the case, has also been discontinued. The Mission of Way's Mills and Barnston is moreover vacant.

Thus, whereas the whole number of Clergy two years ago was seventy-two, the whole number now is seventy, or, including the Bishop, seventy-one. But when I shall have ordained a man for the Mission of Way's Mills, and another for a new Mission which is to be formed from outlying parts of the Parishes of Cookshire and Lennoxville, so as to give to Johnville, Sandhill and Milby their own resident Clergyman, and a third to be the second Assistant at S. Matthew's, Quebec, our number will be seventy-three, or, including the Bishop, seventy-four.

And as to our Lay Readers, two years ago they numbered thirty-five. During these two years, ten of these have been admitted to Holy Orders, and seven more have left the Diocese or have withdrawn from their work. But during the same period I have issued twenty-two new licenses, and thus our staff of Lay Readers at the present moment numbers forty. And here I would say that our earnest and hearty thanks are again due to those Laymen, and to those good women, who assist in one way or another in our Church work, and I certainly do offer to all these the full expression of my heartfelt gratitude. But, when it is remembered that every member of the Church is alike bound to labour

in some way in the Lord's Vineyard, it might be more natural, instead of thanking those who, after all, are only doing their duty, rather to call those who forget or neglect their responsibilities, to remembrance and account.

I have not yet been able to bring the whole army of our duly accredited Lay Helpers into one conspectus, but now that we are getting to observe the first Sunday in October more and more as Lay Helpers' Sunday, I hope gradually to make the entire strength of our Lay help more fully evident, and to lead each Lay helper to realise his or her membership in the great army of God.

And now, turning from men to things, I find that in these two years I have consecrated Churches at S. Andrew's, New Carlisle, August 23rd, 1897; S. Andrew's, York, Gaspe, September 1st, 1897; S. Barnabas', North Hatley, September 10th, 1897; S. Thomas', Bury, September 26th, 1897; S. Michael and All Angels', Riviere du Loup, October 2nd, 1897; S. James', South Durham, February 9th, 1898; and Christ Church, Harrington Harbour, Labrador, June 26th, 1898.

These seven, added to 17 Churches consecrated or dedicated during the previous five years, without counting those which, like S. Matthew's, Quebec, had been built much earlier, make up a list of 24 new Churches added to the Diocese during the past seven years. There have also been built in these two years Parsonages at Agnes, S. George, Shigawake, making up the number of new Parsonages built in these seven years to 12. Including these we have now in the Diocese 123 Churches, besides seven that are not used and 53 Parsonages.

I have also dedicated the following Burial Grounds at Three Rivers, May 29th, 1898; Sheldrake, Labrador, June 18th, 1898; also a burial lot at Kirkdale, May 30th, 1899. The Burial Ground at Point Bleue, Lake S. John, was consecrated for me by the Lord Bishop of Ottawa, July 13th, 1898.

I have moreover dedicated the East Windows of S. Paul's, Stanhope, September 13th, 1897; the East Window of S. Luke's, Magog, October 12th, 1897; a bell at S. James', South Durham, October 13th, 1898.

*(To be Continued.)*