

your Committee trust that they need use no lengthened arguments to convince you of its necessity and importance. When we look around us, and behold the spiritual destitution which prevails, we need not say another word to show the urgent necessity of adopting some agency whereby it may be relieved. The township of Seymour, with Church and Parsonage, has no clergyman. Percy has no Missionary. Asphodel, while possessing a church, is yet without a Missionary. Dummer, with a church, has no resident Missionary. Alnwick has no Missionary. Besides the back parts of the other townships lying within the Counties of Northumberland and Durham, which can but rarely be visited by the resident clergy within these bounds. Surely this is a state of things which calls loudly for some exertion being made on our part, to carry the ministrations of the Church into these settlements. It may not be possible for some time to come, to supply all these places with resident and settled ministers; but the deficiency may be in part supplied, by affording them the occasional services of one or more travelling Missionaries. And with a view to the furtherance of this important object, your Committee beg to recommend that another tenth of the entire sum collected, be hereafter set apart in aid of a Travelling Mission Fund, towards the support of one or more travelling Missionaries, to be employed within the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.

By some such arrangement as this, *one-fourth* would still be sent to the Parent Society, for general purposes, and *one-fifth*, or two-tenths would be devoted to the maintenance of a Depository, and the support of a Travelling Mission Fund. The remainder would still be available for local purposes within the respective parishes, so long as they continued to need such support.

It seems to the Managing Committee that by this means fresh energy may be infused into the working of our Society; and our people be led to take a more lively interest in its welfare, when they see the apparent good effects of its management brought more immediately under their observation.

Our members are annually increasing in numbers; our wants are continually becoming more urgent; but the supply is by no means adequate to the demand. Our Missionaries are few in number—over-worked and badly paid, while the whole country is in a state of unexampled prosperity. Agricultural industry and commercial enterprise are abundantly rewarded; men quietly amass wealth; independent fortunes are made and spent; the worldly element is in the ascendant; God is forgotten, and his heritage, in many places, lying waste. Parents educate their sons, with a view to worldly acquisitions and worldly wealth; but the self-denying labours of the ministers of the Gospel are not anxiously sought or desired, because they promise so small a share of worldly honour, profit or emolument. But if our increasing prosperity only makes us more effeminate, luxurious and extravagant, what shall we do? Will our earthly acquisitions avail us if God's service is neglected? If we live in ceiled houses, and indulge in costly equipages, while so many houses of God require to be built, without lending our aid, are we not provoking his displeasure? If, while every secular enterprise is prosecuted with avidity, the cause of Christ and his Church be suffered to languish for want of support, will it not bring down upon us a curse and not a blessing? "Whoso is wise, will consider these things, and they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord."

J WILSON,  
Secretary.

Grafton, April 1, 1857.

#### GORE AND WELLINGTON BRANCH CHURCH SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Gore and Wellington Branch Association of the Church Society, of the Diocese of Toronto, was held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, Hamilton, on Thursday evening, March 20th, and although the attendance was not so numerous as usual, the proceedings were not the less interesting, nor the speakers less eloquent and effective. The various resolutions were spoken to with much ability and effect. Among the speakers were the Rev. Dr. Beaven, the Rev. Dr. Cronyn, the Rev. Dr. Fuller, Rev. Messrs. Osler, O'Neill and Armstrong, John Gamble, Esq., M.P.P., T. C. Dixon, Esq., and the Rural Dean, who presided. The following Report was read and adopted, which we trust may prove interesting to the readers of the *Ecclesiastical Gazette*.

#### REPORT.

March 26th, 1857.

The Managing Committee of the Gore and Wellington Branch of the Church Society, of the Diocese of Toronto, are again called on to present to its members the Annual Report of their proceedings. And it affords them sincere gratification to be able to say that their exertions have again, under the blessing of the Almighty, been crowned with their wonted success.

Before entering into the details of their own operations, they would call the attention of the members of the Church to the fact, that the Parent Society, which has nearly completed the 15th year of its existence, and on which, humanly speaking, the future progress of our Church in Canada so much depends, has increased in usefulness and prosperity from year to year since its formation. So that we are now warranted in regarding it as a great instrument raised up in the Providence of God for the maintenance and extension of true religion in this country; and in anticipating for it a long career of usefulness and blessing.

The Report has been in the hands of the subscribers for several months, and from it they will have learned that its income during the year previous amounted to £5,052 14s. 10d. They will have derived information from the same source as to the manner in which the Society has expended the funds so received in promoting the various important objects embraced in its constitution.

The Gore and Wellington Branch, which has ever received honorable mention in the Reports of the Parent Society, has not relaxed in its efforts during the past year, although, from peculiar circumstances in some of the Parishes, a falling off may possibly appear. It numbers about 20 Parochial Associations, and its annual revenue has been steadily increasing from £199 in the first year of its existence, by various stages, till it has reached the respectable sum of £669 0s. 8½d., being a small increase over the last year's, £619.

It employs three travelling Missionaries, and provides wholly for their incomes, besides contributing partially to the salaries of two more—having incurred in all an annual liability for Missionary purposes alone of upwards of £500. The appropriation of so large a sum to the destitute portions of their own Districts, after transmitting one-fourth to the Parent Society—leaving but little for local expenditure—so that the members of this Association have the satisfaction of knowing that they spend but little of the funds upon Parochial objects, although many such objects are recognized by the constitution of the Parent Society; the chief portion of their subscriptions being devoted to the spread of the Gospel in the backwoods, by means of travelling Missionaries.

The Report received from these gentlemen communicates much interesting information—a brief summary of which must suffice for the present occasion.

#### ARTICLE.

The Rev. Mr. Preston occupies the Mission of Arthur, at which village he has his head-quarters; the extent of his labours may be gathered from the following extracts from one of his Reports:—

"I have under my charge eleven Townships, some in the County of Grey, some in the County of Wellington. They are as follows: Glencig, Bentinck, Egremont, Normandy, Arthur, Minto, Luther, parts of Peel, Maryborough, Garrafrax and Erin." In his last Report, the Missionary says: "I have to Report, with much pleasure, an increase in every one of the congregations under my care, a growing feeling of reverence for the doctrines and ministry of the Church, and a desire to extend her ministrations appears to be pervading the people; and the fact, slowly breaking upon them, that all State-support has been withdrawn, appears to influence them to desire to give of what God has given them, to the service of His Sanctuary. The number of baptisms, marriages and burials for the past year have been respectively: baptisms, 98; marriages, 6; burials, 9; and miles travelled during the year, 3,532.

The Missionary concludes with an earnest prayer that God may bless the efforts of those who are endeavouring to extend to destitute Districts the blessings of the Gospel, and that He may "send forth more laborers into His harvest."

"A very gratifying fact connected with my labours is the anxiety of parents to have their children baptized. Scarcely a service passes without baptisms—and in several instances I have baptized whole families. Where opportunity offers, I catechize the children, and have distributed about 100 copies of the Church Catechism with explanation and questions; as also 50 copies of the Book of Common Prayer, and if I had more I could dispose of them, as the people are constantly asking for them. [The settlers are generally found to possess already the Holy Scriptures, having brought their Bibles with them from the old country, or being supplied through other sources here.]"

#### OWEN'S SOUND.

For several years the Rev. Mr. Mulholland, in addition to his stated ministrations at Owen Sound, has given a considerable portion of his time to the zealous discharge of travelling Missionary duties. In consideration of his services in this latter field of labour, your Committee have contributed towards his stipend a sum of £60 per annum, and they have reason to believe that the best results have attended Mr. Mulholland's exertions to supply the destitute members of the Church in that part of the United Districts, with her ministrations.

#### SAUGEEN.

The Rev. Mr. Hodge, one of the travelling Missionaries paid wholly by this Association, has for his field of labour the whole of the County of Bruce, containing eleven townships, exclusive of those recently formed, in which he has been engaged in Missionary duties for nearly two years. His principal stations are Southampton, Paisley, Kincairdine, Mud River and Walkerton, besides which he extends his ministrations to Durham, in the County of Grey. In his rides to and from these stations, he has held Divine Service at a number of places on the road. In the last Report received from Mr. Hodge, he says: "I am persuaded that my labours are not in vain, not